

Journal #3469 from sdc 9.25.15

Big Mountain Sustainable housing land recovery project

"Water: Protecting Our Natural Resources," California Native American Day

Drought Summit: Public Input as Scarce as Water

Mighty Girls

The Other 1%: Healing the Wounds of Native American Tragedies on Turtle Island

Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals and the Tribal Healthy Homes Network present

MW2016 is the 20th annual Museums and the Web conference

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Burns Paiute Tribe receives \$37,716 grant

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Health Policy Fellows

Grinnell College Innovator for Social Justice Prize



[Rainforest Action Network](#)

Louise Benally of [Big Mountain Sustainable housing land recovery project](#) speaking the truth.

Last week, more than 400 groups delivered a letter to the White Ho... [See More](#)

With the theme, **"Water: Protecting Our Natural Resources," California Native American Day** will be celebrated Friday, Sept. 25, at the State Capitol. The Northern California Tribal Chairmen's Association is serving as the tribal host nation. Cultural arts practitioners will share their knowledge regarding cultural practices and indigenous California languages.

[Drought Summit: Public Input as Scarce as Water](#)

September 24, 2015 - Mike Clifford, Public News Service (NV)

[Play Audio in Browser Window](#)

CARSON CITY, Nev. - The Drought Summit wrapped up Wednesday with a focus on tribes and conservation voices, but other voices were missing, according to Howard Watts, communications specialist with the Great Basin Water Network.

Watts says the summit was dominated by big industry, water utilities and state agencies.

He would have liked to have seen a summit that provided more opportunity for public input and education.

"It really seems like a chance for state agencies and local water districts to pat themselves on the back, instead of, figuring out how to adjust to the drought and climate change in the long-term," says Watts.

During the summit, the Southern Nevada Water Authority reported that once their new pipe and pump in Lake Mead is online, the area's water supply is projected to support one million more people and 50 years of growth before any new sources are needed. Watts says the \$15 billion pipeline is questionable legally, scientifically, and financially.

Watts says there needs to be more focus on conservation, like changing the current system where folks who rely on groundwater either have to use all the water that is allocated to them or they lose it.

"Some changes in that use-it or lose-it type of water law, ways to increase conservation, manage growth so we're not saving that water just to give it away to fuel unlimited growth in the future," he says.

The summit also featured ranchers, farmers, resort owners and mining companies.

If you'd like to encourage your own **Mighty Girl's** interest in science, we showcased our favorite science kits and toys in our blog post, "Science At Play: Top 20 Science Toys for Mighty Girls" at <http://www.amightygirl.com/blog?p=7692>

For several stories to inspire your Mighty Girl's spirit of discovery -- all for ages 4 to 8 -- check out "Rosie Revere, Engineer" (<http://www.amightygirl.com/rosie-revere-engineer>), "11 Experiments That Failed" (<http://www.amightygirl.com/11-experiments-that-failed>), and "I

Wonder" (<http://www.amightygirl.com/i-wonder>).



To inspire children and teens with more stories of girls and women in science -- both in fiction and real-life -- visit our "Science & Technology" section at <http://www.amightygirl.com/.../general-int.../science-technology>

And, if your Mighty Girl loves to show off her love of science and technology, visit our STEM-themed t-shirt section at http://www.amightygirl.com/clothing?clothing_themes=146

The Other 1%: Healing the Wounds of Native American Tragedies on Turtle Island

Wednesday, 23 September 2015 00:00 By [Derek Royden](#), [Occupy.com](#) | Op-Ed

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- *"I'm a human being. I'm not anyone's mascot! And I am America's conscience. And that's what they don't want to look at. They would rather look at a cartoon character than at the deceit of this country and this government."* - Russell Means, Lakota Activist and Actor (1939-2012)

Paul Castaway had the bad luck to be two of the things you don't want to be in a confrontation with police in the western United States: Native American and mentally ill. He had been drinking, which exacerbated his schizophrenia, and his mother, Lynn Eagle Feather, was so frightened by his behavior that she called police in the hope that their intervention could help calm down her 35-year-old son.

Castaway left her house on July 12 for a nearby trailer park where he was chased and cornered by Denver police officers. Shortly thereafter, he was dead - shot four times as he held a knife to his own throat, according to people who saw surveillance camera footage from the park incident, including one local television reporter. The video has not been released to the public, as Denver PD stated it remained part of [an "internal investigation."](#)

"There were about 18 children playing in the parking lot and they were running alongside my son as the police were chasing him," Eagle Feather said in [\[an interview\]](#) after the events that day.

