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Dilemmas of the Fourth of July

'Badass Librarians' Foil al Qaeda, Save Ancient Manuscripts

Studying the Climate of the Past Is Essential for Preparing for Today's Rapidly Changing Climate

International Honors Program

18th National Tribal Preservation Conference

Youth Summer Camping Trip

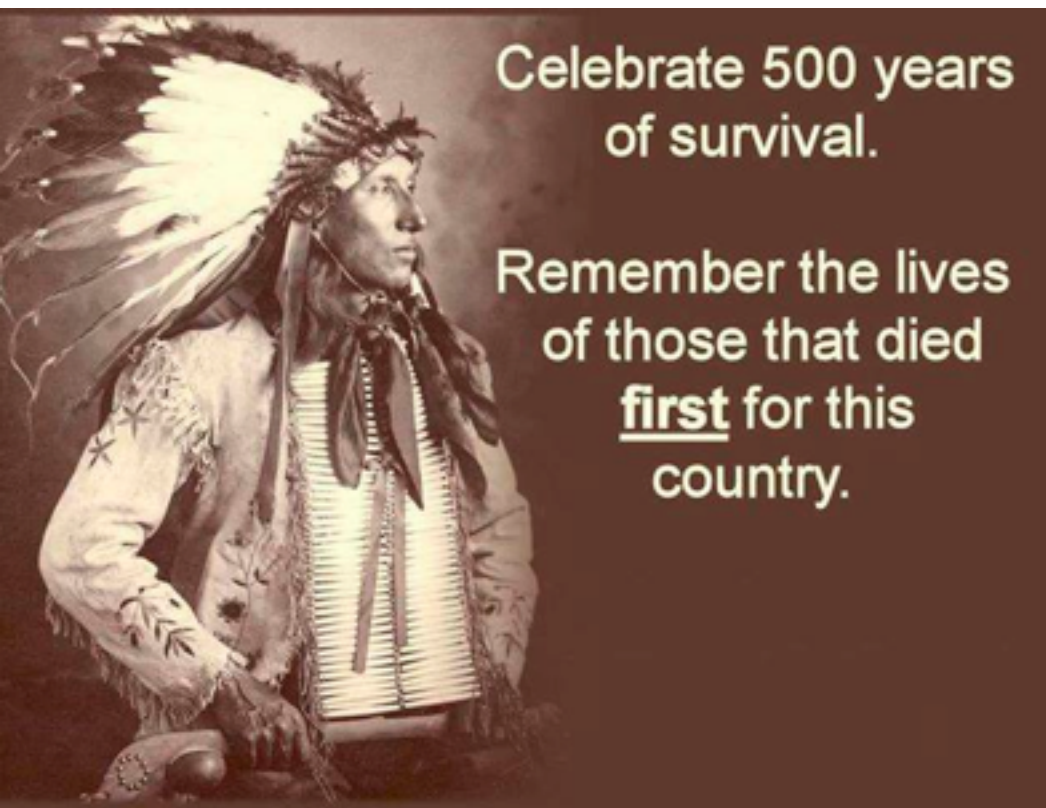
Exhibit/book of local history which documents the lives of enslaved Africans and Native Americans

American Indian Movement Longest Walk 5

Nevada Magazine Photo Needs

Nevada looks to refresh dry pipeline of teachers, and fast

Peace and Dignity Run Update



[Native American - Honoring our Ancestors, Culture & Spirituality](#)

Today, many people will be participating in the "**Celebration of our Nations Independence.**"

Please take a moment out of your day to remember the millions of Native and Indigenous People who inhabited these lands for 1,000's and 1,000's of years prior to European invasion that died first for this Country. History proves this Country has the absolute worst record when it comes to hate crimes against it's First Nations and Indigenous people and it does not

matter how many more centuries will pass by....the fact will always remain that this Nation was taken by violent force at the cost of millions Native and Indigenous lives. Please take a moment out of your day to reflect on this and Honor those who have gone before us.

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### **The Dilemma of the Fourth of July**

Commentary The other day I was eating dinner with my wife in a restaurant located in Gallup New Mexico, a border town to the Navajo reservation. Gallup was recently named "Most Patriotic Small Town...      nativenewsonline.net

[Reflections from the Hogan: The Doctrine of Discovery- A Buried Apology and an Empty Chair](#)  
[Mr. Charles, I wanted to take this opportunity to say thanks for everything you do. I would say thanks in Navajo, but I don't know how, so I hope you will forgive the imposition. I've been following you for a while, you're doing wonderful work. Please keep the faith, and keep doing what you're doing...](#)

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*“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales.” — Albert Einstein* *or tell the tribal tales*

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### **'Badass Librarians' Foil al Qaeda, Save Ancient Manuscripts**

Scholars used donkey carts, boats, and teenage couriers to smuggle a priceless collection out of Timbuktu.

