

Journal #2530

from sdc

12.21.15

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Ken Marchionno December 16 ·

From day two of the Oomaka Tokatakiya.

Fairbanks Four freed as judge accepts deal to throw out indictments, convictions

Fairbanks Daily News-Miner -FAIRBANKS—The Fairbanks Four are free as 5:15 p.m. Thursday evening under terms of a ...

Alaska judge throws out convictions of Fairbanks Four in 1997 beating death of teenager

CBS News -After 18 years in jail, Alaska's Fairbanks Four are free but not quite clear

Christian Science Monitor -

[*More news for fairbanks four*](#)

“You made a difference in increasing the tribal set-aside in Arizona!”

For 2016, the Arizona Department of Housing listened to the tribal community’s input and increased the tribal set-aside more than 16 percent to \$1.75 million! This will guarantee funding of two to three tribal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) projects annually that simply cannot compete outside the set-aside.

Thank you to all of the Arizona tribal entities that submitted comments to the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH) to request changes to the 2016 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP)!

ADOH is already one of the more proactive states in addressing tribal projects’ needs as it is one of only a few states that specifically reserves a portion of its Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) for tribal projects. **Over the past 10 years, 19 awards have been made to tribal projects in Arizona, all within this tribal set-aside.** These projects have brought more than \$180 million in investor equity to Indian Country in Arizona, and have constructed or rehabilitated more than 750 housing units.

The tribal set-aside has taken many forms over the years, and most recently it has been for up to \$1.5 million in LIHTCs to fund multiple projects.

ADOH also revised a section of its QAP that previously required supportive services be contiguous to (i.e. share a boundary line with) the project in order to earn points. An unintended consequence of this requirement was that tribes would have to build a new community facility in a project to house the services, even if the services were already being offered at an existing tribal building (whether built as a previous LIHTC phase or with another funding source). Tribes would therefore have to divert LIHTCs away from housing units to build a community structure that wasn’t really needed.

ADOH again listened to the feedback submitted by tribal entities and Travois and **revised the definition to allow multi-phase subdivision projects on tribal land to utilize existing community buildings that are within a half mile walking distance of the project.**

Congratulations on all of your hard work making a difference!” Debbie Broermann,
Southwest Office of Native American Programs
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Phone: 602-379-7198 Fax: 602-379-3101

US

[Nevada Public Land Tied Up in Unused Oil, Gas Leases](#)

December 15, 2015 -

Suzanne Potter, Public News Service (NV)

[Play Audio in Browser Window](#)

A new report says oil and gas companies are stockpiling leases on public lands in Nevada without developing them. (Environmental Defense Fund)

LAS VEGAS – The Bureau of Land Management is standing by as thousands of acres of public land in Nevada are tied up in unused oil and gas leases, according to a [report](#) from The Wilderness Society.

Researchers found more than 16,000 acres of public land in Nevada, and more than 3 million across the West, aren't benefiting the public at all.

It says companies are stockpiling the leases – then getting suspensions from the BLM, that sometimes last for decades.

Nada Culver, senior director for agency policy with The Wilderness Society, says taxpayers are losing about \$80 million just in rental fees.

"And while those leases are in suspension, the operators are not required to pay rent," she points out. "They don't pay royalties because they're not producing oil and gas. And of major concern to The Wilderness Society, the BLM won't manage the land for any other use."

If the leases were allowed to expire, she explains, the land could be developed for solar or wind, or managed for conservation or recreation.

Legitimate reasons for a suspension of a lease include factors outside a company's control, such as a permit delay or an environmental review.

But Culver says it's improper to suspend a lease just because the company hasn't developed the property.

"That's not how the system is supposed to work, and these are public lands that are supposed to be leased and used for the benefit of all Americans – not just for what might suit the profit margin of one company at a given time," she stresses.

The report calls on the BLM to conduct a thorough review of existing long-term suspended leases. And the authors want the Government Accounting Office to launch its own investigation and recommend improvements to the lease suspension system.

