

## ***Journal #3460      from sdc      9.14.15***

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### **Washoe Tribal Member Herman Fillmore To Teach Wašiw Language at WNC**

Courtesy of Western Nevada College MINDEN, Nev. — Spend a few minutes talking to Herman Fillmore and you quickly learn how deeply he cares about the...  
carsonvalleytimes.com

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### **Tuba Pe - Pinenut tree**

Many of our elders shared their stories of the meaning of our Tuba, Pinenut trees to the Nevada Tribes. They talked about how as a child they can remember camping in Sweetwater, Desert creek and many other areas. The stories shared where songs, medicine, experiences, beautiful memories clouded now by the "Clearcutting" of our ancestral traditional harvesting Pinenut trees.

Myron Dewey shared how the solutions can start with the following:

1. Proper communication, consultation with not just the Tribal leaders but the Tribal members also.
2. Federal agencies be responsible to educating themselves on educating new staff and employees about the Nevada tribes sovereignty, food sovereignty, what traditional lands are important, the appropriate names to distinguish each tribe from one another, tribal protocols.
3. Tribes don't have the appropriate budgets to create positions needed to monitor our traditional harvesting areas off the reservation, federal agencies leasing, selling or getting federal funding off our resources, set aside funding to create a positions or tribes to monitor and participate in decision making.

Myron says we are not protesters or traditionalist, this is our way of life....and we are witnessing the next generation of historical trauma with the cutting of our traditional harvesting areas by

- western encroachment (hobbyist archeologist trying to find our traditional areas)
- undocumented encroachment (pine-nut pickers being hired by contractors to pick pine-nuts)
- federal encroachment (cutting trees, leasing our lands for Bio-fuels, corporation encroachment of mining & copper mining)

We are in the 21st century of the wild, wild, west.....with mineral and natural resources.

Myron Dewey (Paiute/Shoshone)

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### **Public Meetings on the Bald Mountain Mine Expansion - Attend if Possible**

**Reno, Eureka, and Ely, Nevada, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The dates and locations are:**

**Tuesday, September 15, 2015, Elko Convention Center, 700 Moran Way, Elko**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 2015, Best Western Airport Plaza, 1981 Terminal Way, Reno**  
**Thursday, September 17, 2015, Eureka County Opera House, 31 S. Main St., Eureka**  
**Friday, September 18, 2015, BLM Ely District Office, 702 N. Industrial Way, Ely**

**The BLM is holding four public meeting regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Statement of the Bald Mountain Expansion.**

Link to BLM information about this mine expansion and process: [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/info/newsroom/2015/august/ely\\_blm\\_seeks\\_public.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/info/newsroom/2015/august/ely_blm_seeks_public.html)

Great Basin Resource Watch is still analyzing the near 1,000 page document and additional supporting materials, and will send out more details on comments in the next two weeks.

#### **Some concerns to raise at the meetings are:**

- The comment period is way too short for public review of the Environmental Analysis and supporting documents. The Bald Mountain mine is complex with numerous references to supporting document that are necessary to review for a complete understanding of the impacts of this project. Great Basin Resource Watch has requested an extension from 45 days to 90 days.
- Wildlife impacts are potentially great. The mine bisects arguably the most important mule deer migration route in Nevada. The Proposed (by Barrick) Action would completely eliminate all "undisturbed" areas across these migration routes. The South operations area in particular overlaps Priority Sage Grouse Habitat and falls close to breeding leks. Many other sensitive species are also at risk in the area as a result of expansion of this mine.

- Groundwater pumping could also dry up important seeps and springs in the area that also support the migratory and other species. The Proposed Action is expected to pump 14 billion gallons of groundwater over the next 27 years. According to the draft EIS pumping out of the Ruby water basin to an estimated extent of about 1-2 percent of the perennial yield.
- This expansion creeps the mine closer to the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge to right on the southern end of Ruby Valley.

