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David Ison's photo



[Standing Rock Is Everywhere: An Interview with Judith LeBlanc of the Native Organizers Alliance](#)

Judith LeBlanc, director of the Native Organizers Alliance, which trains social activists in Indian country, spoke with Circle of Blue reporter Brett Walton in early December, days after returning from Standing Rock. The conversation touches on the significance of the Dakota Access protest, the relationship between the federal government and tribal governments for big infrastructure projects, and the role of grassroots movements for political change.

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**People's Action** is a powerful new force for democracy and economic fairness. From family farms to big cities, from coast to coast, we're fighting for community over greed, justice over racism, and people and planet over big corporations.

This weekend activists dropped a giant banner at an NFL football game calling on US Bank to divest from the Dakota Access Pipeline. Thousands of protesters joined the Rose Bowl Parade to call attention to the issue. These actions remind us that the struggle at Standing Rock is not over. January 10 is a national day of action calling on banks to pull their funds from this pipeline. [We need you to add your signature to the petition today so it can be counted.](#)

Thanks, Judith Le Blanc, Native Organizers Alliance

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Friend,

Less than two weeks ago we won a historic victory for tribal sovereignty. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Oceti Sakowin elders and headmen, the International Indigenous Youth Council, and other water protectors defeated the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The company behind the pipeline -- Energy Transfer Partners -- and President-elect Donald Trump have pledged to start the project up again if they can. Once again, we can stop them.

The pipeline can't continue without the financial support of a number of big banks. We -- as customers and account holders -- can pressure the banks financing the project to take a stand.

[**Sign the petition to all 17 banks financing the Dakota Access Pipeline: Stop supporting DAPL.**](#)

The pipeline threatens the water for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and millions of people downstream on the Missouri river. It's also a violation of Native sovereignty. Already irreplaceable sacred sites have been destroyed.

The peaceful resistance of water protectors captured the imagination of the world. The prayer camp at Standing Rock became the front line of the fight to protect Mother Earth. Attack dogs and water cannons could not defeat us.

[**Join us today in demanding that the big banks end their loans for the Dakota Access Pipeline.**](#)

Help ensure that our victory at Standing Rock holds. Let's end the Dakota Access Pipeline for good.

Judith Le Blanc (Caddo), **Native Organizers Alliance**
LeeAnn Hall, **People's Action Institute**

Our economy is about more than numbers. It's about people. We're fighting for new rules for our economy to ensure we're cared for when we provide care for each other.

We need a financial system that works for people and communities, not just lenders. That's why we're fighting for strong rules to rein in the payday lending industry. People's Action Institute offers new vision and bold leadership to solve the triple crisis of growing inequality, systemic racism and a planet in peril.

[Support Our Work](#) [Email Us](#)

People's Action Institute 810 N. Milwaukee, Chicago, IL 60642 312-243-3035

[Ten Indigenous and Environmental Struggles -- and How You Can Help in 2017](#)

The Indigenous

#NoDAPL Coalition,

YES! Magazine: In the year ahead, it is our hope that the energy and love we have received in our struggle against the Dakota Access pipeline can also be extended to other Indigenous communities in their local battles. Here are 10 struggles you could consider helping.

[Read the Article](#)

Republicans Just Made It Much Easier to Sell Off National Parks

<http://readersupportednews.org/news-section2/318-66/41218-the-republicans-just-made-it-much-easier-to-sell-off-national-parks>



[New House rules allow Congress to target individual federal employees](#)

Proposal would allow Congress to pay individual federal employees \$1 per year.

thinkprogress.org By Laurel Raymond

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International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee **MEDIA ADVISORY** Jan 3, 2017
Contact: Kari Ann Boushee, Family Contact and Co-Director, International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, (505) 217-3612 or co.. robert.harding@lee.net

James H. Reynolds
Former United States Attorney
300 Palm Dr. #4
Naples, Florida 34112
(239) 877 5048

President Barack Obama
White House
Washington, D.C. 20500
RE: Clemency Request of Leonard Peltier

Dear President Obama,

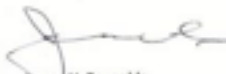
I was the United States Attorney, whose office handled the criminal case prosecution and appeal of Leonard Peltier. I was also later specially appointed by US Attorney General, Benjamin Civiletti, as United States Attorney for South Dakota to handle a conflict in another different Indian on Indian murder case on the Rose Bud Reservation.

