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Paleontologists discovered a huge ancient fossils trove in Bears Ears National Monument

The people most afflicted by pollution have new champion

North Pole Surges Above Freezing in the Dead of Winter, Stunning Scientists

Continuing Saga of Yucca Mtn.



### Protecting America's Last Great Animal Migrations

By ARTHUR MIDDLETON

Long and vital journeys by elk, mule deer and antelope are being choked off by fences, roads, housing and energy development.



The Eastern Puma Has Officially Been Pronounced Extinct!
In a tragic wildlife development, the majestic Eastern Puma has been officially declared extinct by U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), as of January 22. journalpost.com

#### Museums and the Web:

#### What's Hot in the Field

We cruise the latest headlines so that you don't have to! Check out some of the most enlightening articles we've pulled this month:

The Voice of Art Using IBM's Watson: Reinventing Mobile Gallery Tours

An Internet Without Text? Welcome to the Audio-Video-Dominated Future

Google 3-D Exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture

From Research to RFP to Bake off to Launch Party! Hear how Claire built broad institutional consensus and excitement around a new DAM for PEM.

\*

#### A Preview of MW18

Check out some of the sessions that will be in the MW18 program. Follow #MW18 to read all the MW18 conference papers for free as they are published online – no registration required!

<u>Ímesh (To Walk): The "App"lication of Indigenous Art and Landscapes at Simon Fraser University</u>

Bryan Myles, Bill Reid Centre at Simon Fraser University, Canada

### <u>Possibilities And Constraints For Virtual Visits: Experimental Approaches To VR at The Smithsonian American Art Museum</u>

Sara Snyder, Smithsonian American Art Museum, USA

# Anonymous and Cheap: Experimenting with Unobtrusive Methods of Measuring User Experience and Engagement for In-Gallery Interactives

Brian Hewitt, Corning Museum of Glass, USA

#### From the MW Archives: Two Decades of AR

There's nothing new under the sun. The MW Archives, filled with nearly 1,200 papers about museums and technology, is an excellent place to trace the roots of today's leading work in the field, and start research for your new project. We'll feature a few ground-breaking papers from 21 years of MW conferences each month as well, and connect them to the latest innovations being presented at MW18.

This month, we look back at more than twenty years of papers and exemplary projects pushing the boundaries of augmented reality in the cultural sector. *Plus ça change!* 

1997: A VR Endeavor at the Natural History Museum in London

1998: <u>Dramaturgy in VR Time Travel to 19th century Berlin</u>

2001: A Virtual Olympia for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games

2001: A virtual tour of NMAI for Native American students

2002: INUIT3D: The launch of CHIN's Virtual Museum of Canada

2010: <u>Top-down or Bottom-up? Introducing VR to students and museums</u>

2016: Co-creating VR history with young people: Gallipoli in Minecraft

#### >> Cruise through the entire archive.

#### **Conference news**

Haven't booked your hotel yet? The special MW rate ends March 25! Reserve your room at the Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, 1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC V6Z 2R9, Canada

#### **Book your room** to be in the middle of the action!

<u>Take a look at the program</u> and check out which sessions, workshops, and tours you'd like to attend!

#### It's storytime.

We've been working with organizations across the country, including the Smithsonian's <u>Museum on Main Street</u> program, the <u>Minnesota Humanities Center</u>, the <u>Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District</u>, and myriad cultural organizations in <u>Baltimore</u>, to bolster interest in local stories – stories from people just like you, stories about small-town life, places, experiences, art, history, even food. Check out these recent additions:

- Welcoming strangers (Be Here: Main Street)
- Exploring Mystery Cave (Be Here: Minnesota, via Minnesota Humanities Center)

- <u>Baltimore as seen by a student</u> (Be Here: Baltimore)
- > Find Be Here Stories near you online or in the app.
- > Hear more Be Here Stories on SoundCloud.

#### Storytelling community of practice online.

Please add your projects and learnings to the <u>community wiki!</u> It's easy and helpful for an



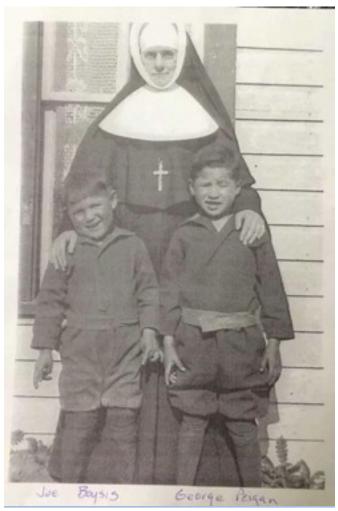
entire

community of people working on storytelling projects. Get ideas, learn from successes and failures, and avoid having to reinvent the wheel.

And, stay tuned. We'll be launching a Community of Practice Facebook group next week!

### Inside the Trump Admin's Fight to Keep the Keystone XL Approval Process Secret By Steve Horn

At a Feb. 21 hearing, a U.S. District Court judge ruled that the Trump administration must either fork over documents showing how the U.S. Department of State reversed an earlier decision and ultimately came to approve the Keystone XL pipeline, or else provide a substantial legal reason for continuing to withhold them. The federal government has an order to deliver the goods, , one way or the other.