A bill proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives would [eliminate a section from the federal Clean Water Act](#) that is being used to block the development of the Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The proposed gold mine has been opposed on grounds that it would destroy wild salmon fisheries in the Bristol Bay watershed. *NRDC Switchboard*

The Stream

Fish Taken Off Endangered Species List

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for the second time ever, is removing a fish from the Endangered Species Act list. Because of land conservation practices and safeguards against non-native predator fish, the Modoc sucker, which lives in the Pitt River Basin of southern Oregon and northern California, [no longer requires federal protection](#).

Two tribes live near the sucker's range. The Klamath Tribes agreed with the delisting. The Pitt River Tribe did not.

On the Radar

Tribal Water Rights Settlement

A deal that [settles Hualapai tribal water claims](#) to the Bill Williams River in Arizona and provides water for conservation programs in the lower Colorado River went into effect on December 11 with the approval of the Interior secretary.

Nuclear Contamination of Groundwater

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is [proposing new guidance](#) to protect groundwater resources from radioactive contamination. The guide is a technical manual to help nuclear operators assess if leaks of nuclear material pose a threat to groundwater.

Public comments are being accepted through February 9 and can be emailed to Carol.Gallagher@nrc.gov.

***** From
delanceyplace.com: **native americans and the introduction of horses**

Today's selection -- from *American Colossus* by H.W. Brands. Horses were introduced to American Indians by Europeans in the early 1500s. As ownership of horses spread, it created great disruption among Native American tribes; first by causing them to change more nomadic societies, and second because the increased need for grazing lands caused an increase in wars among tribes:

"In 1865 the Sioux nation was somewhat more than a century into its own economic and social revolution, one triggered by the arrival of the horse. The western Sioux had split off from their eastern cousins, who occupied the forests of Minnesota, some-time before the beginning of the eighteenth century, largely in response to pressure from the neighboring Ojibwa, who in turn felt pressure from their own eastern neighbors and from whites. The western Sioux, also called Lakota, were a pedestrian people when they emerged onto the plains of the upper Missouri River. They traveled on foot and hunted on foot, devising elaborate strategies for killing the largest animal species they encountered, the bison, or buffalo. A favorite strategy entailed setting fire to the grassland behind a herd and then channeling the resulting stampede toward a cliff. Most of the herd would stop short, but a few beasts would fall or be pushed over the edge by those behind. Some of these would break their legs, and the Sioux hunters would dispatch them with arrows and spears.

Sioux Chiefs

"The Sioux encountered the horse about the time they reached the plains. The Spanish had reintroduced the horse to the Americas in the early sixteenth century (equines had roamed the Americas before the last Ice Age). Some escaped or were stolen; the descendants of these made their way north in the company of various Indians and on their own. The initial impact of the horse on the Sioux was modest. The horse increased their semi-nomadic range, but not till the mid-eighteenth century did they become an equestrian people.

"The slow adoption of the horse resulted in part from the friction that attends any cultural transformation. Besides acquiring the animals, the Sioux had to learn how to train them, breed

them, and care for them. All this took time. But the long lag probably also reflected an understanding that, in adopting horses, the Sioux were giving up other things. The Cheyennes told a story about their own adoption of horses, from the Comanches, and though the myth was peculiar to them, the lesson must have applied more broadly. According to this story, the Cheyennes' god spoke to them through the oldest priest of the tribe:

If you have horses, everything will be changed for you for-ever. You will have to move around a lot to find pasture for your horses. You will have to give up gardening and live by hunting and gathering, like the Comanches. And you will have to come out of your earth houses and live in tents You will have to have fights with other tribes, who will want your pasture land or the places where you hunt. You will have to have real soldiers, who can protect the people. Think, before you decide.

"Almost certainly the Cheyenne story showed the wisdom of hindsight, which may or may not have helped the Sioux appreciate what they were getting into. In any case the Sioux were riding seriously by the 1750s, when their own census records counted horse-borne warriors among their men of military age.

