

Journal #3571 from sdc 2.16.16

Reno is a desert city with a river heart

Across the Board Increases for Obama's Indian Country Budget

Jake Page, Editor Who Made Science Accessible, Dies at 80

What is Lean Start-up Methodology and is it a Tool for More Small Business Owners?

Presidential campaigns address Western issues at Reno forum

He Who Walks In Peace And Harmony.

Chicken Dance

NEW COLLEGE AID PROGRAM HAS DISAPPOINTING RESULTS AT CSN

Circle of Blue Extracts

Guess who's funding the Bundys' crazy land-grab movement? The Koch brothers

Climate change is awfully hard on native plants

Can-you-answer-this-sample-question-from-the-newly-redesigned-SAT ?

Alberta fracking operation closed indefinitely after triggering magnitude 4.8 earthquake

HELPFUL RESOURCES/WEBSITES FOR TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS

Obama's bold move on Mojave Desert protection

NEVADANS MEDDLE IN OREGON'S BUSINESS

Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha Indians become the first official Climate Refugees

Bilingual toddlers demonstrate greater cognitive flexibility, study finds



[High Country News](#)

For a long time the Truckee River gave sacred water but received profane treatment from Reno. In this month's Rant from the Hill, the Ranter describes a transformative experience by the river well before the Truckee corridor was revitalized.

[Rants from the Hill: Reno is a desert city with a river heart](#)

The Ranter recalls playing an unexpected concert on the banks of the Truckee River.

hcn.org

Across the Board Increases for Obama's Indian Country Budget

President Barack Obama submitted his Fiscal Year 2017 proposal to Congress...

indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com

Jake Page, Editor Who Made Science Accessible, Dies at 80

By WILLIAM GRIMES

Mr. Page worked for book publishers and Smithsonian magazine and wrote books on several areas of science, natural history and the American Indian.

What is Lean Start-up Methodology and is it a Tool for More Small Business Owners?

The traditional business plan has many virtues; and the common thinking is that by prompting the new entrepreneur to initially consider all the components of a successful business operation, from the legal structure to the marketing plan to financial projections, etc., the venture has a higher likelihood of success.

Presidential campaigns address Western issues at Reno forum

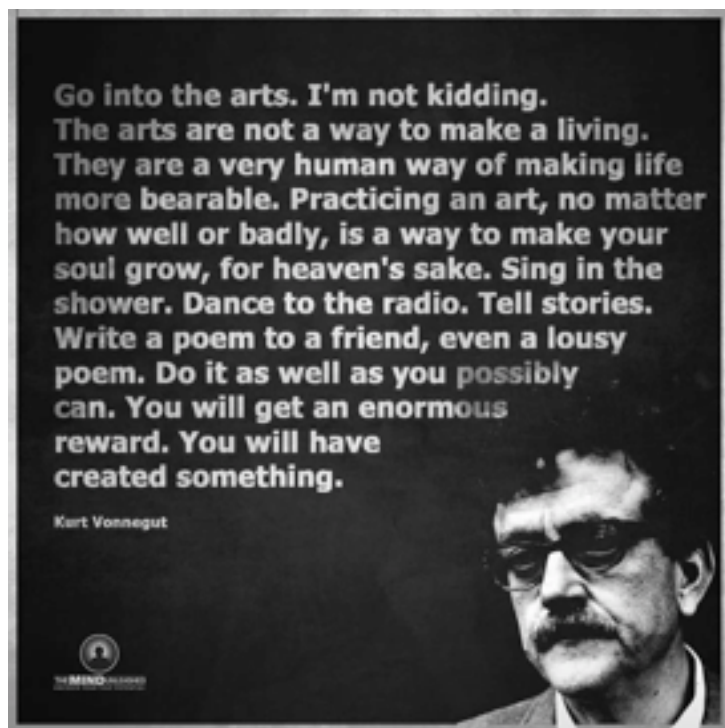
Western issues were the focus of the Democratic presidential campaigns Saturday in Reno as a group of grassroots organizations held a summit to address regional concerns about matters like public lands, indigenous tribes and water rights.

on.rgj.comlBy [Seth A. Richardson](#)

He Who Walks In Peace And Harmony.