#### Maskwasis Boysis is with Jonathan Lazore. December 31, 2014 ·

This is a photo of my late dad at the Erminskin residential school in the mid 1940s. I want to share his story with you to help educate others and bring awareness to apart of our history that was swept under the rug by the Canadian government for over a century. He told me he never told anyone about his residential school experience and that this was the only time he would tell his story because he never wanted to relive the horror he experienced as a child. The whole time he was recounting his experience he was crying and his hands were shaking uncontrollably. He told me that this was the one and only time he would ever speak about his residential school experience.

Here goes: At the age of four he was taken from his family home in Maskwacis at gun point by the rcmp. They came with govt papers telling them that all Indian children had to attend the residential school. He said the whole trip there he cried along side a whole wagon full of native children from his community and some were in childrens handcuffs. He spent 10years of his childhood from the age of 4 to 14 being sexually abused by both priests & nuns (children would go to sleep at night crying themselves to sleep because they would be plucked out of bed ever night to be sexually & physically abused), they had their hair cut off & would be physically abused if they spoke the Cree language. Some kids left & were never heard from again. (Roughly 6000 native children died in residential schools from disease, abuse or attempting to run away, either freezing to death or dying of starvation)

It left him sexually confused, mentally scarred with identity crisis, shame, self hatred, loss of language & culture, suicidal thoughts, substance abuse, anger issues and basically all of the isms in the dictionary that led him to doing time in jail when he would try stand up for himself or others against injustices like racism, inequality, oppression, etc.

If anyone thinks that native people are marginalized today, 60-70 years ago white folks treated natives infinitely worse and strong native men like my late father had to stand up against such injustices, yet they would be blamed for something white folks initiated, instigated and perpetuated.

Our ancestors have endured so much injustice, genocide, attempted extermination, abuses of all kinds, hatred, made outcasts on our own lands, looked down upon by people of other races, etc since 1492 at the hands of our invaders & we are still here.

He told me a lot of negative things he went thru in his life but he never let them beat him & he made sure his children were not exposed to such things. Thank you dad wherever you are for all that you did & for being strong for so long. The harm done to survivors, their children, families, communities, and future generations is immeasurable.

I pray you & all survivor of these residential schools can find comfort, healing & those who passed are in a better place. Hai hai.



### Since Standing Rock, 56 Bills Have Been Introduced in 30 States to Restrict Protests

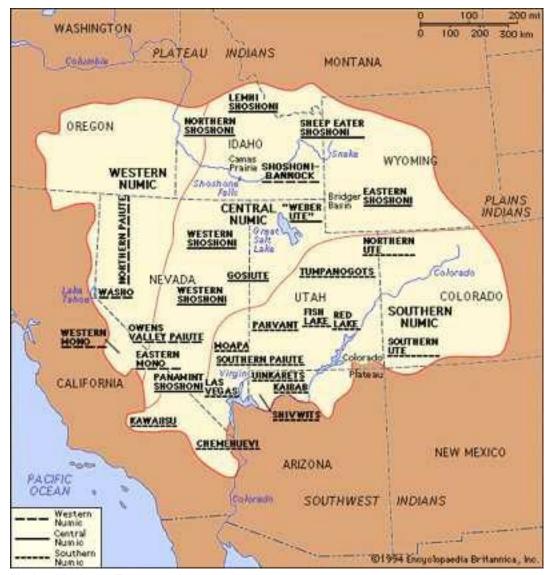
In the year since the last activists were evicted, the crackdown on journalists and activists has only intensified. thenation.com

# The National Indian Education Association Releases Response to Trump's Proposed Cuts to Native Education

The Trump Administration released its 2019 Budget on Monday, February 12th proposing a 5% cut to the Department of Education and a 14% cut to the...

<u>lastrealindians.com</u>

#### Native Heritage Preservation's post.



**Native Heritage Preservation** 

Shows the **Generalized language distribution of Northern UtoAztecan - Numic Speakers**. Some Numic live outside of the language map. The Hatch Hetchy and Yosemite areas, as well as numerous others reach into Mountains and Desert regions. NUA speakers go all the way to Las Angeles.

#### Climate Change is back on the agenda in Idaho schools.

Last year, Idaho became the only state in the country to <u>successfully remove climate change</u> <u>from its curriculum</u>. Republican lawmakers scrubbed five paragraphs about anthropogenic climate change from the state's science standards.

This month, they moved to reapprove the climate change—less standards, sparking a <u>fierce public debate</u>. Students attended public hearings and wrote <u>opinion pieces</u>, <u>literally begging</u> politicians to let them learn about climate change.

Idaho's House Republicans weren't convinced: They voted to <u>remove the subject</u> from the state's science standards on Feb. 1. But fortunately for the kids, the Idaho Senate Committee <u>voted</u> to <u>pass the standards</u> with the original references to climate change intact.

Idaho's House and Senate lawmakers have until the end of March to come to an agreement on the science standards. If they can't agree, the standards will be adopted as written — including references to climate change — and remain in effect for the next five years.



