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A Surprising Bid for Remington, and an Unsurprising Rejection A Show About Indigenous Canadians Has a Glaring Omission: Indigenous Canadian Actors Casinos take it outside Converting half-eaten burgers/spoiled milk/spent yeast into electricity and fertilizer Webinar this Thursday: Tribal Workforce Development Items from the Council of State Archivists Behind the scenes of First Nation's Focus with Bethany Sam Intelligent Drones Crack Down on Illegal Fishing in African Waters Gerome L. Sam



PHOTOS: A Grindstone Patwin dancer performs during during Reawakening the Great Basin at the Nevada Museum of Art. Image: Ty O'Neil

<u>A Surprising Bid for Remington, and an Unsurprising Rejection</u> By ANDREW ROSS SORKIN

The Navajo Nation made a cash offer for the gun maker, with the intention of pushing it toward "smart gun" technology.

A Show About Indigenous Canadians Has a Glaring Omission: Indigenous

<u>Canadian Actors</u> By DAN BILEFSKY The theater director Robert Lepage is ensnared in another controversy over cultural appropriation, this time with "Kanata," a new production. KQED Sciencem

Casinos take it outside By CHRIS RIEMENSCHNEIDER • <u>chrisr@startribune.com</u>

Treasure Island has debuted a bona fide concert amphitheater with 9,400 seats to compete with Mystic Lake's grassy setup. Here's our take on the competing venues.

If all those Counting Crows, Deep Purple and Lady Antebellum billboards and ads around town haven't clued you in already, the two casinos nearest to the Twin Cities have doubled down on their outdoor concert offerings this summer.

Treasure Island Resort & Casino and Mystic Lake Casino Hotel each got more ambitious about their bookings to try to attract summer concert crowds. They booked so many summer shows, in fact, they left the Minnesota State Fair with pickings slim enough to choose the Spandex-clad cover band Hairball — ironically, a casino staple — for one of its Saturday night grandstand concerts. (Casinos have an advantage over other music venues, since they can make up losses on ticket sales via gambling revenue.)

The upcoming offerings at Treasure Island include the Deep Purple and Judas Priest twofer, Kid Rock, Lady A with Darius Rucker, and good ol' Nickelback. Mystic Lake has hosted big gigs by Kesha and Pitbull and has more to come with O.A.R., Reba McEntire and the Counting Crows tour with Live.

But the uptick wasn't just in bookings, at least not at Treasure Island. The Red Wing complex has built a large amphitheater with 9,400 permanent seats and a large, general-admission grassy area. It's the kind of legitimate concert amphitheater that the Twin Cities area should've had decades ago — though perhaps somewhere closer to town with better road access.

We were there for the inaugural concert two weekends ago with ZZ Top and John Fogerty and were pleasantly surprised by the new place. A night later, we took in the Kesha concert at Mystic Lake and were not all that impressed.

Not that we had much affinity for the previous years' outdoor setup with folding chairs laid atop grass, but the casino in Prior Lake is now mostly hosting general-admission concerts with no seats. (McEntire's show will be an exception.) Word came from the Pitbull show that many women in the crowd — clearly unaware of the outdoor setup — dressed up for the occasion in fancy party dresses and high heels, which wound up sinking into the grass.

Love them or hate them, you'd better get used to the casinos for outdoor concerts. And you should know what you're getting into, too. Here's a comparison and a rundown of each venue.

Layout and design

Treasure Island: The large new spread of concrete-laid seats is set off to the western side of the casino's newest hotel tower, in a fenced-off area that's not exactly scenic but functional. Seats are set on a very gradual but effective slope, aren't at all cramped and are easily accessible via wide aisles. The grassy area behind the seats — open to folding chairs and blankets — has something of a drive-in movie theater vibe.

All told, the new venue can host more than 16,000 people, itself an impressive trait.

Mystic Lake: Set on a more steeply sloped patch of grass between the casino's RV park and golf course, the layout here doesn't really deserve to be called an amphitheater. Concert staff spraypaints the grass with white stripes to create "aisles." Otherwise, it's essentially just a big field that holds about 10,000 people. Foldable chairs and blankets are allowed only toward the back.

For the more dance-oriented shows, the lack of seats up front might be an asset. Even if you don't want to dance, though, you'll do plenty of moving and grooving trying to swat away mosquitoes.

Winner: Treasure Island by a mile.