After my appointment by President Jimmy Carter and Senate confirmation I kept on as an Assistant United States Attorney, Evan Hultman, who preceded me as United States Attorney and had handled the prosecution of Leonard Peltier. I directed Hultman's handling of the appeal of Leonard Peltier after my appoint.

I would join in any Request for Clemency of Leonard Peltier by you as being in the best interest of justice in considering the totality of all matters involved.

Thank you for our attention in this matter, I am

Sincerely,



James H. Reynolds
United States Attorney (1976-1982)

cc: Attorney General, Loretta Lynch
Pardon Attorney, Robert A. Zauzmer

Kevin McKiernan EXCLUSIVE:

I have just spoken to Leonard Peltier from his maximum security prison in Florida, just days days before President Obama's clemency decision. You can read my interview with Peltier--published this morning--and listen to his voice here:

<http://www.independent.com/news/2017/jan/05/let-leonard-peltier-go-free/>

Peltier has spent 41 of his 72 years behind bars. The president leaves office... [See More](#)
— in [Santa Barbara, California](#).



Cuomo, with Bernie Sanders at his side, unveils NY tuition-free college plan

Gov. Andrew Cuomo wants to establish the first program in the country that would offer New Yorkers the opportunity to attend public colleges and universities tuition...

auburnpub.com|By Robert Harding

Today's encore selection -- from *The Culture of Fear* by Barry Glassner. Every society faces thousands of risks. How do these societies choose which risks to highlight most prominently, why are the ones chosen so often ones that represent statistically among the smallest, and what is the cost to these societies of that culture of fear?:

"To blame the media [for our culture of fear that is disproportionate to actual risk] is to oversimplify the complex role that journalists play as both proponents and doubters of popular fears. It is also to beg the same key issue that the millennium hypothesis evades: why particular anxieties take hold when they do. Why do news organizations and their audiences find themselves drawn to one hazard rather than another?"

"Mary Douglas, the eminent anthropologist who devoted much of her career to studying how people interpret risk, pointed out that every society has an almost infinite quantity of potential dangers from which to choose. Societies differ both in the types of dangers they select and the number. Dangers get selected for special emphasis, Douglas showed, either because they offend the basic moral principles of the society or because they enable criticism of disliked groups and institutions. In *Risk and Culture*, a book she wrote with Aaron Wildavsky, the authors give an example from fourteenth-century Europe. Impure water had been a health danger long before that time, but only after it became convenient to accuse Jews of poisoning the wells did people become preoccupied with it.

"Or take a more recent institutional example. In the first half of the 1990s U.S. cities spent at least \$10 billion to purge asbestos from public schools, even though removing asbestos from buildings posed a greater health hazard than leaving it in place. At a time when about one-third of the nation's schools were in need of extensive repairs the money might have been spent to renovate dilapidated buildings. But hazards posed by seeping asbestos are morally repugnant. A product that was supposed to protect children from fires might be giving them cancer. By directing our worries and dollars at asbestos we express outrage at technology and industry run amok.

"From a psychological point of view extreme fear and outrage are often projections. ... Within public discourse fears proliferate through a process of exchange. ... Conservatives also like to spread fears about liberals, who respond in kind. Among other pet scares, they accuse liberals of creating 'children without consciences' by keeping prayer out of schools -- to which liberals rejoin with warnings that right-wing extremists intend to turn youngsters into Christian soldiers.

"Samuel Taylor Coleridge was right when he claimed, 'In politics, what begins in fear usually ends in folly.' Political activists are more inclined, though, to heed an observation from Richard Nixon: 'People react to fear, not love. They don't teach that in Sunday school, but it's true.' That principle, which guided the late president's political strategy throughout his career, is

the sine qua non of contemporary political campaigning. Marketers of products and services ranging from car alarms to TV news programs have taken it to heart as well.