In another, more recent case, Sarah Lee Circle Bear, 24, died in a jail cell in South Dakota after complaining that she was experiencing severe body pain. Apparently, the guards told her to ["quit faking it"](#).

Castaway's reported last words, "What's wrong with you guys?" have now become a rallying cry for protesters in the Native Lives Matter movement, which has grown over the past year alongside its inspiration, the more well known Black Lives Matter movement. Native people represent less than 1% of the American population yet account for 2% of all deaths at the hands of police - earning them the dubious distinction of the group statistically most likely to die in confrontations with law enforcement.

There is no doubt that Castaway was deeply troubled. There will be those, just like in many cases of police killings of black men and women, who will blame the victim. Castaway had a criminal history including assault and burglary charges and had done jail time. Police also claimed that he stabbed his mother in the neck with the knife before their arrival, which she disputes.

Castaway, who left behind a three-year-old son and a grieving family - along with the traumatized children who witnessed his shooting - fits into a larger picture of the "other 1%," as [Nicholas Kristof has called them](#). Native Americans by every measure are the bottom 1% in the U.S. and its northern neighbor, Canada. Yet their continued suffering is something most North Americans aren't even aware of.

The Horrors of Pine Ridge

Though it's 350 miles away, Denver is the closest city to the town of Pine Ridge, on the Reservation of the same name, which is home to one of the Lakota tribes of which Castaway was a member. [The Lakota](#) are one of seven sister nations of the Sioux who live throughout North and South Dakota, with small populations also residing in the Canadian provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

If the Ogala Lakota are a nation and Pine Ridge is their country as treaties attest, then they are, along with Haiti, one of the poorest nations in the western hemisphere. The statistics bear this out as a slow moving tragedy that has continued since the people's first contact with white settlers very early in the 19th century.

As [reported](#) by the American Indian Humanitarian Foundation, the average life expectancy on the reservation is 48 years for men and 52 years for women; the median income is just over \$2,500 dollars a year and the unemployment rate ranges between 85 and 95%. It's estimated that less than 10% of youth living on the reservation finish high school. Under conditions like these, Native American youths are unlikely to have any bootstraps to pull up, as conservatives are constantly demanding that those living in poverty must do.

Healthcare, which is supposed to be guaranteed to all Native Americans under treaty obligations and carried out by the Indian Health Service - which receives federal money each year for this express purpose - is dire on the Pine Ridge Reservation and its surrounding area. Youth have a suicide rate 150% higher than the national average. Diabetes rates here are 800% above the norm. Native Americans are also [five times more likely](#) to suffer from tuberculosis than "non-Hispanic whites." [Alcoholism remains a plague](#), as it has been for generations, though it's now exploited by businesses off the reservation.

Pine Ridge's groundwater has also been polluted, leading to higher rates of cancer. "Many of the wells and much of the water and land on the Reservation is contaminated with pesticides and other poisons from farming, mining, open dumps, and commercial and governmental mining operations outside the Reservation," [states](#) the American Indian Humanitarian Foundation.

