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“How History Classes Helped Create a ‘Post-Truth’ America: The author of Lies My Teacher Told Me

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One Sock At A Time

NCAI's Latest Op-ed: The Importance of Strategic Vision and Integration

Professor Kent Smith-passionate about training next generation of Native doctors and scientists.

Hawai'ian Indigenous candidates make bid for Congress...

'We try hard to teach these kids Cherokee'

Attention Coastal Tribes! The Secret Ingredient to China's Aggression? Sand.

Designing the Death of a Plastic

This 'hobbit' house can be built in just 3 days

Indigenous Women's Hike



“But what is denied actually does exist and eventually comes to the surface, just as any truth will eventually surface despite acts to hide it” -- Joy Harjo

“How History Classes Helped Create a ‘Post-Truth’ America: The author of Lies My Teacher Told Me discusses [how schools’ flawed approach to teaching the country’s past affects its civic health](#) .” Here’s a fantastic quote from the interview: “History is by far our worst-taught subject in high school; I think we’re stupider in thinking about the past than we are, say, in thinking about Shakespeare, or algebra, or other subjects.” (Vox)

National Environmental Justice Public Meeting August 14-16, 2018
Boston Park Plaza (50 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116)

Teleconference Option Available

Register here today!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) will convene a public face-to-face meeting beginning on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, starting at 6:00 p.m., Eastern Time. The NEJAC meeting will continue August 15 ? 16, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time. The meeting discussion will focus on several topics including, but not limited to, environmental justice concerns of communities in Boston, MA and surrounding areas; the proactive efforts of EPA Region 1 to advance environmental justice; and deliberation of the final report from the NEJAC Environmental Justice and Water Infrastructure Finance and Capacity Work Group.

Event Details:

- **Who Should Attend:** This meeting is open to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments relevant to the specific issues being considered by NEJAC.
- **Cost:** Free
- **Public Comment Period:** August 14, 2018, starting at 6:00 PM Eastern Time
- **Public Meeting:** August 15 ? 16, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. ? 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time
- **Registration Public Face-to-Face Meeting:** Pre-registration is recommended to attend the face-to-face meeting. You can register here:<https://nejac-public-meeting-august-2018.eventbrite.com>
- **Registration Public Teleconference Option:** Pre-registration is required to attend the meeting by teleconference. You can register here:<https://nejac-public-teleconference-option-august-2018.eventbrite.com>
- **Online Registration Closes:** August 7, 2018, at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time (rc'd 8.7.)
- **Location:** Boston Park Plaza, 50 Park Plaza, Boston, MA, 02116-3912.
- **Hotel Reservation Information:** Hotel reservations can be made [here](#).

For more information on the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC):
<https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-meetings>

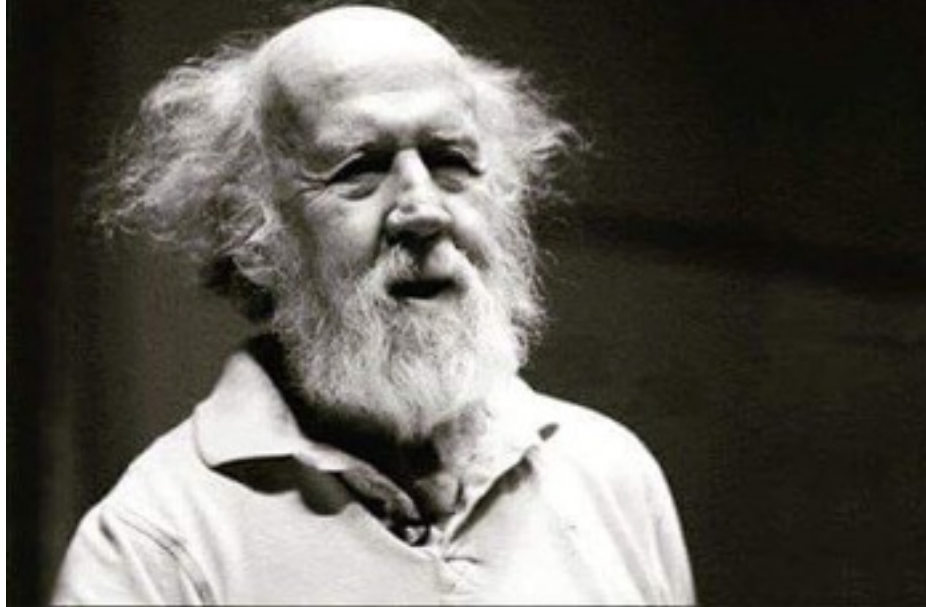
To learn more about the NEJAC, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice>

To learn about the Public Comment Guidelines, visit <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-advisory-council-guidelines-public-comment>

For questions about this event, please contact Karen L. Martin (martin.karenl@epa.gov) or by phone 202-564-0203.