"The short answer to why Americans harbor so many misbegotten fears is that immense power and money await those who tap into our moral insecurities and supply us with symbolic substitutes."

The Culture of Fear: Why Americans Are Afraid of the Wrong Things: Crime, Drugs, Minorities, Teen Moms, Killer Kids, Mutant Microbes, Plane Crashes, Road Rage, & So Much More Author: Barry Glassner Publisher: Basic Books

Copyright 1999 by Barry Glassner pages xxxiv-xxxvi

Whales: Granny, the world's oldest known orca and matriarch for her dwindling Puget Sound orcas, is [missing and believed to be dead](#). Researchers worry that the 105-year-old whale's death will further jeopardize her endangered family group of about 80 orcas who are now missing one of their leaders.

Gold Butte preserved Tribes win presidential action

By [Dennis Myers dennism@newsreview.com](#) This article was published on [01.05.17](#).

President Obama last week designated in Nevada a "nationally significant cultural, historic and natural treasure" (the Moapa tribe), "Nevada's piece of the Grand Canyon" (Nevada Coservation League), "an amazing place home to multiple uses" (Battle Born Progress), "awe-inspiring rock formations, ancient petroglyphs and rare wildlife" (U.S. House member-elect Ruben Kihuen) as a national monument, thereby leaving some "terribly disappointed" (U.S. Sen. Dean Heller) that Obama poses "the greatest threat to those who use and enjoy Nevada's vast open spaces" (billionaire Sheldon Adelson's newspaper).

The Dec. 28 action was either a victory for environmental protection or another round in an ongoing battle between Congress and presidents. Or both.

"For years, I have urged for all new land designations, especially ones in Nevada, to be considered in an open and public congressional process," Heller said in a prepared statement. "Doing so allows for all voices and stakeholders to have an equal opportunity to be heard. Best of all, input from local parties guarantees local needs are addressed. In the future, I will continue to fight for an open process utilizing Congressional support to designate new national monuments."

The problem is that the law—enacted by Congress—authorizes presidents to act as Obama did, without congressional input. The 1906 Antiquities Act allows presidents to protect tribal sites of archaeological importance or tribal religious meaning. It can also be used for wildlife habitats, and hiking and hunting sites.

The Gold Butte designation protects 300,000 acres of scenic and ecologically fragile area near the site where rancher Cliven Bundy led an armed standoff against the Bureau of Land Management in 2014 over Bundy's unpaid bills. The monument, with petroglyphs, artifacts,

fossils and newly found dinosaur prints, still allows existing oil and mining operations while banning new such activities. Multiple uses, including grazing, hiking, hunting and fishing will still be allowed.

Heller and other members of Congress have complained about similar Obama actions in the past but have not amended the Antiquities Act.

President Obama issued a statement that was headed, “Statement by the President on the Designation of Bears Ears National Monument and Gold Butte National Monument.” The statement made it appear Gold Butte was an afterthought to the president’s simultaneous creation of Bears Ears National Monument in Utah. The only place the Gold Butte monument was mentioned was in the headline. Nevada was not mentioned at all: “Following years of public input and various proposals to protect both of these areas, including legislation and a proposal from tribal governments in and around Utah, these monuments will protect places that a wide range of stakeholders all agree are worthy of protection. We also have worked to ensure that tribes and local communities can continue to access and benefit from these lands for generations to come.”

“But many state lawmakers disagree, arguing that this decision puts vast pieces of land into the hands of the federal government alone, removing power from state lawmakers and thus removing control from the people of Utah and Nevada,” said a commentary in *National Review*, the conservative magazine founded by William F. Buckley Jr. “These new monuments aren’t the first occasion for such concerns to surface, especially in the western part of the country. The federal government controls 25 percent of all land in the U.S., 50 percent of land west of the Rocky Mountains, and 85 percent of the land in Nevada.”

The reaction of local government officials was not a surprise. They want more federal lands that they can put into development, generating more property taxes. More development—particularly outside existing communities, thus creating sprawl—is exactly what environmentalists want to curb.