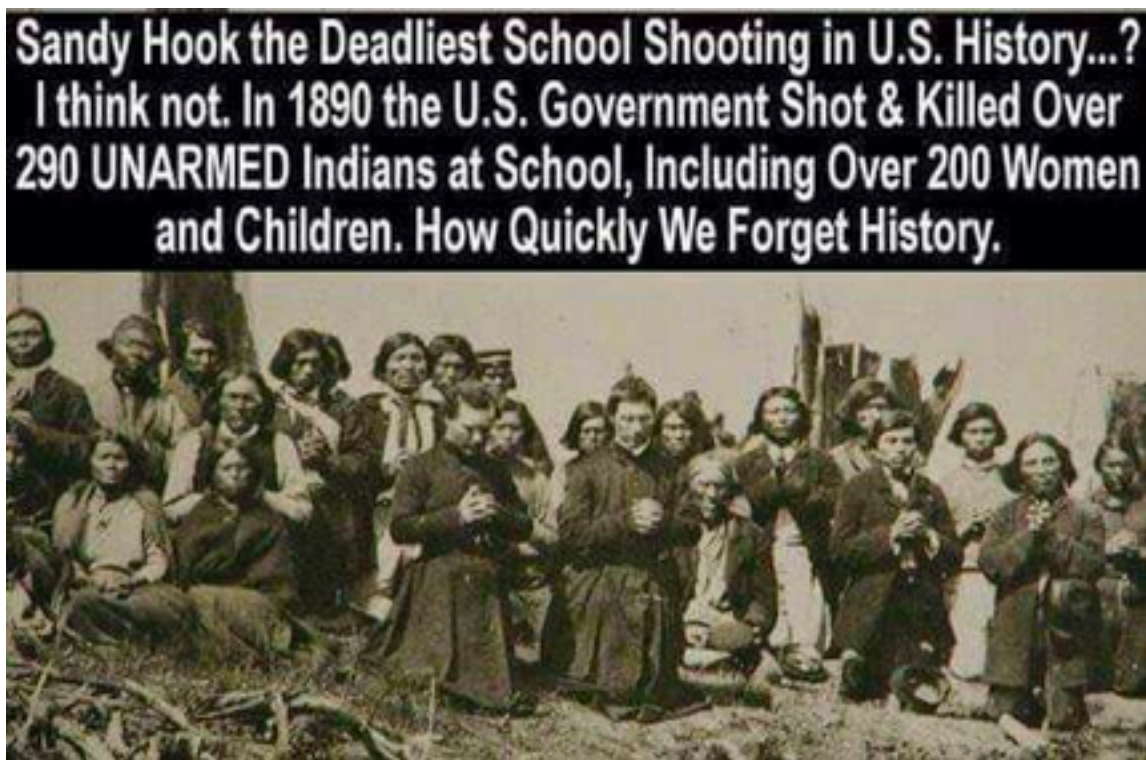
"Let the Great Healing Begin"

The Black Lives Matter movement has made a significant impact in part because African Americans are a visible presence in America's large urban areas. By contrast, Native Americans are more easily ignored since they often live in more rural areas and on reservations. Native American culture, and often Natives themselves, remain a source of ridicule in contemporary North American culture in a way that other groups are not, at least not in such open fashion. For example, sports teams nationwide still proudly flaunt racist names and symbols referring to Native American peoples and traditions.

Now, issues of police accountability are opening the public's eyes to the continuing struggles of North America's First Peoples and other groups unfairly targeted by law enforcement.

Movements like Idle No More in Canada have brought together environmentalists and Native people, leading to greater understanding of the economic, social and environmental challenges

facing indigenous communities. And non-Native activists are now integrating these vital justice issues into their campaigns.



Leonard Peltier, the Native American activist convicted and imprisoned for over 30 years on murder charges that have been ruled [unfair by Amnesty International](#) and others, once pointed toward a better future for people here on Turtle Island - the Sioux name for America.

"To heal will require real effort, and a change of heart, from all of us," he said. "To heal means that we will begin to look upon one another with respect and tolerance instead of prejudice, distrust and hatred. We will have to teach our children - as well as ourselves - to love the diversity of humanity... We can do it. Yes, you and I and all of us together. Now is the time. The only possible time. Let the Great Healing Begin."

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Related Stories

[Native Americans Confront History of Dispossession](#)

By Bill Moyers, [Moyers & Company](#) | Video Interview

[Indigenous Knowledge on Trial: Defending and Defining Mexican-American Studies](#)

By Roberto Rodriguez, [Truthout](#) | Op-Ed

[Indigenous Storytelling in the Limelight](#)

By Francesca Dziadek, [Inter Press Service](#) | Report

The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals and the Tribal Healthy Homes Network present:

How to Include Indoor Air Quality Improvements in Housing Grant Applications

A Free Webinar for Tribes and Alaska Native Villages

Preparing a Successful Funding Proposal:

Integrate IAQ measures in your housing application to improve health for your tribe or village

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

11:00 am-1:00 pm (PDT)

(THIS WEBINAR WILL HAVE REPLAY CAPABILITY)

Click Below to Register for Webinar

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8855140464566222849>

Any issues registering for webinar please contact via email:

Mansel.Nelson@nau.edu

MW2016 is the 20th annual Museums and the Web conference and will be held in April 6-9, 2016, at the historic Millennium Biltmore Hotel, in Downtown Los Angeles.