John Hadder, Great Basin Resource Watch, P.O. Box 207

Reno, NV 89504 775-348-1986 775-345-3575 (f)mmjohn@gbrw.org [www.gbrw.org](http://www.gbrw.org)

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### **Josephine David, Walker River Paiute, speaking some powerful words.**

shared by Elveda Martinez

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### **The Day White Innocence Died: An Indigenous Take on #September11**

**Gyasi Ross 9/10/15**

I remember the day, 9/11/2001, like it was yesterday.

I was a student in New York City. I'd been living there for a while at that time—I was still adjusting to being in the big city. I was a Native kid, a rez boy who grew up as a hip-hop head, and so I was living out my childhood fantasy of living in the birthplace of hip-hop *while* going to school and trying to pay my monthly rent.



Not easy.

I had class at nine o'clock that morning on September 11. I had a formula—it took me eight minutes to get dressed, wrap my hair in a t-shirt (on fleek!) and get to class. That meant that I could sleep until 8:52 in the morning. I always listened to the radio when I slept, so my dreams were often influenced by whatever I heard on the radio. I've done that since I was a little kid—I remember having nightmares about playing basketball with the "Thriller" version of Michael Jackson when I was little guy and I tumbled many, many times with Boy George as well!

But I digress.

On this particular morning—September 11—I remember hitting "snooze" in the morning time and going back to sleep. When I passed back out, I remember dreaming about a plane, a small crop duster in my dream, hitting a small building and falling to the ground. When I woke up, I hurried through my five-minute "get ready" routine—splash water in my face, brush my teeth, wrap my hair in a t-shirt and throw on the cleanest clothes in my room. Out of my apartment as quickly as I could!

At that time, my apartment was ONE block away from my school so I could make it in literally no time. When I rounded the corner from my block to the school, there were hundreds of people just *standing* outside on the corner and in the street. Now granted, this is New York City, White Harlem, so hundreds of people on a random street is not necessarily earth-shattering news. Yet, this was different—people were crying in the street, people looked confused in the street, and most important, these folks were right in front of my school, which was not really a sexy or fun street to hang out on.

Plus, it was 9 in the morning—I made it just in time for class. There were *never* hundreds of people there at 9 in the morning when class just started.

I saw my dear friend Vanessa and ran over to her. At that time, there were virtually no Natives at my school so Vanessa and I hung very, very close together and supported each other protectively. When I saw Vanessa, she was crying, so I asked her what was wrong.

“You haven’t heard?” she asked me as if I was the most oblivious person in the world, which apparently I was.

“Heard what?” I asked her, confirming my ignorance and obliviousness.

Vanessa answered incredulously, “Somebody flew a plane into the World Trade Center. There was also one that went down at the Pentagon. I don’t know if anything else happened down in Virginia...”

At that point, I knew why Vanessa was crying so passionately; her brother was stationed in Virginia. The scale of the destruction and tragedy still hadn’t dawned on me—I just wanted to find out if her brother was okay. At that moment I also understood why I had the weird dream about the crop duster running into a building—I heard that news on the radio right before I woke up and it crept into my subconscious. Unfortunately, we couldn’t call to find out if her brother was okay; all the phone lines were compromised, even landlines. That remained the case for almost a week. I later learned that my mom thought I was dead because she had never been to New York—how would she know that I was on the complete opposite side of Manhattan?

I thought I was dead too. When I learned of the destruction and evil behind the plane crashes, I figured that somebody was coming back to finish us off. There were bomb threats so everybody returned to their apartments and were no longer in the streets. I’m a country boy, a rez boy—this stuff was making no sense to me. I wanted to be home, on the rez, where people cry together and laugh together, where we mourn together, feel fear together and face death together. I remember when the smell crept uptown and I could smell the fire and destruction and it forced me to close my apartment window despite the late summer heat. I wished I could share that claustrophobia with someone.

But this was the city, not my homelands, where everyone knows each other. Instead, this was a place with millions and millions of people within *extremely* close quarters and nobody knows each other.

It was weird. Not scary—I was cool dying, if that’s what was gonna happen. I was just sad that I couldn’t get my mom and my little brother on the phone to tell them that I loved them first.