Tribes in both Utah and Nevada requested the national monument designations.

Adelson’s *Las Vegas Review-Journal* editorialized, “The federal government controls far more land in this country—particularly in the West—than it can possibly manage to any effective degree. That includes more than 85 percent of the property within Nevada’s borders. Yet greens and conservationists argue that shifting some of these vast tracts over to private or state control would be an egregious affront threatening access to cherished vistas.”

In fact, many Western state governments are in no position to manage public lands because of the limited sizes and tight budgets of their state agencies. Moreover, Nevada’s experience managing the four million acres of land it was given at statehood to hold in trust for school costs does not inspire confidence—all but 3,000 acres has been lost, sold, used for improper purposes, or purchased in land sales of dubious legality.

There have been suggestions that President-designate Donald Trump may try to reverse the actions, but past U.S. Supreme Court rulings have indicated that once a president designates a monument, the presidential power over the monument is exhausted. Congress must then act.

Even so, Navajo Nation lawmaker Davis Filfred told the Voice of America, “Now is not the time to bash him [Trump], because I need him.”

This is Obama’s second creation of a national monument in Nevada. In 2015, he designated Basin and Range, about 704,000 acres in Garden Valley and Coal Valley, which are in Nye and Lincoln counties. The beautiful, remote area contains evidence of human activities from thousands of years ago, including petroglyphs and prehistoric rock art panels. Leviathan Cave contains rim pools, stalagmites, stalactites and other features. Basin and Range also surrounds but does not include “City,” a massive sculpture that has drawn criticism from environmentalists for its despoliation of the land.

Gold Butte is Nevada’s fourth national monument. The Lehman cavern was the first, later incorporated into Great Basin National Park. Then came part of Death Valley National Monument, also upgraded to a national park.

Registration is open!

HUD’s Part 58 Environmental Review Training – REGION IX (AZ, CA, NV)

February 8 – 10, 2017

The HUD Region IX Environmental Office will conduct a three-day training seminar: February 8, 2017 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM February 9, 2017 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM February 10, 2017 10 AM – 4:00 PM in the following HUD Offices live or via VTC video: Honolulu, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Reno, and San Francisco. This environmental training is intended to help CDBG, HOME, ESG and Public Housing grantees understand and fulfill the Federal environmental requirements of their programs.

This comprehensive training is designed to assist those who prepare Environmental Review Records. The training will begin with a survey of HUD/NEPA environmental regulations and proceed to specific topics such as historic preservation, noise, toxic substances, floodplain management, endangered species, etc. Representatives from State, local and Federal environmental agencies will make presentations in their areas of expertise. Office addresses and contact names are listed on the registration page.

To accommodate multiple time zones, the training sessions will begin each day at 10:00 a.m. PDST. Space is limited, please plan to send a maximum of 2 staff persons per jurisdiction. If you need to send additional staff, email the local contact person listed on the registration form to find out if there is space available.

Register links:

Honolulu, HI, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400 (VTC) <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2959&update=N>

Los Angeles, 300 No. Los Angeles Street, 4th floor (Live) <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2954&update=N>

Las Vegas, 302 East Carson Street, 4th floor (VTC) <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2956&update=N>

Phoenix, One N. Central Avenue, Suite 600 (VTC) <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2958&update=N>

Reno, 745 West Moana Lane, Suite 360 (VTC) <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2957&update=N>

San Francisco, One Sansome Street, Suite 1200, Live <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=2955&update=N>

If you need to cancel: After submitting the registration form, you should receive an email confirmation that includes a unique “key” number. Save that email, if you need to cancel use the link in the email and the key number.

Kathleen McNulty, Environmental Protection Specialist

HUD’s Environmental Review Website: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/>

Mailing: US HUD Region 9, Office of Environment and Energy
Tele. 415-489-6644 One Sansome Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94104

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY [**This country has only 10 psychiatrists. That's where 'professional grandmothers' come in.**](#)

Free through January 14th. Nevada Historical Society Quarterlies. Available Tuesday-Saturday 10AM-4:30PM.