The [call for proposals](#) closes in one week on September 30th.

The MW2016 program is built from the ground up, based on your suggestions for sessions, papers and presentations. Proposals are encouraged on any topic related to museums creating, facilitating, delivering or participating in culture, science and heritage through networked technologies – wherever the network may reach.

[Guidelines for Proposals](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Submit your Proposal](#)

There are more than a dozen ways to participate in Museums and the Web!

- **Contribute to MWX**, Museums and the Web's new digital exhibition initiative: propose exhibits and interactive experiences as well as written papers and presentations about transformative uses of technology in museum studies, digital curating

and/or contemporary art practice. Full papers (required, up to 5,000 words) will be peer-reviewed and considered for publication in the digital and printed proceedings of the conference. Sept 30 is the deadline for formal papers and sessions; Dec 31 for demonstrations of digital experiences emerging from or inspiring contemporary art practice.

- **Offer a Pre-conference Workshop:** Are you an expert in your field? Share your expertise by leading a half-day or full-day pre-conference workshop! Workshops are held the day before the conference begins and workshop leaders are compensated for their teaching. No written paper is required.
- **Present a Formal Paper:** Share your leading work in the field through a written paper (required, up to 5,000 words) and an oral presentation in a conference session (approx. 20 min. plus discussion). All formal papers are published on the Museums and the Web site, and selected papers are published in the printed proceedings of the conference. Formal papers should go beyond demonstrating a single project (“demonstrations” are the correct proposal type for single project presentations) and aim at distilling critical learnings that will be broadly applicable in the field (i.e. beyond the organization of origin). To avoid taking on an ‘advertorial’ or promotional tone, panels should include museum professionals or representatives of a cultural non-profit if the lead proposers are commercial partners.
- **Lead a Professional Forum:** Convene a one-hour discussion or debate about timely and critical topics of interest to the museum community. No written paper is required.
- **Teach a How-to Session:** You have one hour to demonstrate and teach a practical skill or best practices for a museum topic. A written version of your session (required, up to 2,500 words) will be published on the Museums and the Web site to serve as an on-going reference both for attendees of your session and others.
- **Demonstrate** your project and explain the designs and the decisions that went into it to colleagues in an exhibit-booth setting. Demonstrations are only open to museum professionals and projects created in a non-profit environment. Commercial organizations are invited to demonstrate their products and projects in Exhibitor Briefings.
- **Give a Lightning Talk** in a 1.5 hour session that includes 10 lightning talks of 7 minutes each. *[N.B. changed session format]* Slides and recordings of the lightning talks will be published on the Museums and the Web site, and presenters are invited to blog about their topics (up to 1,000 words) on the MW site.
- **Propose and lead an Unconference Session:** topics are selected by attendees during the first day of the conference so the conversation can continue throughout our time together.
- **Participate in a Crit Room:** Panels of leaders in the museum field will provide a free assessment of your web or mobile project for accessibility and other best practices. Sign up before the conference for a critique on a first-come, first served basis (approximately four projects can be assessed in each 1.5 hour crit session).
- **Participate in a “Birds of a Feather” round-table:** lead the discussion or dip into several while enjoying breakfast with colleagues. Topics are proposed by participants during the MW conference in the run-up to the breakfast.
- **Participate in Best of the Web:** propose your project or vote for your favorites! Help us share the best of museums’ digital work in a wide range of categories to inspire the global community. Nominations for the Best of the Web awards open in February each year.
- **Exhibit** your commercial products and services in the Exhibit Hall.

- **Give an Exhibitor Briefings** on recent projects and new commercial products.
- Propose a **tour** in your community. Submit the tour proposal for the pre-conference tour day (Tuesday) of the conference week.
- Join the **Local Committee** and help showcase the Los Angeles cultural scenes!
- **Be there:** the best part of MW is always meeting informally with some of the most creative and innovative museum professionals from around the world and enjoying the warmth and generosity of this community. Join us!

**Performances? Hack-a-thons? Maker Faires? Other interactions or services?
Propose any other format of participation + explain how it works. We're open to new ideas.**

Many thanks for your help! We look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles!
Rich Cherry & Nancy Proctor Co-chairs,
Museums and the Web 2016

Upcoming Dinner and Home Hosting Opportunities

Indian Delegates Learning About Climate Change (Dinner Hospitality)

Six officials from India will visit Reno to learn about climate change. They would like to be hosted September 25, 26, 27 or 28.