"At that point the Sioux might have become full nomads, following the buffalo herds for most of the year. But something else slowed the transition."

American Colossus: The Triumph of Capitalism, 1865-1900

Author: H.W. Brands

Publisher: Anchor Books a division of Random House

Copyright 2010 by H.W. Brands

Pages 170-173

Suffering From Global Warming First

By Dennis J Bernstein, [Consortium News](#) | News Analysis

Indigenous people who live close to the land are seeing the effects of global warming sooner and more alarmingly than many urban dwellers and thus are demanding a strong voice in the Paris Climate Summit, as Native and Indian leader Andrea Carmen told Dennis J Bernstein. [Read more...](#)

Her dad thought her clean energy idea was just a 'kid's project.' He was wrong.

5 foods and drinks that may not be around for the next generation thanks to climate change.

5 quotes that show why you go into space a scientist and come down an environmentalist.

**Applications are now available for the 2016 Spring Semester.
Applications are available on the Western Shoshone Educational Trust Fund
website address: westernshoshoneeducationtrustfund.com**

Juvenile Chinook challenges in the Central Valley: baked, boiled or bass food?

Maven, Maven's Notebook

The predator issue: Just how bad is it? Dr. Sean Hayes discusses the results of recent studies on the San Joaquin Coverage of the California Salmon and Climate Variability Symposium continues with Dr. Sean Hayes, Salmon Ecology Team Leader for NOAA Fisheries, who talked about his latest research into juvenile outmigration survival, in particular, focusing on predation [...]

A regional-scale view of climate impacts on California's salmon habitats

Maven, Maven's Notebook

Dr. Nathan Mantua discusses how climate change and seasonal weather patterns influence coastal and marine salmon habitats Earlier this fall, the UC Davis Coastal and Marine Sciences Institute Center for Coastal Ocean Issues and the Delta Science Program convened the California Salmon and Climate Variability Symposium to explore how variable and changing ocean and hydrologic [...]

News Worth Noting: Scoping Report for Protecting Salmon on Lower Klamath; Enviro Docs for Accelerated Friant-CVC Transfer Program; \$5M for Private Well Owners & Small Water Systems; Largest Solar Energy Project for DWR

Maven, Maven's Notebook

Reclamation Releases Scoping Report on Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River: "The Bureau of Reclamation has released the Scoping Report on the Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River. The Scoping Report provides a summary of comments received and defines the major [...]

Contact: Press Office (202) 401-1576 or press@ed.gov

U.S. High School Graduation Rate Hits New Record High

Achievement gap continues to narrow for underserved students

Overall Changes in US Graduation Rates

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	3-yr change (11-14)
American Indian/Alaska Native	65	67	69.7	69.6	4.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	87	88	88.7	89.4	2.4
Hispanic	71	73	75.2	76.3	5.3
Black	67	69	70.7	72.5	5.5
White	84	86	86.6	87.2	3.2

Low Income	70	72	73.3	74.6	4.6
English Learners	57	59	61.1	62.6	5.6
Students with Disabilities	59	61	61.9	63.1	4.1
Total	79	80	81.4	82.3	3.3

To view the graduation rate data

—including a state-by-state breakdown—click [here](#).

Schools Have Failed First Nations by Lying About History

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

Reminder: National History Day Contest looms.....and the theme is so appropriate.....and needs the tribal point of view. Check with your school's history/social studies teacher.....and if there is nothing going on in your community, organize through your library. sdc

National History Day 2016

Exploration, Encounter & Exchange in History

June 12-16, 2016 (National Contest) (April 9 for Northern Nevada/Apr X in SoNV) If out of state, check with your State Ed Dept, SHRAB or Historical Society.

This page requires that you have Javascript enabled on your browser.

[Click here to download the full 2016 Theme Book](#)

Why Teach a Theme?

Every year National History Day frames students' research within a historical theme. The theme is chosen for the broad application to world, national or state history and its relevance to ancient history or to the more recent past. This year's theme is **Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History**. The intentional selection of the theme for NHD is to provide an opportunity for students to push past the antiquated view of history as mere facts and dates and drill down into historical content to develop perspective and understanding.

