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Gabby Williams named to the John R. Wooden Award Midseason Top 25

You're invited!! National Grassroots Activist Summit on Radioactive Waste

2018 Green Schools Conference and Expo and Rocky Mountain Green Conference

Another review of footage and still photo of 1806 Human Rights Violations

Bienvenue, Aiokpanchi, Welcome to Isle de Jean Charles

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The delta smelt heads for extinction, marking a half-century of failed California water policy

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BLM Waives most day use fees in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Jeanette "Babs" Anderson



Nevada publishes Shoshone research

Native American Belief in Water: An Environmental Justice

http://www.state.nv.us/nucwaste/news2015/pdf/nv151120eis_comments.pdf

UConn's ***Gabby Williams*** was named to the **John R. Wooden Award Midseason Top 25**. She's one of 25 women's basketball players in the country still up for the national Player of the Year award. The senior forward is averaging 11.1 points and 8.3 assists per game for the *top*-ranked Huskies.

BLM delays Gold Butte planning pending possible boundary changes

The Gold Butte National Monument will be off the table when federal land managers host an upcoming series of public meetings on their revised management plan for Southern Nevada.

You're invited!! National Grassroots Activist Summit on Radioactive Waste

Please DO share with your network of activists who care about radioactive waste policy and will engage to educate others and take positive action in 2018. Please do not post to general list-serves or open social media / the web.

NIRS and NEIS and our allies on the SUMMIT PLANNING GROUP
(open addressed above)

Invite groups to co-sponsor and OUR COMMUNITY to attend:

National Grassroots Activist Summit on Radioactive Waste

March **Friday** 16—18, 2018 Chicago IL

EARLY BIRD RATE for Conference Fee ends Feb 1

Please join us in Chicago!

We have the same location as the 2016 SUMMIT.

Some groups are planning pre-meetings on Friday (stay tuned)...but the SUMMIT will open on Friday March 16 we will convene with DINNER (5 pm or later)

Summit will close Sunday March 18 at 4 pm.

(optional overnight stay on Thursday or Sunday, or both—no added meals).

Program will be announced—but this is primarily a WORKING RETREAT to build on our commitments to END YUCCA, STOP CONSOLIDATED OFFSITE STORAGE IN NM and TX and IMPLEMENT HOSS.

We welcome people who are ready to be more involved, however this is not a “101” session.

We will have a webpage up [soon](#) where you can find updates...REGISTRATION is open NOW.
[Early-Bird](#) rate applies only until February 1.

The Summit Registration form is attached.

We are going Old School!

Print the form out.

Fill it in.

Scan and email, OR, snail mail to our Chicago Host, NEIS (address on form)...two options for payment; see the form.

If a group would like to become a **SUMMIT** cosponsor, please reply to maryo@nirs.org or contact Dave Kraft neis@neis.org .

This year we have a direct request: Consider bringing someone who has recently gotten active on these issues! Diversity: age, race, ethnicity, gender, and where people “plug in”—all important for us to SUPPORT! Help renew our community.

We will do our best to raise sufficient scholarship support.

MORE INFO:

Our venue is the Cenacle Retreat House, near DePaul University in the lively and upscale Lincoln Park area of the City. There are only 88 beds—with the option of 12 people participating from off-site accommodations. SO, don't wait! Register now.

Cenacle's kitchen delights in supporting people with special diets, so come, enjoy!

Limited Scholarship support will be available. The sooner we hear from you, the better!

By Sunday, March 18, at 4 pm, when we close, we will have worked together to find ways to ensure that the nuclear industry's new plans to “strand” the so-called “stranded waste” even more by shipping it to communities in NM and TX (maybe elsewhere).

Communities where people are working hard, often with little social support, often People of Color, where irradiated fuel rods will be in storage containers, just like at reactor sites now. Let's be sure “out-of-reactor-site-and-out-of-mind”—DIES in congress ...But we have to ensure that “at-reactor-site-and-out-of-mind” waste is not forgotten...as we stand with NV to “End Yucca.” As we find ways to activate the communities that would be impacted by MOVING (transporting) the waste we also need to give time and focus to find pilot sites to demonstrate HOSS (hardened on site storage)...and explore our overall goals together.