In 2012, jihadists—armed to the teeth with weapons seized in Libya after the fall of Muammar Qaddafi—overran northern Mali and established [a brutal, sharia regime in Timbuktu](#). Once a center of learning and culture, the city housed a [priceless collection of manuscripts](#): volumes of poetry, encyclopedias, and even sexual manuals that invoked the name of Allah. Threatened with destruction, the manuscripts were spirited out of the city to safety in a thrilling, cloak-and-dagger operation.

Speaking from his home in Berlin, Joshua Hammer, a former *Newsweek* bureau chief in Africa, recounts the tale of [The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu: And Their Race to Save the World's Most Precious Manuscripts](#)—and explains how the Timbuktu manuscripts disprove the myth that Africa had no literary or historical culture, why Henry Louis Gates had an epiphany when he saw them, and why the jihadists found them so threatening.

**[Timbuktu](#) has become a byword for the farthest corner of the earth. But it was once an important cultural and artistic center. Put us on the ground during its golden age.**

Several of the great travelers of the Renaissance, in the 15th-16th centuries, passed through Timbuktu and described it as a thriving commercial center with camel caravans and traders on boats on the Niger River bearing everything from linens and teapots from England to slaves and gold out of the rain forests of Central Africa. At the same time, you had this academic tradition. So you had a thriving



commercial center side by side with a Cambridge/Oxford-like atmosphere of fervent scholastic activity.

**Al Qaeda in the Islamic Magreb swept to power in Mali. Talk about its rise—and its fanatical leader, Abou Zeid.**

Abou Zeid was one of a triumvirate of jihadists, probably the most brutal of them, who took over northern Mali between January and April in 2012. Another leader was Mokhtar Belmokhtar, an Algerian jihadist who had been hardened fighting in Afghanistan and fallen in with some of the most notorious international jihadists. He was also a cigarette smuggler, who made millions by dominating the cigarette trade across the Sahara up into North Africa. This earned him the nickname “Mister Marlboro.”

In the chaos of the uprising against Qaddafi, the jihadists raided the armories of Libya, took the weapons into Mali, and quickly swept across the northern part of the country, occupying all of the major towns in the north, including Timbuktu. They imposed sharia law and began to destroy every symbol of moderate Sufi Islam that almost all residents of modern Timbuktu subscribe to. Shrines to Sufi saints were destroyed; whippings and amputations were carried out in the public squares of the city; and, of course, the manuscripts were threatened.



**The manuscripts were not kept in an archive, but by individual families. Explain this unusual provenance—and how it helped preserve them.**

Timbuktu was a university town during its golden age. Many of the universities were operated out of mosques, so you had a lot of books and manuscripts being created for the scholars. At the same time, you had these wealthy families that valued learning. Because it had this long scholastic tradition, Timbuktu also had a great literary tradition: powerful Timbuktu families measuring their importance by the books they accumulated on Greek philosophy, poetry, love stories, guides to better sex, astronomy, traditional medicine, as well as the religious books. They would be copied by scribes and accumulated both in the universities and in private homes. So huge libraries were created, numbering in the thousands of volumes. Nobody knows how many manuscripts were in the city at its peak but it was almost certainly in the hundreds of thousands.

**The hero of your book is a man named Abdel Kader Haidara. Give us a character sketch and describe his extraordinary efforts to collect the manuscripts together.**

Abdel Kader Haidara is the son of a scholar from Timbuktu. His father ran an Islamic school in the oldest quarter of Timbuktu. So Abdel Kader grew up around these manuscripts. When he was 17, his father died. He had a dozen brothers and sisters but in the will his father made him the heir to the family book collection, which numbered in the thousands at that time. His father appreciated Abdel Kader’s scholarship and studiousness. He was also fluent in Arabic, which was essential if you were going to be in charge of these manuscripts as they were almost all written in Arabic.