Obviously I didn’t die. Obviously a lot of information came out later that showed the enormity of the day that I didn’t understand initially. Obviously it was much, much bigger than my little take on the day. Turns out that September 11<sup>th</sup> is probably the most important date in recent history—that date became the excuse for a whole new branch of government, a racist war against a nation that had nothing to do with that date, a racist war against an *idea*, terrorism, that is impossible to win. Because of that date, we’re *still* spending hundreds of millions of dollars *a day* on a war that had nothing to do with September 11<sup>th</sup> that could be instead dedicated to education, health care, social security, veterans’ benefits or any number of more worthwhile things.

It *was* undoubtedly a tragedy. But September 11<sup>th</sup> wasn’t a surprise, at least not for Native people and many people of color. No, Native people were *already* well aware of how destructive and evil people could be. How did we know? AMERICA TAUGHT US THAT; really, September 11<sup>th</sup> was only a surprise for white people and for those who didn’t realize that America had already perpetrated many September 11ths of its own. Native people knew that. We knew that America had a whole bunch of blood on its hands and that there was *always* a harvest season, always a reckoning. Sir Isaac Newton gave that harvest a name in his Third Law of Motion, that every action has an equal and opposite reaction.

Oh yeah, that means that there will be *more* September 11ths as well—it’s inevitable *unless* America works to acknowledge and reconcile with its many victims of domestic terrorism against its own people. We see that energy right now—the current distrust of the federal government, the distrust of law enforcement and peoples’ movements *of all colors* that don’t believe in the legitimacy of the “powers that be,” like Idle No More, the Occupy Movement, Black Lives Matter and the Tea Party. Obviously the viewpoints of those various movements are vastly different, but the energy is largely the same.

“We don’t believe you. This Nation is build upon raw power and deceit and *not* freedom, equality or opportunity.”

There will be more September 11ths unless we change, folks. God forbid, but unless we do something it *will* happen. There will be rectification for the Marias Massacre, for the Sand Creek Massacre, for Wounded Knee, for North Tulsa/Black Wall Street, the Mankato mass hanging, the Red Summer of 1919, Joe Coe, Emmett Till, internment camps of Japanese, Chinese Exclusion Act, slavery, Jim Crow, genocide, forced tubal ligation of Native women, Tuskegee experiments, etc., etc., etc.

For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction. In the words of Ron Burgundy, “It’s science.” So, how do we stop this horrible cycle? Acknowledgment. Conversation. *Painful* conversation. Hell, restitution, reparations. Not punitive—just what the US owes. To wit, honor treaties with Native people and recognize aboriginal title, whether that be via monetary compensation (a disgusting compromise for many Native people, yet one that acknowledges practical realities) or specific performance. Monetary compensation for black folks for 40 acres and a mule—what is that in today’s dollars?

Formally apologize. Acknowledge. Treat us as human beings—the inhumane way that many white folks on this continent treated people of color for 400 years *still* influences the way they perceive us today, *hence* the incredibly disproportionate amount of deaths for Native and Black people at the hands of law enforcement.

Not civil rights-- human rights—treat us like human beings.

Otherwise there *will* be more September 11ths. It's physics. Natural law. We're stuck with each other—none of us are going anyplace. But acknowledgment, reconciliation and restitution of America's past crimes will move help us move to a new age, where we can get past these historical demons and actually start living in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**God bless the families of all who were harmed by September 11<sup>th</sup>. God also bless the families devastated by all instances of terrorism, including those perpetrated by the United States.**

Gyasi Ross, Editor at Large, Blackfeet Nation/Suquamish Territories

NEW PROJECT "ISSKOOTSIK" (BEFORE HERE WAS HERE) AUDIOBOOK AVAILABLE NOW at [shop.kreecs.com](http://shop.kreecs.com) Twitter: [@BigIndianGyasi](https://twitter.com/BigIndianGyasi)

Read more at <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2015/09/10/thing-about-skins-day-white-innocence-died-indigenous-take-september11-161710>



[Lastrealindians](#)

In remembrance of those who lost their lives on this day and their families, in remembrance of the over 1 million Iraqi's who lost their lives in the invasion and occupation that followed and their families, and to the hundreds of millions of Native peoples killed in the name colonization.;



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## **Bill McKibben on "Victory for People's Uprising": U. of California Divesting From Coal and Tar Sands**

*Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzales, Democracy Now!*

Excerpt: "The University of California has announced that it has sold off more than \$200 million worth of investments in coal and tar sands companies."