YES! This event is a follow-on from a Summit in December, 2016 also in Chicago. You are welcome at this Summit whether you were at the previous event or not. We will limit participants to those who share the goal of working towards a non-nuclear energy policy. For those who did attend in 2016, we are returning to the same venue, the Cenacle Retreat House.

MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES TO FOLLOW Happy New Year!

Molly P Johnson

Mothers for Peace www.mothersforpeace.org

Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility <http://a4nr.org/>

H.O.M.E. (Healing Ourselves & Mother Earth) www.h-o-m-e.org

Grandmothers for Peace www.grandmothersforpeace.org

EARTH IS FLAT - PIGS CAN FLY - NUCLEAR POWER IS SAFE

"Renewables, especially wind and solar, are now less expensive, quicker to install, and much safer: with them one does not have to worry about the spectres of Chernobyl and Fukushima. But perhaps most important of all is the moral dimension. Given the technical and political obstacles to dangerous spent nuclear fuel, should we be passing these problems to future generations? What about the Irish Sea, still the most radioactively contaminated sea in the world due to Sellafield's discharges? What about the sheep farms in north Wales still subject to food controls due to radioactive contamination from Chernobyl almost 30 years ago? The climate change negotiators in Paris should think hard before recommending nuclear as a solution. It isn't." - The Guardian (letter to the editor), December 6, 2015. Dr. Paul Dorfman, Dr. Ian Fairlie, Dr. David Lowry and Jonathon Porritt

" Nuclear is unnecessary and all of its risks can be avoided by using renewables, conservation and efficiency." Arjun Makhijani - Carbon-Free and Nuclear-Free Future <http://www.ieer.org/carbonfree/>

Janine Benyus will speak in a combined keynote for both GSCE and Rocky Mountain Green.

The 2018 [Green Schools Conference and Expo](#) (GSCE), to be held from May 3-4 in Denver, Colorado, promises to feature inspiring speakers, including education, environmental and business leaders who will share best practices to advance green schools for all.

This year, GSCE will be hosted in partnership with [Rocky Mountain Green](#), [USGBC Colorado](#)'s regional sustainability conference. This new partnership will bring together experts from diverse industries within the green building world for a unique opportunity for collaboration and networking. [Keynote Details & Event Registration](#)

Myron Dewey

Another review of footage and still photo of 1806 Human Rights Violations.

Video still frame of concussion grenade in crowd as water canon sprays in freezing weather.



[Click here to support Digital Smoke Signals "Numuga" organized by Myron Dewey](#)

Nu Naw-Nea (My name is) Myron DeweyNu-Agui-Dicutta, Numu/Newe (I am Trout-Eater, Paiute/Shoshone) and owner of Digital Smoke Signals a social media & film...

gofundme.com

First freezing iguanas, now this: 117°. It's so hot in Australia that bats' brains are frying

The Washington Post At least 500 flying fox bats have died over the past week because of the extreme weather.

[Read the full story](#)

Ed note: Remember that UNR spring semestre does not start til 1.22 so it is a good time (more parking, less people) to do research at the Knowledge Center. If you've been meaning to check out some collections, this is a good week to do it! sdc

Bienvenue, Aiokpanchi, Welcome to Isle de Jean Charles.

Isle de Jean Charles Tribe wins U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's GUARDIANS of the Gulf Environmental Justice Award

[**Read the Press Release Here!**](#)

"Our people are used to moving and adapting, so we're hoping that we can take what we have learned here, the roots that we set here, and bring those and grow deeper roots and more roots in the Northern part of the parish." -Tribal Secretary Chantel Comardelle

Our history

Isle de Jean Charles is a narrow island in the bayous of South Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. A place of immense physical beauty and great biodiversity, it is most importantly home to the Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Tribe.

For our Island people, it is more than simply a place to live. It is the epicenter of our Tribe and traditions. It is where our ancestors survived after being displaced by Indian Removal Act-era policies and where we cultivated what has become a unique part of Louisiana culture. Today, the land that has sustained us for generations is vanishing before our eyes. Our tribal lands are plagued by a host of environmental problems — coastal erosion and salt-water intrusion, caused by canals dredged through our surrounding marshland by oil and gas companies, land sinking due to a lack of soil renewal or "crevasse," because of the construction of levees that separated us from the river, and rising seas. These environmental changes have led to increasing flood risk and changes in our life ways. For example, our Island needed a levee, but the small levee that protects our Island during high tide has also led our bayou to become stagnant, killing the ecosystem we once had. The need for reliable access to jobs and services up the bayou have forced many of our people to nearby areas, including Pointe-aux-Chenes, Bourg, Montegut, Chauvin, along Bayou Grand Caillou, and Houma. For over fifteen years we have been planning a Tribal Resettlement in order to bring our people back together, rejuvenate our ways of life, and secure a future for our Tribe.