Parking and traffic

Treasure Island: This is still T.I.'s Achilles heel. The casino's location by the Mississippi River and surrounding swamp areas means there are very few ways in and out by car; all roads essentially lead to the two-lane Prairie Island Boulevard. Once you finally get there, most of the concert parking is done in a big, dark field that seems destined for mud-pit status should a heavy rain come down. But hey, it's free parking!

All told, concertgoers can expect to be in traffic an hour or more before and after each concert - unless you want to hang out inside the casino and arrive early or stay considerably later.

Mystic Lake: With lots of roads in, a sizable on-site parking garage and many other free, paved parking areas, this is where the casino in Prior Lake shines brightest. For the Kesha concert, it took all of five minutes to pull into a parking space from the main road (Mystic Lake Drive), and just a three-minute walk from there.

Winner: Mystic Lake by a mile; or however far the line of cars usually is outside Treasure Island.

Acoustics and production

The two venues are about equal in this department, each faring pretty well. Neither facility has a permanent stage, but the temporary setups are quite large, sturdy and hi-fi, with large video screens flanking both sides. Acoustics were B-plus in both cases, too, although Mystic's sound was a little echoey, and Treasure Island's could have been louder in the back on the grass.

Winner: Tie.

Amenities and concessions

Treasure Island: It's surprising that construction of a big permanent amphitheater did not also include permanent restrooms, but there were plenty of portajohns on opening night. Concessions were plentiful, too, including several food trucks, a Corona party tent and numerous beer huts, with basic beer choices and pretty quick lines.

The one big glitch at the ZZ Top/Fogerty concert was a crazily understaffed security entryway, where fans (many of whom waited in traffic lines getting there) had to wait well over a half-hour to get through metal detectors. Word is the casino will improve this.

Mystic Lake: It's all portajohns here, too. There's no Corona party tent or much of anything, really, besides ugly, cardboard-like beer huts, where the selection was also lacking and the lines were disastrously long. At least things went quick getting through security.

Winner: Treasure Island, but it could do better, too.

Chris Riemenschneider • 612-673-4658 @ChrisRstrib

Treasure Island is owned and operated by Prairie Island Indian Community-Mdewakanton Sioux

Webinar this Thursday: Tribal Workforce Development: A Decision-Framing Toolkit

NCAI's <u>Partnership for Tribal Governance</u> (PTG) will host the second in a series of three webinars focused on tribal workforce development on **Thursday, July 19 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. EDT. The webinar titled, "Tribal Workforce Development: A Decision- Framing Toolkit**," will provide a detailed overview of NCAI's new toolkit and the different ways that tribal leaders and workforce development practitioners can use it to inform and drive strategic action towards the crafting of effective, self-governed workforce development approaches. **To view the toolkit, click <u>here</u>**.

The webinar will feature a panel of leading tribal workforce development practitioners offering their perspectives on the key strategic considerations covered in the toolkit and how their nations/organizations are engaging those considerations:

- Ryan Howard, Executive Director, Owens Valley Career Development Center
- Kay Seven, Director, Adult Education, Nez Perce Tribe
- Darrell Waldron, Executive Director, Rhode Island Indian Council, Inc.
- Margaret Zientek, Assistant Director, Workforce & Social Services, Citizen Potawatomi Nation

To register for the webinar, please click <u>here</u>.

Coming on July 26:

 WEBINAR: The 2017 Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Consolidation Act: A Guide to Implementation. To register, click <u>here</u>. NCAI Contact: Ian Record, Partnership for Tribal Governance Director, <u>irecord@ncai.org</u>

from the Council of State Archivists: July Webinars

GENERAL INTEREST: *Project Management, Part II* with Dr. Sharon Leon, Department of History, Michigan State University July 26, 3 pm Eastern I <u>REGISTER</u>

Dr. Leon has overseen dozens of award-winning collaborations with library, museum, and archive partners from around the country, and served as a Director of the <u>Omeka</u> web publishing platform.

CoSA-NARA WEBINAR SERIES: Crowdsourcing Archival Projects: NARA History Hub and Alabama WWI Service Records July 19, 2 pm Eastern I <u>REGISTER</u>

Join Becky Collier and Kelly Osborn, Research Services and Office of Innovation co-leads, at NARA History Hub and Steve Murray, State Archivist, and Meredith McDonough, Digital Assets, Alabama Department of Archives and History, to learn about exciting examples of crowdsourcing initiatives in both the federal and a state government.

Upcoming

All new **Shop Talk** webinars begin this fall, following the first **Shop Talk** webinar with Family Search last year. These webinars feature CoSA's major corporate sponsors and will focus on tools and projects of broad interest to members.