The NHD theme provides a focused way to increase students' historical understanding by developing a lens to read history, an organizational structure that helps students place information in the correct context and finally, the ability to see connections over time.

Ed note: please note the dearth of material/ideas related to Tribal "Exploration, Encounter and Exchange" which dramatically represents why tribes need to be more involved in this project. If you need ideas/want to discuss, do not hesitate to call me. sdc

Download the following theme materials:

- [2016 Theme Sheet](#)
- [2016 Sample Topics](#)
- [2016 Theme Book](#)

Cultural Exchange and the Olympic Games, Teri Hedgpeth

- [Bibliography](#)

From Calcutta to the Canefields of the Caribbean, Murali Balaji

- [Teaching Resources](#)

Food for Thought, Kristine Schenk

- [Online Resources](#)
- [Bibliography](#)

Complex Encounters, Continuing Exchanges, Rebecca Newland

- [Primary Sources](#)

To Provide for the Enjoyment for Future Generations, Linda Rosenblum, Katherine Orr, Nicholas R. Murray

- [Teaching with Historic Places Resources](#)

At the Crossroads of World War I and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Jessica Hopkins

- [Bibliography](#)

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Download the following theme materials:

[2016 Theme Sheet](#)
[2016 Sample Topics](#)
[2016 Theme Book](#)

Reform Begins in the United States, Rona Johnson

- [Full Lesson Plan with Links to Primary Sources](#)

An Empire in the East?: The Philippine Annexation Debate, Chris Carter

- [Full Lesson Plan](#)
- [Imperialism Context PowerPoint](#)

Primary Sources

[President William McKinley's Speech, *The Acquisition of the Philippines*, 1898](#)

[Presidential Candidate William Jennings Bryan's Speech, *Imperialism*, 1900](#)

[Senator Albert J. Beveridge's Speech, *In Support of an American Empire*, 1898](#)

[Senator George Hoar's Speech, *The Lust for Empire* \(final portion of speech\), 1898](#)

[African American newspaper editorials, 1898](#)

[Charles Denby, "Shall We Keep the Philippines?," 1898](#)

[Andrew Carnegie's, "Americanism versus Imperialism," 1899](#)

[Political Cartoons PowerPoint](#)

Lesson Materials

[Graphic Organizer \(texts\): American Imperialism Document Analysis](#)

[Graphic Organizer \(Cartoons\): American Imperialism Political Cartoon Analysis](#)

[Harkness Discussion Rubric](#)
[Paragraph Checklist Rubric](#)

Welcome to the Nevada Prepaid Tuition Program

www.nevadatreasurer.gov/Prepaid_Tuition/Prepaid_Home/

Tomorrow's Tuition. Today's Prices! The Nevada Prepaid Tuition Program helps Nevada families keep the promise of higher education for their children. The Program allows you to purchase tomorrow's college tuition at today's rates, and offers affordable payment options. Credit hours may also be applied to out-of-state public or private colleges or universities.

Nevada Prepaid Tuition **Grant Sawyer Building, 555 E. Washington Ave, Suite 4600**
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 **Phone: (702) 486-2025 Toll Free: (888) 477-2667**
Fax: (702) 486-3246 **Email: PrepaidTuition@NevadaTreasurer.gov**

Nevada Prepaid Tuition Scholarship Account Giveaway

Anyone who purchases a Nevada Prepaid Tuition Plan by end of day January 31, 2016 will be entered to win a 1-year university plan account valued at \$6,023! Two winners will be selected in a random drawing from all eligible applicants.

“The Nevada Prepaid Tuition program gives you peace of mind knowing that you’ve locked in today’s in-state rates for your child’s future college tuition,” says Dan Schwartz, Nevada State Treasurer. “The sooner you start, the more you can save.”

[Click here to download the official rules](#)

What is a 529 plan?