Isle de Jean Charles is in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana, situated between Bayou Terrebonne and Pointe-aux-Chene. Bayou Pointe-aux-Chene is the boundary between Terrebonne and Lafourche Parish. Before the establishment of Terrebonne parish in 1822, Terrebonne Parish was once part of Lafourche Interior Parish. The Island is split down the middle by Bayou St. Jean Charles.

The growth and development of the community of Isle de Jean Charles started when Jean Marie Naquin, a Frenchman, married Pauline Verdin, a Native American. Jean Marie was disowned by his family for marrying an Indian, so he and Pauline moved to the land where Jean Marie's father, Jean Charles Naquin (who the Island is named after), had travelled many times to service the pirate Jean Lafitte—the land which is now known as Isle de Jean Charles.

All of Jean Marie and Pauline's children, except their oldest daughter, married Indians, descendants of Biloxi-Chitimacha, and Choctaw Tribes who inhabited the area near the Island. The Island's first people were Naquin's, and then Dardar and Chaisson families also moved on the Island as a result of intermarriage between these families. According to the Tribe's oral history, this was in the early 1800s.

Isle de Jean Charles was considered “uninhabitable swamp land” until 1876, when the State of Louisiana began selling the land to private individuals. Before this time it was illegal for a Native American to purchase land. The 1880 Terrebonne Parish Census listed the first land buyers as residents and included just four families, that of Jean Baptiste Narcisse Naquin, Antoine Livaudais Dardar, Marcelin Duchils Naquin, and Walker Lovell. By the census of 1910, the area was officially called “Isle á Jean Charles” and had grown to sixteen families, all descendants of the first four families; a total of 77 people. The occupations of the men were fishermen, oystermen, or trappers.

Island Chiefs

Isle de Jean Charles is the only community in the surrounding area which has had designated Chiefs from historic time of settlement. The Chief ran the grocery store, was responsible for the mail, arbitrated disputes, represented the people of the island with outsiders, and gathered the residents for group work in the community. Each Chief named his successor, being the person he thought best qualified to fulfill the duties.

Jean Baptiste Narcisse Naquin, born in 1841 and died after 1910, was said to be the first Chief of the Indians on Isle de Jean Charles. Although no time period was given for this appointment, one would assume he was at least of middle age, which would be around the 1880's.

Jean Baptiste Narcisse Naquin passed the Chieftainship to his son, Jean Victor Naquin, before his death. Jean Victor Naquin was born in 1869 and died at the age of 86 on Isle de Jean Charles in 1956, and is buried in Holy Rosary Cemetery, Houma LA.

Before his death, Victor passed the Chieftainship to his nephew, Antoine Martin Naquin who was also commissioned by Sheriff Prejean to keep law and order. Antoine was born 31 January 1896 and died at the age of 82 on 24 April 1978, buried in Bisland Cemetery at Bourg, LA.

Deme Naquin was Antoine's assistant and apprentice. He became Chief upon appointment by Antoine. Governor Edwin Edwards appointed Deme as Representative to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the State of Louisiana. Upon his retirement in 1997 he appointed his brother, Albert Paul Naquin, the present Chief.

Early housing

Similar to that shown in the photo above from the Indian community at Fa La, the original dwellings on Isle de Jean Charles were built from a mixture of mud and moss (bousillage). The walls were about six inches thick, then covered on the outside with palmetto. “Dirt” floors (clay which after drying was as hard as concrete) were made higher than the ground level to keep out moisture. Floor mats were made of palmetto, and some say they were also used for sleeping. The houses had dome shaped roofs covered with palmetto. A smoke hole was left in the very center and could be closed in rainy weather. The houses were called “mud houses” and were in use up until the early 1900s. Constant repairs were needed for their upkeep. They provided little protection in hurricanes and none during flooding.

Education

In the 1930s, a missionary school was built on the mainland in Pointe-aux-Chene. The children

went by pirogue to school, traveling four miles each way by paddle or push pole. The school was run by the Live Oak Baptist Church and funded by donations from Baptists in Atlanta, GA.