[READ MORE](#)

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## **Federal judge allows Swinomish tribal lawsuit over oil trains to proceed**

SEATTLE (AP) — A federal judge has allowed a lawsuit by the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community to proceed against BNSF Railway over oil train shipments. The... q13fox.com

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Experience the historic Mizpah Hotel, Tonopah Historic Mining Park, Belmont Courthouse, and more at the **NMA Annual Conference**, Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2015. The Keynote Speaker is Niki Stewart, Chief Engagement Officer at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas. Check it out!

## **[Nevada Museums Association :: Conference](#)**

Information on the annual NMA Conference [nevadamuseums.org](http://nevadamuseums.org)

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## **[Drought Summit](#)**

Governor Brian Sandoval invites you to join him at the Governor's Drought Summit scheduled for September 21-23 at the Nevada Legislative Building in Carson City. The Summit will present a review of the impact of drought throughout the state, together with a detailed look at potential issues, challenges, and solutions. [drought.nv.gov](http://drought.nv.gov)

Tribal Perspective 8:15-9:00 AM September 23

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## **Water authority's new straw at Lake Mead starts to fill**

90 percent of the valley's drinking water is drawn from Lake Mead through two existing intake pipes. (Mark Damon/Las Vegas Review-Journal)

~~~~~By Henry Brean Las Vegas Review-Journal

After seven years of construction, the [Las Vegas Valley's new straw into Lake Mead](#) now has [some water in it](#).

General contractor Vegas Tunnel Constructors began sending the first 11 million gallons into the 3-mile tunnel beneath the bed of the lake Thursday afternoon, marking the latest milestone for a complicated and risky \$817 million project on track for completion within the next month or so.

Before the valves were opened to let the water gush in, workers rode the elevator out of the intake tunnel for the last time. In the coming weeks, some 52 million gallons of water will fill their old work space, where they spent years digging and fortifying [a 20-foot diameter tunnel](#) from the shore to one of the deepest spots in the reservoir.

"This is a major milestone for everyone on the project," said Erika Moonin, an engineer and project manager for the Southern Nevada Water Authority.

It's especially big for the contractors. "They're going to be done with the tunnel. Once they start filling, no one is going back into that space," Moonin said.

The water authority considers the project critical drought insurance for a community that draws 90 percent of its drinking water from Lake Mead. The third intake — coupled with a \$650 pumping station due to be built over the next five years — will keep water flowing to the valley even if the lake shrinks low enough to dry out the community's two existing straws and prevent Hoover Dam from releasing water downstream.

So how does one fill 3 miles of intake pipe 600 feet underground? Slowly and carefully, Moonin said.

The process that officially began Thursday is expected to last several weeks.

The new deep-water intake is linked to the valley's existing straws by a connector tunnel completed in 2013. A temporary bulkhead currently keeps water in the connector tunnel from seeping into the intake. To remove the bulkhead, workers must seal the tunnel off from the lake and drain it so they can work inside.

Moonin said a crew on a barge floating on Lake Mead finished the first part of the job last week by lowering a water-tight lid over the mouth of one of the existing straws used to supply water to the valley.

The roughly 11 million gallons left in the sealed connector tunnel is now being drained through valves in the temporary bulkhead and down into the new intake — the first significant amount of water allowed into the structure, though not enough to fill it.

Once the bulkhead has been removed, another 52 million gallons will be let in at a controlled rate using a mix of raw lake water piped in from above and groundwater from the surrounding rock. That seeping groundwater has caused fits for contractors since excavation began at the site in 2008, but now they can shut off the pumps and let it flood in, Moonin said.

As soon as the entire tunnel is full and the water pressure inside equals the pressure around it, a crane floating on the lake will be able to lift the cap — a 19,000-pound disc of stainless steel, 16 feet across and an inch and a half thick — from atop the new intake, opening its mouth to the reservoir above.

Moonin expects that to happen in early October. All that will be left to do then is take a drink.

Contact Henry Brean at [hbrean@reviewjournal.com](mailto:hbrean@reviewjournal.com) or 702-383-0350. Find him on Twitter: [@RefriedBrean](https://twitter.com/RefriedBrean)