The Inuit from Kangiqsujaq..<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=994953643903588&set=a.213026638762963.51238.100001668855647&type=3>

The secret garden hidden under the ice - how the other half live..



["Chicken Dance" vimeo.com](#)

NEW COLLEGE AID PROGRAM HAS DISAPPOINTING RESULTS AT CSN

A new grant designed to help Nevada's poorest students pay for higher education had disappointing results at the state's biggest college, where nearly half of recipients failed to meet a course load requirement and lost a portion of the aid.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz27974769>



Circle of Blue

(extracts)

By the Numbers

28 percent: Increase in the Obama budget for WaterSmart, a program that was launched in 2010 to study water supply challenges in the American West and respond to them. ([Bureau of Reclamation](#))

1.8 million: Acres in the Mojave Desert designated as national monuments. ([White House](#))

News Briefs

Budget Numbers

The president's budget is a statement of priorities. The \$US 4.1 trillion proposal must be vetted by the Republican-led Congress, which will most likely reject the president's proposal.

The last Obama budget gives new prominence to water. The White House has a two-prong water strategy that it is supporting with a [\\$US 267 million budget request](#). First, increase the

efficiency of water use. Second, develop new technologies that will bring down the cost and energy consumption of desalination, reuse, and other sources of new water supply.

Other notable budget items:

- Full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, at \$US 900 million
- A total of \$US 2 billion for drinking water and sewer loan programs, a cut of 11 percent, or \$US 257 million
- \$US 1.2 billion for the [U.S. Geological Survey](#), including an 8 percent increase for [water research](#)
- \$US 106 million for Indian water rights settlements. A priority for the Obama administration, which has signed six settlements, the majority of the funds will go toward building the [Navajo-Gallup water supply project](#), a pipeline in northwestern New Mexico.
- \$US 4.6 billion for the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#)
- \$US 8.3 billion for the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#), a 2 percent increase

Army Corps Releases 2016 Work Plan

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will [begin construction on six projects](#) in 2016. The projects — two in California, two in Minnesota, and one each in Alaska and Virginia — address flood risk, navigation, and environmental restoration.

Flint Update

The White House wants Flint residents to get the financial assistance they need, but it will defer to Congress on how to do that, according to press secretary Josh Earnest.

Meanwhile, White House officials told Democratic members of Congress that they are working to [expand Medicaid access for families in Flint](#), the *Detroit Free Press* reports.

And, the Small Business Administration announced that [low-interest loans](#) — at 4 percent interest — would be made available to Flint businesses.

Finally, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advisory committee held a meeting on February 9 to discuss [how to evaluate the long-term consequences of lead exposure in Flint](#).

Lead Notification Bill Passes House

By a 416 to 2 margin, the House passed [a bill to strengthen requirements](#) for the EPA to notify the public about high lead levels. The bill was introduced by Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI), who is from Flint.

EPA Chief Questioned on Clean Water, Flint, Farming

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy [appeared before the House Agriculture Committee](#) to discuss the effect EPA regulations have on rural America. She faced questions on the Clean Water Rule, its effect on farmers, and on Flint.

Studies and Reports

Water as a National Security Risk

James Clapper, director of the nation's spy agencies, [testified](#) before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on the [2016 national security threat assessment](#).

Once again, Clapper noted that environmental change can throw nations into crisis and lead to interstate conflict in countries with unstable governments and social strife.

Water Infrastructure Financing

The Congressional Research Service published two reports on financing water projects. One explains [how federal dollars from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund are distributed to the states](#). The current allocation formula — based on population and assessed needs — is 25 years old, and revising it is “one of the most controversial issues” when the Clean Water Act is reauthorized, the report states.