A few years later, the curator for the national library in Timbuktu called on Abdel Kader and asked him if he would take on a job, traveling around the countryside visiting villages and nomadic encampments, trying to track down some of the ancient manuscripts that had been disbursed into the desert. Timbuktu was conquered by the Moroccans in the 1590s and a lot of the books were spirited out of the city. Abdel Kader reluctantly took on the job—he wanted to be a businessman rather than a scholar working in a library—and began trudging around the countryside in camel caravans or taking boats along the Niger, trying to persuade these villagers to give up their precious family heirlooms and turn them all over to this national library in Timbuktu.

He proved to be incredibly successful at this and also found that he loved the job. He built the national library into a great institution and turned his own family's collection into a library in Timbuktu, raised money, and got other librarians involved. By the year 2000, Timbuktu had become a cultural boomtown that had recaptured some of the glory of its heyday in the 16th century, when it was the scholastic center of North Africa. He found manuscripts stashed away in dark storage rooms or caves in the desert. By the time of the jihadi invasion of 2012, he had assembled a collection of 377,000 manuscripts.

**You call the manuscripts “monumentally subversive.” Explain.**

Because they posited a worldview that was anathema to the jihadists. There were celebrations of music, which the [Salafist fundamentalists](#) do not tolerate, and books about sex in which the reader was asked to invoke the name of Allah as a way of heightening his sexual prowess. Abdel Kader especially valued these things because they showed a more tolerant side of Islam.

**Henry Louis Gates came to Timbuktu to see the manuscripts in 1996. Why was the experience such an epiphany for him?**

Henry Louis Gates came to Timbuktu when he was a professor at Harvard and also making [documentaries about African civilization](#). He'd grown up with the idea that Africans were savages. He recalled a Ripley's Believe It or Not cartoon he'd seen as a small boy, which said that there had been libraries and universities in Timbuktu. When he finally got to Harvard and began making documentaries, one of the first things he wanted to do was go up to Timbuktu and tell the story of these universities to try to refute the cliché that Africans had no history or intellectual traditions. The argument was that blacks were inferior to Europeans because they had no written language. In Timbuktu, Gates went to see Abdel Kader Haidara, fell in love with the manuscripts, and ended up going back to the U.S. and raising almost \$100,000 for Haidara to open the first private library in the city.

**The final rescue of the manuscripts by river to the capital, Bamako, was an amazing cloak-and-dagger operation. Set the scene for us.**

There were three stages of the operation. The first was after Abdel Kader became concerned that the jihadists might target the manuscripts. So they moved them out of the big libraries of Timbuktu into safe houses around the city. They did it at night, putting the manuscripts in boxes and moving them by donkey cart to people's basements and storage rooms. In the second phase, a couple of months later, they moved them out of the city by vehicle: one vehicle after another, in



constant motion, often escorted by teenage couriers, over 600 miles of desert, passing through checkpoints and bluffing their way all the way to Bamako, the capital in the south.

The third phase, after the French Army invaded and it became too dangerous to move the books by road, involved taking them by boat up the Niger River toward Bamako, then offloading them from the boats and putting them into taxis. It was an elaborate and dangerous process that went on for months, right under the noses of the jihadists.

**The French were called “cheese-eating surrender monkeys” by proponents of the Iraq War. But their prompt and decisive military action in Mali rather disproved that moniker, didn’t it?**

There was no way the U.S. was going to go to war in Mali. There was no oil [laughs], and it was Francophone territory. So Obama was delighted when President Hollande announced he was going to send troops in, after the jihadists overreached and tried to take over the rest of the country.

The [showdown came at a place called Ametettai](#). A Foreign Legion officer, Captain Oudot de Danville, led a group of hardened paratroopers into battle. They traveled over many miles in the high desert of Mali to Ametettai, where they fought a fight to the finish against the jihadists, who were hunkered down inside caves in this very rocky, arid, brutally hot valley. There were also regular French and Chadian forces, who are really hardened badasses, as well. And they were able to pretty much wipe out the jihadists in one week of fighting.

**You end the story in 2014, with the manuscripts still stored in Bamako. What's the current situation? And will they ever go back to Timbuktu?**

Who knows? The manuscripts have all been collected in one large storage facility in Bamako, so they have been brought together under one roof. They are being digitized and those that were damaged in the course of the smuggling operation are being carefully restored. Meanwhile, Abdel Kader is keeping an eye on the situation in Timbuktu. He would love to take them back but he doesn’t think the time is right. I’m not really sure when that time will be. It’s already been three years, and I don’t think there’s any end in sight to this purgatory. Last November, there was an [attack on the Radisson Hotel in Bamako](#), so the jihadists are infiltrating the southern part of the country, which they were never able to do at the height of their occupation in the north. I don’t think they will ever again be able to mount a major operation to seize territory. But they’re still out there.