529 plans were established to help families save money for post-secondary or higher education that can be used at schools across the country. The name "529" refers to the Internal Revenue Code section that allows the establishment of this type of college saving investment vehicle. With the many attractive features and benefits they offer, 529 plans have become one of the most popular ways to save for college.



What are the benefits of a 529 plan?

- Tax-deferred investment growth and withdrawals that are free from federal and state taxes when used for qualified higher education expenses*
- Professional investment management
- Control over how assets are used
- Gift- and estate-tax benefits
- Qualified expenses that include tuition, some fees, books, and certain room and board costs

What impact does a 529 plan have on financial aid?

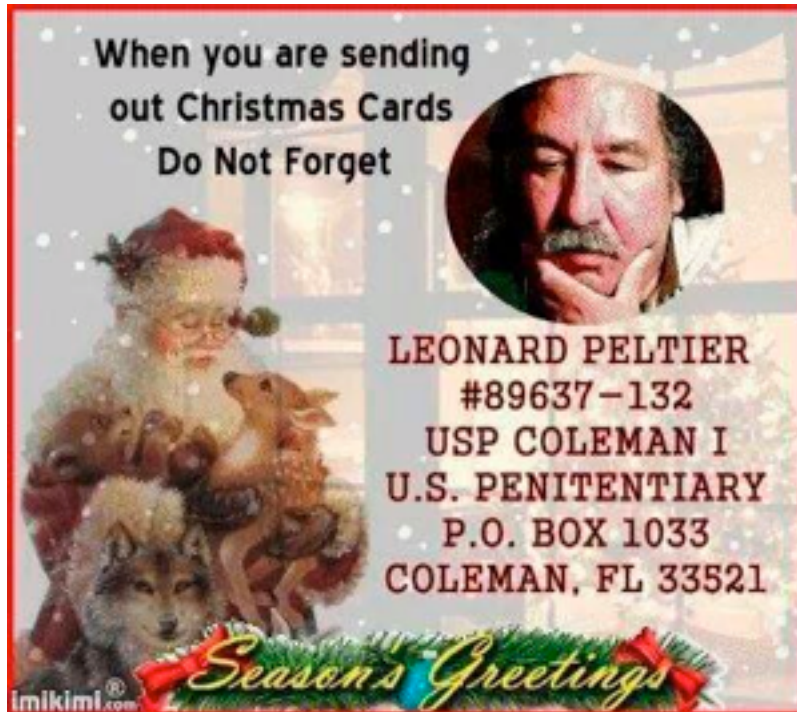
Participation in a 529 college savings plan does not limit a student's receipt of merit-based financial aid, including academic or athletic scholarships. While a 529 account could potentially impact needs-based financial aid, remember that most needs-based financial aid that is awarded is actually in the form of loans that must be repaid rather than grants. While many parents and grandparents are often concerned about this issue, a 529 plan may help reduce the amount of debt a student has to take on in the form of loans.

A 529 account owned by a parent for a dependent (the student) is reported on FAFSA as a parental asset, which is assessed at a maximum of 5.64 percent. Non-529 student assets (e.g., UGMA/UTMA accounts) are assessed at the higher rate of 20 percent.

*Earnings on nonqualified withdrawals are subject to federal income tax and may be subject to a 10 percent federal penalty tax, as well as state and local income taxes. The availability of tax or other benefits may be contingent upon meeting other requirements.

Quick links

[529 basics/](#)[Costs and contributions/](#)[Ownership and flexibility/](#)[Tax benefits/](#)[Ugift® - Give college savings/](#)[Upromise®](#)



In ' Fairness,' Obama Commutes Sentences for 95, Mostly Drug Offenders

By JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS and PETER BAKER

The president is freeing 40 prisoners serving life sentences as he demonstrates his desire to re-orient the nation's criminal justice system.

Columbus, Thanksgiving, and Imaginary Indians: Busting Tired History Myths at TEDx [Video]

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com <http://bit.ly/1QS4nIb>