[How to Apply | Native American Scholarships | American Indian College Fund](#)

How to Apply for American Indian College Fund Scholarships collegefund.org

[Faye Floyd](#) shared a [link](#) to the group: [Paiutie' Language 101 Words/laughter.](#)

Paiute Oral History... [Margaret Wheat Papers](#) library.unr.edu

[Republicans take initial steps to dismantle Indian health care law](#)

The GOP pledge to repeal Obamacare leaves the Indian Health Care Improvement Act at risk.
indianz.com

[Teri Larson](#) shared [Kelly Ookiye's photo](#).

Interesting family history...

The grandchild mentioned, Ethel, is my grandma - making Truckee Dick my great great grandfather.

Reno Gazette Journal
(Reno, Nevada)

Saturday, January 28, 1922-Main Edition-Pag. 7;

PATRIARCH OF WASHOE INDIANS GOES TO HAPPY HUNTING GROUNDS

**Truckee Dick, Who Saw First White Man Come to Nevada
Succumbs at Age of Over 100; Was Here
When Donner Party Came Through**

Truckee Dick, patriarch of the Washoe Indians, whose age is estimated at 100 years or more, died yesterday at the Indian camp east of Reno and will be buried with full Christian services on Monday.

Born in Nevada long before the white man had settled here Truckee Dick, who retained his memory until the day of his death, was one of the most interesting Indian characters in this vicinity. He had never been ill in his life, so far as friends know, until Monday, when a cold settled on his lungs and he expired yesterday from pneumonia. Only last week he was busily engaged in cutting wood for various people by whom he was employed and was more active than many of the younger men.

His life up to the past few years had been devoted to hunting and trapping and he knew every inch of the hills within a radius of many miles of Reno. His early life was spent around Truckee, hence the name Truckee Dick, and he often related stories of the arrival of the first white man in Nevada.

He was a young Indian brave when the Donner party made its fateful trip into the Sierra and he celebrated the coming of the railroad in 1868 by taking his third wife, according to friends. Many of his children died years ago but he leaves two sons, Charles and Warren Dickinson and two grandchildren, Melvin and Ethel Dickinson.

When Truckee Dick was a young man the plains and mountains of Nevada and California were the exclusive home of the Indians and the members of the Washoe tribe were scattered through the hills and valleys.

The days of '49, when the long caravans of white people began crossing the plains to California, were well remembered by Truckee Dick and he also remembered the great rush to the Comstock and the earlier spread of white civilization through his native haunts. He saw the hunting ground of the Indian converted into farms and settlements and saw the coming of the sawmills which drove the game back further into the mountains.

As far as known Truckee Dick never took any very prominent part in the activities of the Washoe tribe but was willing to bargain with the white man and to make the best of the offerings granted to him and his fellow tribesmen.

Truckee Dick's funeral will be conducted Monday at the camp by Rev. J. W. Scott of the Baptist home mission and his body will be buried in Mountain View cemetery where a plot for the Indians has been set aside.

Henry Ward Beecher, well known Indian, is a brother of Truckee Dick, but is a much younger man.

[Ian Zabarte](#) posted about this.

www.federalregister.gov

federalregister.gov

Draft Plan for Comment: Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal/Creation Integrated Waste Management Facility

<https://www.federalregister.gov/.../request-for-comment-publi...>

Request for Comment: Publication of the Draft Plan for a Defense Waste Repository

Consistent with the determination by the President in March 2015 and pursuant to its authorities under the Atomic Energy Act, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)... federalregister.gov

Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums:

"There's a lot to be bothered by," Maylath said. "This has been a one-sided story to this point. And for the first time this tells the other side -- directly from the Dakota side. And it tells it in the language they were most comfortable in."

150-year-old letters give voice to Dakota prisoners

For nearly 150 years, the voices of Dakota men imprisoned after the Dakota Conflict of 1862 went unheard. But the details of their imprisonment are starting to emerge, in dozens of letters written by those men and now being studied...

mprnews.org | By Dan Gunderson