*This interview was edited for length and clarity. Simon Worrall curates [Book Talk](#). Follow him on [Twitter](#) or at [simonworrallauthor.com](#).      Photos: [news.nationalgeographic.com](#)*

Abdel Kader Haidara, shown here at his home with storage cases full of ancient manuscripts, saved Timbuktu's priceless literary heritage from jihadists.      Photograph by Brent Stirton, Getty Images/National Geographic

In its heyday during the 15th and 16th centuries, Timbuktu was a commercial center boasting 50,000 residents, a flourishing literary culture, and a tolerant brand of Islam.      Photograph by Brent Stirton, National Geographic

Almost 400,000 ancient manuscripts—some dating back to the 11th century and on subjects as diverse as medicine, poetry, astronomy, and sex—were saved from destruction.      Photograph by Brent Stirton, Getty Images/National Geographic

French military officers sit with the mayor of Timbuktu, Dravi Mega, on January 28, 2013. Photograph by Noel Quidu, Paris Match/Getty Images

Tuareg nomads allied with the jihadists in the hope of achieving independence. Here, they celebrate the end of the Ramadan fast in the desert outside Timbuktu with prayer and dancing. Photograph by Brent Stirton, Getty Images/National Geographic

The manuscripts were smuggled across 600 miles (965 kilometers) of desert to Bamako, the capital of Mali. Here, a camel caravan laden with salt approaches Timbuktu. Photograph by Brent Stirton, Getty Images/National Geographic

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## **Studying the Climate of the Past Is Essential for Preparing for Today's Rapidly Changing Climate**

In 1942, Winston Churchill said: "The longer you can look back, the farther you can look forward." As a paleontologist, I think it is time to establish a tradition that uses geological history to anticipate—and thus plan for—the future. [READ THE ARTICLE](#)

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## **IHP/Multi-Country**

SIT offers 30 undergraduate study abroad programs that travel to multiple countries. Each multi-country program gives you the opportunity to examine a critical global issue from a comparative perspective.

Multi-country programs come in different formats. Programs travel to two to four different locations and are available in both summer and semester formats. Some programs divide the semester evenly between sites, allowing you to spend four to five weeks in each of three different countries. Some programs spend the majority of the semester in one country with one or more excursions to another country, allowing you to spend three months being immersed in the cultures of your host country. The choice is yours.

International Honors Programs (IHP) begin in the US and spend one month in each of three other countries, on three continents, each semester, giving you a comparative look at a critical global issue. These programs emphasize the multidisciplinary analysis of issues and integrates experience-based learning throughout the semester, culminating in a comparative research project on a topic of your own choosing.

Get started finding the right program for you by learning more about the programs below.

## **Programs in Multiple Countries**

### **Climate | Environment**

- [IHP: Climate Change: The Politics of Food, Water, and Energy](#)
- [Iceland and Greenland: Climate Change and the Arctic](#)
- [Panama: Tropical Ecology, Marine Ecosystems, and Biodiversity Conservation](#)

### **Development | Economy | Inequality**

- [Argentina: Transnationalism and Comparative Development in South America](#)
- [IHP: Cities in the 21st Century: People, Planning, and Politics \(Fall 1\)](#)

- [IHP: Cities in the 21st Century: People, Planning, and Politics \(Fall 2\)](#)
- [IHP: Cities in the 21st Century: People, Planning, and Politics \(Spring\)](#)
- [IHP: Rethinking Food Security: Agriculture, People, and Politics](#)
- [IHP: Social Entrepreneurship: Innovation, Technology, Design, and Social Change](#)
- [South Africa: Social and Political Transformation](#)
- [Switzerland: Banking, Finance, and Social Responsibility](#)
- [Uganda: Development Studies](#)

## **Global Health**

- [IHP: Health and Community: Globalization, Culture, and Care \(Fall 1\)](#)
- [IHP: Health and Community: Globalization, Culture, and Care \(Fall 2\)](#)
- [IHP: Health and Community: Globalization, Culture, and Care \(Spring 1\)](#)
- [IHP: Health and Community: Globalization, Culture, and Care \(Spring 2\)](#)
- [Jordan: Refugees, Health, and Humanitarian Action](#)
- [Switzerland: Food Security and Nutrition \(Summer\)](#)
- [Switzerland: Global Health and Development Policy](#)