Mr. Wenceslaus Billiot, a Tribal Elder of the Isle, was one of those students and said the school went up to the seventh or eighth grade. He was taught in English by Burton De Ville, whose son also attended the school with the Indian children. When the Superintendent of Education for Terrebonne Parish (Henry Louis Bourgeois) visited the school and saw the white child among the Indians, he refused to allow the boy to continue at that school and forced him to attend the white public school. Later, the Baptist Mission built a church on the island in the 1940s and it was used as a one-room school for the Indian children, called the "Mission School."

After a public school was built on lower Pointe-aux-Chene for Indian children, the students from the Island began going by boat to attend that school in 1952. This school went to the eighth grade. Beyond that grade level, any child wanting to continue his education had to go to Daigleville Indian High School in Houma, LA, which began in 1959 and had its first graduating class in 1962.

This was the first Indian high school in the state, about 25 miles from Isle de Jean Charles and Pointe-aux-Chene. When the public schools were integrated in 1967, Indians were finally allowed to attend public schools with the other races. Before this many Tribal Member's decided to relocate to other nearby community bayous and disguise their race so that their children could attend the white schools.

The Road

Until the "Island Road" was built in 1953, the only sure method of transportation to and from the Island was by boat. Previously, there had been a wagon path along a narrow ridge going to Point Farm and Bayou Terrebonne, but it was impassable at times of high water, which came in when the wind blew from the south or southeast.

In 1953, a road connecting Isle de Jean Charles to Pointe-aux-Chene was built through the marshland. For several decades, the marshland has eroded and turned into the open water, leaving the road vulnerable to erosion and flooding. Tribal elders today believe that the location of the road was not only an unwise one but the construction has added to erosion of the Island. After years of advocating that the road be repaired and built higher, the parish finally completed a \$6.24 million restoration and elevation of the road in June 2011. However we were informed at this time that it would be the last time they fix the road, and now just six years after this victory, the road floods regularly during tropical storm systems, high tides, and even just on days with a strong southern wind. When the road is flooded, we worry that elders who live on the Island will be unable to get medical services they need when an ambulance is unable to pass.

The Morganza to the Gulf Flood Protection System is being built to protect communities along the Louisiana, but will pass north of the Isle de Jean Charles because in 1998 the Army Corps of Engineers determined it was not cost-effective to include the island. This leaves our Tribe and our ancestral homelands more vulnerable to the encroaching Gulf waters.

Tribal Resettlement

Our tribal resettlement is a living and active bridge from our ancestral Island, which is rapidly eroding, to a sustainable future for the Isle de Jean Charles band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Tribe. After the United States Army Corps of Engineers realigned the Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection Levee in 2001, leaving the Island out, the Tribal Council made the difficult decision to resettle.

For nearly two decades we have been organizing and we are more determined and focused than ever. We see resettlement as one way to adapt to the changing Louisiana coast, reuniting our displaced tribal members and rejuvenating our traditional life-ways. Our relationships, ways of life, networks of care, and identity will be supported in a community center, museum, and gathering areas. Oral teaching and learning of our histories will be reinvigorated in our childcare and educational spaces. Community gardens will serve as catalysts to recreate the self-sustaining society we once loved. Our library, seed-saving program, traditional healing herbs, gardens, and market will nurture our Tribe. Additionally, of course, our resettlement provides safe and sustainable housing for those at risk of flooding on the Island and tribal members who have been already been displaced.

Through our tribal resettlement, we embrace our role as a teaching community and hope to support others dealing with environmental disaster. We will continue to stand alongside other tribal communities who are providing essential leadership in building resilience to the effects of climate change. We also stand with the coastal communities around the nation grappling with our changing climate and related hazards. Our existing collaborations with local colleges, universities, nonprofits, communities, and other tribes are the essential building blocks to providing a model for resettlement and sustainability.