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#### **AIR FORCE DECIDES TO CONDEMN PRIVATE LAND NEAR AREA 51**

With no counteroffer on the table, the Air Force let its final \$5.2 million offer expire at 3 p.m. Thursday and asked the Justice Department to condemn the Sheahan family's Groom Mine property and claims near the classified Area 51 installation.



<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz26358271>

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## **US Must Return ALL Stolen Land To Native Tribes In Order To End Police Brutality and Racism**

The United Nations has made a statement that is shocking to many, but comes as no surprise to those who know their history. An investigator probing discrimination... countercurrentnews.com

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<http://www.trueactivist.com/you-should-see-what-this-woman-sees-every-day-it-is-messed-up/>

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## **An Artist Residency Program at The Neon Museum? It's true!**

Nevada artists may submit proposals for participation in the annual "Parent-Artist" residency. A partnership between the Neon Museum and the UNLV Marjorie Barrick Museum, and supported by the NAC, the residency program works with artists, who are also parents or grandparents of children 18 and under, to create work inspired and enjoyed by their children — and, by extension, children of all ages. Applications are due by Friday, Sept. 25 at 5 pm. [http://www.neonmuseum.org/.../Artist\\_Residency\\_Application\\_20...](http://www.neonmuseum.org/.../Artist_Residency_Application_20...)

[www.neonmuseum.org/.../Artist\\_Residency\\_Application\\_20...](http://www.neonmuseum.org/.../Artist_Residency_Application_20...)

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## **Education leaders suggest ways to promote tribal colleges**

President Barack Obama's vision of free tuition at two-year colleges would encourage more Native American students to pursue higher education if it becomes reality, a national Indian education leader said

bismarcktribune.com | By Amy R. Sisk

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## **California Legislature Approves Ban On 'Redskins' Mascots**

The California State Assembly voted Thursday to ban the state's schools from using "Redskins" nicknames and mascots, a move that could soon make it the first state... huffingtonpost.com

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## **A Mojave Solar Project in the Bighorns' Way**

By THOMAS E. LOVEJOY and EDWARD O. WILSON

Two environmental priorities clash in the Mojave Desert.

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LIVING WITH DROUGHT: [Above Reno](#)

sent this shocking picture of Boca Reservoir into the newsroom today. The drought is taking its toll in a visible way. If you have drought photos to show us, POST them below. For more [#livingwithdrought](#) content, click here: <http://bit.ly/1ER0T5G> — with [Chandra La](#).

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## **Ravishing Works Too Rarely Seen**

**"The Plains Indians: Artists of the Earth and Sky," one of the greatest exhibitions**



[of American Indian art you may ever see, opens Monday at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.](#)  
The New York Times

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*There's an idea from Star Trek that I've always appreciated: "Infinite diversity in infinite combinations."*

*What this means to me is that, whether out in space or here on Earth, there's no set prescription for how to live our lives. We are all unique, and we should celebrate our differences.*

----- George Takei

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## **DNA Testing Proves Native American Genealogy To Be Among The Most Unique In The World**

The systematic destruction of the Native Americans, First Nations, Metis and Inuit people and their entire way of life was not only one of recorded history's greatest...  
[whydontyoutrythis.com](#)

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- [Researchers Unveil Reconstructed Face of Ancient American Indian](#)  
[The remains of "Naia," found off the coast of the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, has been reconstructed to give an idea of what she looked like.](#)



[indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com](#)

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- [Native Americans Descended From A Single Ancestral Group, DNA Study Confirms](#)  
[For two decades, researchers have been using a growing volume of genetic data to debate whether ancestors of Native Americans emigrated to the New World in one wave or successive waves, or from one ancestral Asian population or a number of different populations. Now, after painstakingly comparing DNA samples from people in dozens of modern-day Native American and Eurasian groups, an international team of scientists thinks it can put the matter to rest: virtually without exception, the new evidence supports the single ancestral population theory.](#) [sciencedaily.com](#)