Ukrainian Prosecutors Learning About US Checks and Balances (Dinner Hospitality)

Five Ukrainian prosecutors will visit Reno to learn about the profession of prosecuting. They would like to be hosted for dinner September 31 or October 2, 3, 4 or 5th.

Anti-Trafficking Officials from Lusophone Africa (Dinner Hospitality)

Eight officials from Angola and Mozambique will be visiting Reno November 8-11 to learn about anti-trafficking measures. They'd like to be hosted for dinner November 9 or 10th.

Legislative Fellows from Pakistan Learning about the US Non-Profit and Governmental Sectors (Home Hospitality)

Four visitors from Pakistan will visit Reno from October 13 to November 9. We are looking for host families for the two men and two women. They will be completing internships at local non-profit organizations; their interests range from poverty eradication, creating positive change through the arts, entrepreneurship, and the environment.

Contact Carina Black at cblack@unr.edu if you are interested in hosting!

Mark Jamieson - Six Nations Native American Herbal Remedies

Cedar - Improves Respiratory Organs

Cedar Tea: Improves the functioning of the respiratory organs, alleviates the state of health in cases of bronchitis and pneum...[See More](#)

Burns Paiute Tribe receives \$37,716 grant Posted on September 9th in News

Grant will boost economy, support tribal community

The Burns Paiute Tribe received a grant in the amount of \$37,716 from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development agency on Thursday, Sept. 3. The funds will be used for entrepreneurial and cultural tourism development and development of the Tribe's downtown Burns facility. (Photo by STEVE HOWE)

The Burns Paiute Tribe is taking steps to improve the local economy by providing business training and initiating the development of a small business incubator with the help of a \$37,716 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, announced State Director Vicki Walker during a visit to Burns on Sept. 3. This project will support the Burns Paiute Tribe Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan by helping to implement entrepreneurial development, increase cultural tourism, and further downtown development.

"The Burns Paiute Tribe is working to foster an environment of entrepreneurship that will improve the economy in this remote, rural area," said Walker. "By providing business training and a venue to showcase and sell the goods and services produced by local entrepreneurs, the Tribe is helping to create additional businesses and expand employment opportunities."

This funding is being provided through USDA's Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) Program and is contingent upon the recipient meeting the terms of the grant agreement.

With this funding from USDA, the Burns Paiute Tribe will offer business training to tribal members and other current or emerging entrepreneurs in Harney County utilizing the curriculum provided by the Oregon Native American Business and Entrepreneurial Network (ONABEN) Indianpreneurship Program. In addition, the Tribe currently owns a historic building in downtown Burns, which they plan to retrofit for use as a small business incubator that will showcase the history and culture of the Tribe while allowing artisans to sell their merchandise in a location with high visibility. Today's grant will help the Tribe conduct an architectural analysis of the building to assess its current condition and to make recommendations for interior modifications to facilitate its future use as an incubator, as well as to develop marketing materials for a fundraising campaign for the building modifications.

Within the first three months, it is anticipated that a minimum of two business training courses will be offered with enrollment space for up to 36 entrepreneurs, resulting in the creation of a minimum of five new jobs.

to FIREKEEPERS

"Many Native American prophecies say NOW is a pivotal time on Mother Earth. Some are ready to make the quantum leap to the next level of human evolution. It's to those people that these dream-catchers speak, the new people described as the Osh-ki-bi-mah-di-zig led by spirit warriors, the Ogichidaag'. By the light of the Seventh Fire come those who will use their power and strength with gentleness and wisdom to walk in balance, to follow the path of spirit."
~ White Eagle Soaring ~



From [Gina Vultaggio Schaeffer](#): Folsom Lake is no more...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Health Policy Fellows

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health Policy Fellows program is an opportunity for exceptional midcareer health professionals to participate in the policy process at the federal level and use that leadership experience to improve health, healthcare, and health policy. Click above to learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.

Grinnell College Innovator for Social Justice Prize

The Grinnell College Innovator for Social Justice Prize honors individuals who have demonstrated leadership in their fields and who show creativity, commitment, and extraordinary accomplishment in effecting positive social change. Click above to learn more about the nomination criteria.