**Triassic Park** Jonathan Blair / Getty Images

Paleontologists discovered a huge ancient fossils trove in Bears Ears National Monument.

The Triassic-period fossils were found on land that is no longer federally protected, thanks to President Trump.

The remains of three large, intact phytosaurs — crocodile-like creatures that covered the globe 200 million years ago — were found by a team of 14 researchers excavating a rich fossil bed in Utah called the Chinle Formation in 2017.

Rob Gay, a paleontologist at the University of Western Colorado and leader of the expedition, announced the results at the <u>Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists conference</u> in Utah. <u>Gay noted that</u> his team discovered that the site had been previously looted; rookies made off with a chunk of a phytosaur skull before the site was given protected status by President Obama in 2016.

Looting may become more common in fossil-rich areas now that the Trump administration has begun shrinking monuments. Last December, Trump reduced Bears Ears by <u>85 percent</u>, opening up the land for uranium mining and fossil fuel extraction.

Luckily, paleontologists aren't burying their heads in the, er, soil. <u>The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology</u>, alongside <u>five Native American tribes</u>, is suing Trump over Bears Ears and a number of other proposed rollbacks of national monuments. Way to go, fossil nerds!

\*

#### The people most afflicted by pollution have new champions.

At least those living in California do. The state's attorney general, Xavier Becerra, <u>announced</u> on Thursday that he was forming a bureau of environmental justice with lawyers working full time "to protect people and communities that endure a disproportionate share of environmental pollution and public health hazards."

There are laws on the books protecting people from pollution, but those laws aren't always enforced, especially in the places where people don't have the money to hire lawyers. A <u>recent study</u> found that poor people are more likely to be exposed to air pollution, and that being black was an even greater risk factor than being poor.

"Justice should not be reserved for communities who can afford to investigate and litigate parties that break the law," said California Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia in a statement.

The lawyers in the new office will focus on using the legal system to help communities clean up lead, fix up contaminated drinking-water systems, and penalize polluters.

Becerra has 30 ongoing lawsuits against President Trump's administration, and about half of those have to do with the White House's attempts to roll back environmental regulations. More on Becerra and his efforts here.

#### North Pole Surges Above Freezing in the Dead of Winter, Stunning Scientists

Jason Samenow, The Washington Post

Samenow writes: "The sun won't rise at the North Pole until March 20, and it's normally close to the coldest time of year, but an extraordinary and possibly historic thaw swelled over the tip ofthe planet this weekend."

**READ MORE** 



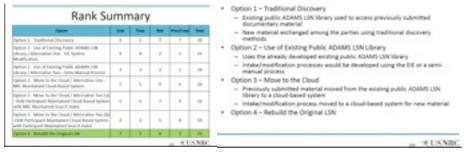
Every one of these children was shot due to overcrowding at a Kanien'keha:ka residential school. #NolWontJustMoveOn

# **The Continuing Yucca Mountain Saga**By lan zabarte

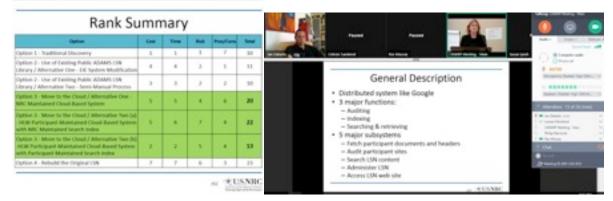
The US Cold War against Native Americans continued today as proposals were sought by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to restore 3.9 million documents for adjudicatory review of the proposed Yucca Mountain nuclear waste dump. The site owned by the Shoshone Nation under term of the Treaty of Ruby Valley in International Law, the Consolidated Treaty Series Volume 127 1863 and supreme by US law in the Constitution, an Article 6 treaty. The US Indian Claims Commission could not find a taking had occurred. All of the acts that the US relies upon to justify "taking" were contemplated in the treaty and could not constitute a taking outside of the terms of the treaty and could not effect extinguish ment of Indian title including Shoshone ownership of Yucca Mountain. Stealing is not a term of the treaty. The Shoshone own all rights title and interest and the US sought to purchase specific interests, by treaty.

The Shoshone have experience radiation exposure in fallout from US/UK testing of weapons of mass destruction (WMD's), an increased involuntary risk of exposure to radiation. Because of our past exposure to radiation, mine as well, we cannot endure any increased burden of risk from any source, including US civilian or military nuclear waste, said Mr. Ian Zabarte, Principal Man, Western Bands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians. Again today, Mr. Zabarte called out the proceedings as unfair, "NRC wrote to inform the Native Community Action Council will not be

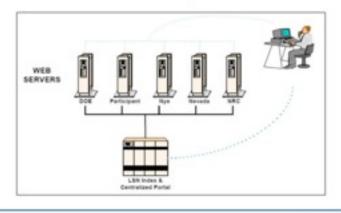
funded by the NRC.. That is environmental racism," stated Mr. Zabarte on the record to the NRC Advisory Review Panel again today.







### General Depiction





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Please click to enlarge each exhibit