- September 13: Ancestry
- October 16: Preservica
- November 15: APPX Software

Do you have policies, procedural documents, forms, templates, and tools that would be useful to your colleagues? Consider uploading them to the <u>CoSA Resource Center</u>! It's easy to <u>upload</u> <u>your documents</u> and, once you do, we'll take it from there.

US Virgin Islands Update

Over 50 U.S. Virgin Islands cultural heritage caretakers welcomed the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI) instructional team for a successful two-day Heritage Emergency and Response Training (HEART) Workshop in St. Thomas on June 11-12, 2018, and in St. Croix on June 14-15, 2018. The sessions were sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Mellon Foundation.

The workshops included an intensive hands-on practicum in wet disaster recovery techniques for collections damage. In addition to the quality emergency preparedness and response

In this month's <u>SERI Spotlight</u>, the Kansas State Historical Society/Kansas State Archives reports on its participation in OSSArcFlow, an IMLS-funded project investigating the synchronization and modeling of workflows to help libraries and archives optimize their capacity to curate and preserve born-digital content.

instruction, PPE gear and emergency materials included in the SCRI HEART instruction, participants received over \$2,100 in donated archival supplies from CoSA and Gaylord Archival, and sturdy canvas swag bags donated by Ancestry!

One of the most important outcomes of the training was the chance for collections caregivers from all aspects of the cultural heritage community—government agencies, nonprofits, libraries, museums, religious organizations, educational institutions, the judiciary, and the legislature—to begin to network and find strength in pooling and sharing their knowledge, resources and experiences.



At the Minnesota State Archives

A recent project for a group of volunteers at the state archives includes rehousing the case files pictured here. The rolled up files in the middle all belong to one murder case from 1917! The volunteers flattened the files with bricks for a few hours, then put them in 5 new acid-free folders, snug in a new box.

READ MORE >

Connecting to Collections Care Survey

Connecting to Collections Care is planning for the future and needs to hear from you. What do you like? What can we do better?

Your time is valuable, so as a small token of appreciation for your time and insights, three survey respondents will be selected to receive a free registration for a Connecting to Collections Care course (a \$149 value), a new initiative of the program. Courses will allow for more in-depth examination of collections care issues vis multi-webinar series dedicated to a single topic.

iPres 2018: the 15th International Conference on Digital Preservation

24–27 September 2018 Boston, Massachusetts, United States

National Digital Stewardship Alliance (NDSA) Digital Preservation 2018 Annual Conference 17–18 October 2018 Las Vegas, Nevada, United States

Urge Your Representative to Join the Congressional History Caucus

What actions can we take to support federal funding of the humanities, even as we keep an eye on Congress's appropriations discussions? As we fight to ensure that drastic cuts don't become law, our most important assets are our allies in Congress. That's why this is the perfect time to make a push for the Congressional History Caucus! The History Caucus is the brainchild of the

National Coalition for History (NCH), of which SAA is a policy board member. It provides a forum for members of Congress to share their interest in history and to promote awareness of the subject on Capitol Hill. Find resources for contacting your representatives.



Behind the scenes of First Nation's Focus with Bethany Sam



First Nation's Focus has officially been

publishing for 1.5 years. Thank you for all your support! I can't thank <u>Sierra Nevada Media Group</u> enough for helping me make my dream a reality and supporting Tribal News.

With 5 years professional marketing, promotions and advertising experience as a Business Development Manager, I created the opportunity and partnered with Sierra Nevada Media Group to publish a tribal news magazine, First Nation's Focus, that included an outreach t... <u>See More</u>

Editor's note: This story was first published in the March 2017 edition of First Nation's Focus.

COLEVILLE, Calif. — Manah-who, How-Uhh? Ee Nanee-en-nah Bethany Sam, nuh Coleville wait-duh. Nuh Hunkpapa Dakota (Sioux), Kuiza-tika-ah, Wa She Shu, Chee-Pawn-nee'e. (Lee Vining Paiute Language)

Hello, how are you? My name is Bethany Sam and I'm from Coleville, Calif. I'm Hunkpapa Dakota Sioux, Lee Vining Paiute, Washoe and Mexican.

I'm a business development manager for Sierra Nevada Media Group in advertising, design, digital media, ecommerce, marketing, printing, social media and video.

I'm also the lead on "First Nation's Focus." Today I want to introduce myself, and share with you the idea behind our new tribal newspaper magazine.