## **Media | Arts | Social Change**

- [Czech Republic: Arts and Social Change](#)
- [India: National Identity and the Arts](#)
- [Nicaragua: Youth Culture, Literacy, and Media](#)

## **Migration | Identity | Resilience**

- [Chile: Comparative Education and Social Change](#)
- [Jordan: Modernization and Social Change](#)
- [Morocco: Migration and Transnational Identity](#)
- [Nepal: Tibetan and Himalayan Peoples](#)
- [Netherlands: International Perspectives on Sexuality and Gender](#)
- [New African Diasporas: Transnational Communities, Cultures, and Economies](#)
- [Samoa: Pacific Communities and Social Change](#)

## **Peace | Human Rights | Social Movements**

- [IHP: Human Rights: Foundations, Challenges, and Advocacy](#)
- [Rwanda: Post-Genocide Restoration and Peacebuilding](#)
- [Serbia, Bosnia, and Kosovo: Peace and Conflict Studies in the Balkans](#)
- [Switzerland: International Studies and Multilateral Diplomacy](#)
- [Uganda and Rwanda: Peace and Conflict Studies in the Lake Victoria Basin \(Summer\)](#)
- [Uganda: Post-Conflict Transformation](#)

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## **18th National Tribal Preservation Conference**

NATHPO announces that the 18th National Tribal Preservation Conference will be hosted by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe in Ignacio, Colorado, the week of August 29, 2016.

Meeting and lodging will be at the Sky Ute Casino Resort

[Click here for Sky Ute Casino Resort website](#)

Transportation and Lodging Information:

[Click here for Updated Transportation and Lodging Information](#)

NATHPO is accepting presentation proposals through July 31, 2016:

[Click here for Presenter Proposal in PDF](#)

[Click here for Presenter Proposal in Word](#)

This is the link for the basic conference registration form:

[Click here for Conference Registration Form](#)

NATHPO will be offering three pre-conference workshops this year on Monday, August 29th:

1. THPO Toolkit, to be taught by Thomas Gates, former THPO (cost \$75)

[Click here for more information on Toolkit](#)

[Click here for workshop application form](#)

2. Field Trip to Chimney Rock National Monument (cost \$50)

Participants will leave Sky Ute Resort to Chimney Rock National Monument and return – about 40 minutes each way (transportation included).

[Click here for link to USFS Chimney Rock National Monument webpage](#)

[Click here for workshop application form](#)

3. Native Language Workshop, “Organizing Cultural Content Using FLEEx,” offered in collaboration with the American Indian Language Development Institute (cost \$100)

[Click here for more information about this workshop](#)

[Click here for AILDI registration link for this workshop](#)

Preliminary Agenda:

Monday, Aug. 29, 2016: Pre-conference Workshops and opening reception

Tues., Aug. 30, 2016: Plenary session

Wed., Aug. 31, 2016: Plenary session and culture night

Thurs., Sept. 1, 2016: Federal Communications Commission Section 106 Summit

Fri., Sept. 2, 2016: Federal Communication Commission (concludes by 12noon)

Use this Paypal link to pay for conference registration and workshop fees:

**[MAKE PAYMENT NOW](#)**

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### **Youth Summer Camping Trip**

OPR youth will spend three days at the Coyote Hills campsite located in Fremont. This Native American theme overnight trip guides youth on hikes allowing them to explore the land and learn about environment and its connections to the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe. All meals and camping equipment (upon request) are provided free of charge. **For more information or to register please contact Megan Seccombe at 510-535-5608 or [mseccombe@oaklandnet.com](mailto:mseccombe@oaklandnet.com).**

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From css:



Interesting **exhibit and book of local history** which documents the lives of enslaved Africans and Native Americans.

<http://boston1775.blogspot.com/2016/06/untold-stories-from-little-compton.html>

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### **American Indian Movement Longest Walk 5**

Longest Walk 5 is a search and rescue party. Its goal is to bring healing to America.

Many health issues facing Native Americans connect with the after-effects of historical trauma. Countless other Americans also suffer the effects of trauma -- and we all feel the effects of the damage inflicted on our Earth.

The Longest Walk 5 is a kind of search party, part of a rescue mission to heal America from the effects of drugs, violence, suicide, self-harm, and harm to the Earth.

The Longest Walk 5 Community Team understands the challenge ahead.