The other report summarizes the [debates surrounding the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act \(WIFIA\)](#), a low-interest loan program for large water and sewer projects. Congress authorized a pilot program in 2014. Opponents worry that WIFIA would erode support for existing federal programs such as the state revolving funds. Obama’s budget proposal included \$US 20 million for the WIFIA loan program.

Climate Risk for Investors

The Securities and Exchange Commission is [reviewing its guidelines for disclosing exposure to climate-related investment risks](#), according to a report from the Government Accountability Office. The SEC issued its guidance in 2010.

On the Radar

San Joaquin River Restoration

The Bureau of Reclamation will [increase water releases into the San Joaquin River](#), *Valley Radio* reports. The releases from Millerton Lake, which will continue through February 29, are designed to aid salmon.

[Guess who’s funding the Bundys’ crazy land-grab movement? The Koch brothers](#)
KATIE HERZOG

[Climate change is awfully hard on native plants](#) **JOHN UPTON**

<http://www.upworthy.com/can-you-answer-this-sample-question-from-the-newly-redesigned-sat?c=upw1>

[Breaking: Alberta fracking operation closed indefinitely after triggering magnitude 4.8 earthquake](#)

A hydraulic fracturing operation near Fox Creek, Alta., has been shut down after an earthquake hit the area Tuesday. Another tough blow for the LNG industry pushers. cbc.ca

HELPFUL RESOURCES/WEBSITES FOR TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS:

☒ Centralized website for federal grant opportunities: www.grants.gov • Government

Information by Topic: <http://www.usa.gov/>.

☒ Explore more than 30 U.S. Federal Agency Resources: U.S. government services and programs for Native Americans

☒ HUD’s PIH Notices to Tribes and TDHEs are electronically posted at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/regs/notices.cfm>.

☒ HUD’s Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities: www.hud.gov/sustainability.

☒ Federal Register Today: http://www.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/fr-cont.html.

☒ Environmental Resources <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/ih/codetalk/resources/env.cfm>

- ☒ National Resource Database for Tribal Water System Operators:
www.smallwatersupply.org
- ☒ Multi-agency Infrastructure Task Force in Indian Country: <http://www.epa.gov/tp/trprograms/infra-water.htm>
- ☒ Multi-Agency Tribal Infrastructure Collaborative (MATIC): www.MATICSouthwest.com
- ☒ Asset Building for Native Communities: <http://www.idaresources.org/page?pageid=a047000000ArRPk>
- ☒ Center for American Indian Economic Development: www.franke.nau.edu/businessoutreach/caied
- ☒ Southern California Indian Center- www.indiancenter.org
- ☒ Indian Dispute Resolution Services, Inc. <http://www.idrsinc.org>
- ☒ Native American Contractors Association: <http://www.nativecontractors.org/>
- ☒ Native Learning Center (NLC): FREE courses & training for Native Americans.
www.nativelearningcenter.com
- ☒ CDFIs: Native Home Capital: <http://www.nativehomecapital.com/>
Native Community Finance: www.nativecommunityfinance.org
- ☒ National Congress of American Indians: www.ncai.org National American Indian Housing Council: www.naihc.net
- ☒ Southwestern States Inter Tribal Councils and Indian Chambers of Commerce

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona: <http://www.itcaonline.com/>
 Inter Tribal Council of California: <http://www.itccinc.org/>
 Inter Tribal Council of Nevada: <http://www.itcn-snac.org/>
 All Pueblo Governors Council (of New Mexico): <http://www.iad.state.nm.us/pueblos.html>
 American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Arizona www.aiccz.org
 American Indian Chamber of Commerce of California <http://www.aicccal.org>
 Southwest Tribal Housing Alliance (SWTHA) <http://www.swtha.org/> Nevada/California Indian Housing Association www.nev-cal.org

FEDERAL PARTNERS:

- ☒ USDA Rural Development <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/Home.html>
- ☒ Rural Utilities Service: High Energy Cost Grant Program (USDA): http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/UEP_Grant_Program.html.
- Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Indian Self-Determination Services
- Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (Native Americans) <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/programs/aiana.htm>
- General Services Administration (GSA) https://www.gsaadvantage.gov/advantage/main/start_page.do
- ☒ Indian Health Service (IHS) <http://www.ihs.gov/>
IHS Environmental Health Support Center (Training Opportunities) <http://www.ihs.gov/EHSCT/index.cfm?module=home>
- ☒ Department of Health & Human Services (HRSA) <http://www.hrsa.gov/publichealth/community/indianhealth/index.html>
- ☒ Department of Energy's (DOE) Tribal Energy Program <http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/tribalenergy/>

- ☒ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9 Tribal Solid Waste: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/tribal/index.html>
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 9 Green Building: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/greenbuilding/index.html>
- Environmental Protection Agency Office of Sustainable Communities: www.epa.gov/smartgrowth
- ☒ Internal Revenue Service – Tax Information for Indian Tribal Governments: <http://www.irs.gov/govt/tribes/index.html>
- ☒ Department of Treasury CDFI Fund <http://www.cdfifund.gov>
- ☒ US Department of Commerce - MDBA (Minority Business Development Agency) <http://www.mbda.gov/>
- Economic Development Administration www.eda.gov Small Business Administration (SBA) <http://www.sba.gov/>
- ☒ OCC Native American Banking Resource Directory www.occ.gov/topics/community-affairs/publications/index-ca-publications.html
- ☒ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Disaster Preparedness & Recovery <http://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit#>
- FEMA - Trainings for Tribal representatives & staff. <http://www.fema.gov/government/tribal/training.shtm>
- ☒ Federal Communications Commission (FCC), Office of Native Affairs & Policy <http://www.fcc.gov/indians/>.
- ☒ Administration for Native Americans (ANA): http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ana/programs/program_information.html
- ☒ Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) Training & Events: <http://www.rcac.org/doc.aspx?58>
- ☒ Partnership for Sustainable Communities: www.sustainablecommunities.gov
- ☒ Sustainable Communities Resource Center – www.huduser.org/portal/sustainability/resources_rural_sustainability.html
- ☒ Social Security Administration - Public website www.socialsecurity.gov
- ☒ SSA's American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) page <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/people/aiian/>
- ☒ Dept. of Transportation: Transportation Planning Capacity Building: www.planning.dot.gov
- MAP 21 www.dot.gov/map21
- ☒ Veterans Administration: Native American Direct Loan Program: <http://benefits.va.gov/homeloans/nadl.asp>
- VA Office of Tribal Government Relations <http://www.va.gov/TRIBALGOVERNMENT/>

Obama's bold move on Mojave Desert protection

San Francisco Chronicle

President Obama's use of the 1906 Antiquities Act to protect 1.8 million acres of the Mojave Desert under national monument status carries both direct and indirect benefits to the environment. The direct benefit, of course, is that the natural beauty of these lands — and the habitat they provide for an array of species — will be protected from heavy mining, off-road-

vehicle intrusions, cattle ranching, development and other potential threats to the ecosystem.

NEVADANS MEDDLE IN OREGON'S BUSINESS

Pistol-packin' political firebrand Michele Fiore made the big headlines last week in Oregon, but two other Nevada legislators were on the scene in the waning hours of the armed occupation of a federal wildlife refuge — nearly 700 miles outside their Assembly districts.

<http://erj.reviewjournal.com/ct/uz3688753Biz27997838>

I wonder if they learned anything about Paiute history/rights during their stay. sdc



This is incredibly important news, and illustrates what's coming.

[Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha Indians become the first official Climate Refugees](#)

The Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw just received \$48 Million to move off of their... [dailykos.com](#)

[Bilingual toddlers demonstrate greater cognitive flexibility, study finds](#)

Speaking more than one language at home doesn't just expose young children to two sets of vocabularies — it could also confer hidden benefits to their cognitive...