Our tribal resettlement planning has taken a lot of work and sacrifice. For more information on our long road to resettlement, see the working list of our tribal resettlement planning activities below: <http://www.isledejeancharles.com/our-resettlement/>

Cherokee Nation to recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day after ruling on descendants of slaves

CBC News

The

Cherokee Nation next week will mark Martin Luther King Jr. Day as an official holiday for the first time, months after a U.S. federal court ruled that descendants of black slaves, known as freedmen, who were owned by members of the nation have a right to tribal citizenship. [Read the full story](#)

Inside the Battle for Arthur Miller's Archive

By JENNIFER SCHUESSLER

After a discreet tug-of-war with the playwright's estate and Yale, the University of Texas has acquired the papers, including an "Aladdin's cave" of unpublished material.

Upper Midwest tribes file suit over opioid crisis

Three tribes from the Dakotas joined the legal blitz against drugmakers. <http://strib.mn/2mc5fxR>



Water is Life! Float Unofficially Part of the Rose Parade

Definitely one heck of a way to make a statement! During yesterday's Minnesota Vikings versus Chicago Bears football game, a couple of people climbed into the rafters and dropped a banner down for thousands of people to see. The banner, which shows the US Bank logo at the top with the words "Divest #NoDAPL", calls for US Bank to divest from the Dakota Access Pipeline project.

And if you weren't already aware, US Bank is a Minneapolis-based company with the Vikings' stadium named after the institution, so really what better place to protest the issue?

It might not have been an official float with all the flowers, but it was a beautiful sight to see! Organizers with the Bernie Sanders Brigade, local Native American leaders and other organizations marched immediately behind the last official Rose Parade float and made sure to send out the message that Water is Life!

City and parade officials were notified and were definitely accommodating with the water protectors and respected their mission and right to exercise the first amendment. [Toyacoyah Brown](#) January 5th

New Opportunity for Emerging Native American Professionals at PEM

Announcing our newest Long-term Fellow position to begin March 2018!

The Peabody Essex Museum is pleased to announce a new post-graduate education fellowship for 2018, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Beginning in March 2018, this nine-month fellowship will provide support to the research, development and implementation of programs in the museum's Education Department. The Native American Mellon Education Fellow is fully integrated into the Education Department as a full-time staff member.

PEM's award-winning Education Department manages partnerships with schools, youth organizations, community partners and educators. PEM is committed to re-envisioning the approaches to audience engagement with the museum through programming. The Education Department is currently undergoing a complete evaluation of all of our programming strategies and will begin to pilot new types of experiences through public programming and education programs in 2018. Of particular focus are experiences that authentically support creativity,

curiosity and holistic engagement. Furthermore, the Education Department would like to examine current approaches to support new audiences, including the development of a major initiative that will focus on the intersection of schools and museums for underserved students. The Fellow will serve a significant role in the research, development and implementation of this work in 2018.

Application deadline is Friday, February, 2, 2018. To access the full position description, application guidelines and application, please visit: <http://www.pem.org/naf>

Please contact Jennifer Himmelreich (Diné), Native American Fellowship Program Specialist, with any questions: by phone at 978-542-1894 (direct line) or by email at [jennifer_himmelreich\[at\]pem.org](mailto:jennifer_himmelreich[at]pem.org)

Attachments: [2018 NAF LT Fellow Application Guidelines.pdf](#) [2018 NAF LT Fellow Application.pdf](#) [2018 NAF LT Fellow Position Description.pdf](#)

Consumer Society No Longer Serves Our Needs

David Suzuki, EcoWatch

Suzuki writes: "Do we think we can survive without the other animals and plants that share the biosphere? And does our health not reflect the condition of air, water and soil that sustain all life? It's as if they matter only in terms of how much it will cost to maintain or protect them."

[READ MORE](#)

Tide Is Turning': Cheers Erupt for NYC's Suit Against Fossil Fuel Giants and Divestment

<https://www.ecowatch.com/nyc-divestment-2524285373.html>

World's Largest Offshore Wind Farm Could Send Power to Five Countries

<https://www.ecowatch.com/offshore-wind-farm-netherlands-2523620979.html>



[Reindeer tryouts were held today in the Smoky Mountains.](#) [Homemaking.com](#)



In loving memory of

Jeannette "Babs" Anderson

Las Vegas Viewing & Memorial:

Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Las Vegas Paiute Multipurpose Bldg.

Funeral Service: Friday, Jan. 12, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

Dinner & Traditional Sing: Friday evening, Jan. 12, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Service & Sing at the PITU Gymnasium, Cedar City, UT

Interment: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018, at 7:00 a.m.

Cedar City Cemetery. Breakfast to follow.

1953 - 2018