***The Longest Walk will be in Virginia July 2-8 and then concluding in Washington, D.C., on July 15. Save the Date for the historic End of Walk "Welcome Home" Celebration and Rally at the Lincoln Memorial.***

**[Read more about Longest Walk 5, including a statement from Dennis Banks](#)**

### **Letter from Leonard Peltier**

Leonard Peltier has been in prison for 40 years. Read an open letter from Leonard Peltier to his friends and supporters.

### **Read more**

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### **Nevada Magazine photo needs**

#### **September/October 2016 issue**

***Submission Deadline: Monday, July 25, 2016***

**\*\*\* Important: In order to be considered for publication, you must include your name, address, phone number, and information about the photo (where it was taken, how it was taken, etc.).\*\*\***

**2016 Great Nevada Picture Hunt** - Our annual photo hunt is now open for submissions! Send us your best Nevada photos for a chance to win some awesome prizes! Please follow this link for details: <http://nevadamagazine.com/home/inside-the-magazine/special-section/2016-great-nevada-picture-hunt/>

**E Clampus Vitus** - This fraternal organization is dedicated to the preservation of the heritage of the American West. Each year, the group holds historical plaque dedications around the state. Have any photos of their plaques or members at functions?

**Jarbidge & Surrounding Areas** - Send us your shots of this Nevada treasure and the surrounding areas.

**Nevada Historical Society, Reno** - Send us your shots of this Reno museum. Permanent exhibits, museum grounds, etc.

**Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge** - We're looking for images of this remote, wild, and historical area, including landscape and wildlife shots.

**Scenic Summer/Fall Images** - Generally, we will consider great seasonal/timely photos for the cover and our Visions department.

**Cover Photos** - We encourage you to send us photos you think would work well for the cover of Nevada Magazine. Again, please keep in mind seasonal/timely photos, and generally, vertical photos work best.

**Summer/Fall Events** - Any images that capture the spirit of a popular Sept./Oct. celebration in Nevada are desired.

*Always get permission to photograph on private property. If you just want publication and photo credit (no pay), please notify us when you submit your images.*

### **Editor's Note**

When you're out shooting, think of how you can get people enjoying Nevada in your photos. Remember, people engaging in activities adds a nice touch.

### **Visions**

Captivating images from your collection could be used in this department. Think seasonal and timely to the issue.

### **Subscribe**

If you're interested in further understanding the type of photography Nevada Magazine typically looks for, click [HERE](#) to subscribe to the magazine

*E-mail images to:*

**Senior Graphic Designer Jody Cory** [jcory@nevadamagazine.com](mailto:jcory@nevadamagazine.com)

Please put the subject and issue date (**SO16**) in the subject line, and provide your mailing address. We prefer you send an initial sampling of low-resolution images. We will contact you if we need the high-res versions.

*Mail CDs or slides to:*

**Attn: Jody Cory , Nevada Magazine, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701**

By submitting photos to Nevada Magazine, you agree to the payment structure below. For more information visit [nevadamagazine.com/home/photographers-guidelines/](http://nevadamagazine.com/home/photographers-guidelines/).

**PAYMENT:** Photos are accepted on speculation. Payment is on publication and varies according to the size published:

Cover - \$250  
 Spread (across two pages) - \$250  
 Full Page - \$175      3/4 Page - \$150  
 1/2 Page - \$125      1/3 Page - \$100  
 1/4 Page - \$75      1/6 Page - \$50  
 1/8 Page - \$35      Thumbnail - \$25

*\*It is important to note that payment could take up to a month after publication to get processed and mailed to the photographer.*

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## **Nevada looks to refresh dry pipeline of teachers, and fast**

Nevada is struggling with a chronic teacher shortage that mirrors problems in other parts of the country.      rgj.com

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## **Peace and Dignity Run**

[Carla Eben](#) It's an old prophecy reconnecting the the indigenous peoples from the Northern Hemisphere the Eagle with the Southern Hemisphere the Condor..... Currently the are running. coming North from the tip of South America.... And Ours Running to the South from Alaska...they will unite in Panama in November...this run promotes our people to help each other out along this Journey...they first came thru the Great Basin in 2008..when they ran for Sacred Site..in 2012 they ran for Water...this time they run for Sacred Seeds...like our pinenuts!!

### **[Elveda Martinez added 8 photos and a video.](#)**

It was great to hear about the travels of the runners. They shared stories, prayers and songs with us. Some of our local people walked with them, carrying staffs and leading them out of Schurz. Laurie Bob McMasters was honored to carry the main staff.

Marlene, Amber-Paul Torres and Gina-

marie Dini also carried some prayer staffs. Continue to pray for them on their journey to Panama.