[sciencealert.com](#) | By Peter Dockrill

[David D/Flickr](#)

Bilingual toddlers demonstrate greater cognitive flexibility, study finds
Switching between languages enhances your mental control.

PETER DOCKRILL
4 FEB 2016

Speaking more than one language at home doesn't just expose young children to two sets of vocabularies – it could also confer hidden benefits to their cognitive control, according to a new study.

Researchers in Canada have been investigating how the ability to speak more than one language affects problem-solving skills in toddlers. What they've found is that bilingual kids – who become accustomed to switching between different tongues as required – demonstrate greater mental flexibility than monolinguals when it comes to certain types of mental exercises.

According to the researchers, while it might be difficult for young children to initially learn this skill of switching between languages in different contexts, the ability to do so pays off in relation to resolving conflict tasks, where people need to override a rule or behaviour they previously learned to complete a contrasting objective. For example, identifying the colour of certain text when the text itself is trying to trick you, [called the Stroop effect](#).

"This switching becomes more frequent as children grow older and as their vocabulary size increases," [said psychologist Diane Poulin-Dubois](#) from Concordia University. "Therefore, the superior performance on these conflict tasks appears to be due to bilinguals' strengthened cognitive flexibility and selective attention abilities as they have increased experience in switching across languages in expressive vocabulary."

The researchers assessed the vocabularies of 39 bilingual toddlers and compared them with the abilities of 43 monolingual peers. Two study sessions were conducted 7 months apart, with the tests occurring when the children were aged 24 months and then 31 months.

In terms of vocabulary skills, bilingualism didn't appear to confer greater expressive abilities, but a marked gap between the two groups became clear in relation to non-verbal exercises.

"For the most part, there was no difference between the bilingual and monolingual toddlers," [said Poulin-Dubois](#). "But that changed dramatically when it came to the [conflict inhibition](#) test, and the differences were especially apparent in the bilingual toddlers whose vocabulary had increased most."

To assess the children's capabilities in conflict inhibition tasks, the participants were asked to perform a reverse categorisation puzzle: putting little blocks in a little bucket and big blocks in a big bucket, then being asked to reverse the sorting, putting little blocks in the big bucket, and vice versa.

Another task presented the kids with shape conflict. They were shown pictures of differently sized fruits and asked to name them. Then a new series of images was shown, with small fruits

embedded inside the large ones, and the participants had to point to the little fruit, overcoming the juxtaposition.

As reported in the [*Journal of Experimental Child Psychology*](#), the bilingual toddlers did significantly better on these conflict inhibition tasks, consistently outperforming the monolinguals.

"In conflict inhibition, the child has to ignore certain information – the size of a block relative to a bucket, or the fact that one fruit is inside another," [said one of the researchers, Cristina Crivello](#). "That mirrors the experience of having to switch between languages, using a second language even though the word from a first language might be more easily accessible."

According to the researchers, the more language-switching the toddlers engage in, the more it benefits their mental flexibility, with children who had amassed a greater number of 'doublets' – pairs of words in two languages with the same meaning, ie. dog/*chien* – showing greater conflict inhibition resolution.

"By the end of the third year of life, the average bilingual child uses two words for most concepts in his or her vocabulary, so young bilingual children gradually acquire more experience in switching between languages," [said Poulin-Dubois](#).

The findings add to a growing body of scientific research highlighting the diversity of benefits that come with speaking more than one language, ranging from bilinguals [having a higher volume of grey matter in their brains](#) to [enjoying greater prospects of stroke recovery](#). Basically, if you're interested in learning another language, your brain will most likely make it worth your while.

Read these next:

- [Bilingual brains have higher volume of grey matter, study suggests](#)
- [Bilingual people are twice as likely to recover from a stroke, study finds](#)
- [The first language you learn affects how you hear all others, study finds](#)