My parents' are Faron & Marlene Sam (Father- Paiute/Washoe; Mother – Hunkpapa Dakota Sioux/Mexican). My paternal grandparents' are Joseph & Maxine Sam. My maternal grandparents' are Marlo Zamora & Margret SeeWalker Evans. My sisters' are Raquel Sam and Jolene Sam, and my 1st cousin JD Sam, is really like a brother to us.

Though I grew up in Paiute / Washoe country, Mono County and surrounding areas, I'm enrolled in the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe of North Dakota and South Dakota.

Recommended Stories For You

I come from a long line of strong and spiritual people.

My Kunsi, Rocky Butte (maternal Great, Great, Great Grandmother), was a warrior woman, who fought along side the men and joined the Battle at Greasy Grass (Battle of Little Big Horn, Custer's Last Stand).

My Kunsi, Theresa Topa Yellowlodge (maternal Great, Great Grandmother), was a medicine woman, midwife and loving grandmother. She is also, the only known woman to be a winter count keeper.

A winter count is a calendar in which events are recorded by pictures drawn onto buffalo hide, buckskin or muslin cloth, recording the events of the Tribe throughout the year. Measured from first snowfall to first snowfall.

From what my family tells me, one of her favorite stories she told, involved a battle between the Sioux and Mandan Tribes along the Cannonball River in North Dakota. You can see her winter count in the Heard Museum in Phoenix. Heard Museum collaborates with the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

My Hubee, Frank Sam (paternal Great Grandpa), was a Peyote spiritual leader who helped anyone who needed it. He owned Frank Sam Pumice Mine located in the Mono Craters' Southern Coulee in Lee Vining, Calif. In the early 1940s, the US Pumice Company leased the



mine from him and they continue to operate it today.

Hubee Frank found it important to make positive relations with the Non-Native community to survive. This is how he met Ben Farrington, the owner of Farrington Ranch whom he later worked for. They became great companions. When Mr. Farrington decided to sell the ranch, he promised Hubee Frank land. With that simple promise, Hubee Frank became the original owner of the "Old 395 House."

To this day, the property is still owned by the Sam Family and has become an undocumented tourist attraction. It's located south of Mono Lake on Highway 395, in between Lee Vining and June Lake (CA) Calif Calif. Growing up in Coleville, I got to spend a lot of time with my Hubee Leona Dick (paternal Great Grandma, my father's mom's mom). As a little girl, she lived the old way and migrated with her grandmother until they were forced to assimilate to European culture.

What I remember about her the most, is how she only spoke Paiute, her pet bobcat, cherry and pinenut picking with the entire family, the jelly she made, how she always worked outside with her baskets, and her kobee (coffee) and pa'ah (water).

I only know these stories because my parents, elders and family, shared them with me. I share these stories with you, because they inspired the idea for "First Nation's Focus."

In my line of work and just growing up Native in non-Native community, I've learned non-Natives are generally misinformed about our culture.

The mission of "First Nation's Focus" is to create open communication between the Public and Tribal Communities; to teach all about the true essence and traditionalism of Native American/ American Indian culture; and to share or highlight the positive happenings in Tribal Communities.

"First Nation's Focus" is your voice to teach or share with both the Native and Non-Native communities.

I've always felt so proud to be Native American / American Indian. Or what I like to say, "I'm proud to be Hunkpapa Dakota Sioux, Kuiza-tika-ah Paiute, Washoe, and Mexican". My parents and grandparents have always expressed how important it is to learn our heritage/ancestry and to keep the cultural traditions alive. When we are learning our traditions; singing dancing, sweat lodge & ceremonies, hunting, basket making, pinenut picking, handgames; we are learning to pray for our land, animals, water, weather, healing, love and happiness.

With "First Nation's Focus" we now have the chance to continuously teach and learn about our culture and the differences between each tribe and tribal community. My dream is to help bring a positive spotlight on all tribes and to spread awareness about the First Nation's of North America, and the historical trauma we are still trying to overcome.

A'ho, all my relations.

Intelligent Drones Crack Down on Illegal Fishing in African Waters

United Nations Environment Programme

Excerpt: "Today, thirty-seven-year-old Idrissi, from Morocco, is CEO and co-founder of ATLAN Space, a deep technology startup using drones and artificial intelligence to crack down on illegal fishing and protect natural resources in Africa." <u>READ MORE</u>



With apologies to all; for some reason (I'm a nincomputer) could not get this upright. sdc