**Man is the most insane species. He worships
an invisible God and destroys a visible Nature.
Unaware that the Nature he is destroying is
this God he is worshipping.**

- Hubert Reeves



(some old white men aren't totally nuts.....)

Federal Water Tap:

\$200 million: Soil and groundwater cleanup plan for two areas of the Hanford site, a former plutonium production facility near the Columbia River in Washington state. Funds for scrubbing groundwater of hexavalent chromium, strontium, and nitrate will come from the Department of Energy's budget. ([EPA](#) — warning: large file, 50MB)News Briefs

Senate Clean Water Act Bill Would Restrict State Authority

Four Republican senators [introduced legislation](#) to amend the Clean Water Act to limit the ability of states to withhold water quality permits. It is the latest volley in the ongoing struggle to define the relationship between state and federal power in environmental law.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires projects that seek federal authorization and discharge pollutants into water bodies to get state-issued permits. The permits certify that the project will not violate state water quality standards. *Discharge* has been broadly interpreted to include damage to aquatic habitat and filling of reservoirs. In past decades, the [hydropower industry objected](#) to use of Section 401 to block or impose conditions on dam construction.

Lately states have used Section 401 to veto oil and gas pipelines. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, for example, denied a water quality permit in 2016

for the Constitution natural gas pipeline. On April 30, the U.S. Supreme Court [denied](#) the company's petition to review the state's decision.

Robin Rorick of the American Petroleum Institute argues that politicians have “abused” Section 401 to block oil and gas pipelines. API and the Interstate Natural Gas Association support the proposed legislation.

Senators who sponsored the bill are John Barrasso of Wyoming, Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia, Steve Daines of Montana, and Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma.

White House Selects Science Adviser

After leaving the office vacant for more than 18 months, President Trump selected Kelvin Droegemeier, a University of Oklahoma meteorologist who specializes in violent storms, as his administration's science adviser.

Droegemeier was appointed by both George W. Bush and Barack Obama to the National Science Board, a 25-member advisory body that consults with the White House and Congress on scientific issues. Here is his [full CV](#).

Diane Souvaine, the National Science Board chair and a computer science professor at Tufts University, called Droegemeier “a top-notch, highly regarded scientist.”

Congress Extends — Again — National Flood Insurance Program

It's another short-term reprieve for the federal program that provides flood insurance policies in risky areas.

Facing a July 31 deadline, Congress extended NFIP through hurricane season, until November 30.

This is the seventh short-term extension in the last year, according to the [Congressional Research Service](#).

Defense Authorization Bill Heads to President's Desk

Congress completed work on a Defense Department [spending authorization bill](#) that includes provisions on PFAS chemicals.

The bill authorizes \$10 million per year for the next two years to continue an exposure assessment and health study. It orders the Defense Department to evaluate the feasibility of a national register for veterans who were exposed to PFAS while serving on military bases.

Wild and Scenic River Designation

President Trump [signed a bill](#) that protects a 13-mile stretch and a 7-mile stretch of East Rosebud Creek, part of the Yellowstone River watershed in western Montana. Studies and Reports

State Department Takes Second Look at Keystone XL

A revised Keystone XL pipeline route through Nebraska will have negligible effects on groundwater and minor effects on streams and wetlands, according to a State Department [draft environmental assessment](#).

The new route — which avoids areas that supply groundwater for municipal use — is 7 miles longer than what was analyzed in 2014 and includes one more pumping station. The new route shares certain segments with the old course, but deviates from it for a 162-mile section in central Nebraska. Two-thirds of that section is located on the same right-of-way as the existing Keystone pipeline.

Though it avoids groundwater protection areas, the route is within a mile of seven such areas. The assessment notes that spills at these locations would have the potential to affect drinking water.

The Trump administration granted the Keystone XL pipeline a permit in 2017.

Groundwater Salinity Near California Oil Fields

The U.S. Geological Survey [mapped the saltness](#) of groundwater near 31 oil fields in central and southern California that were deemed a moderate or high risk of contaminating aquifers.

In general, salinity increased with depth, but there were significant variations both regionally and within fields.

The goal of the study is to categorize groundwater resources with TDS, a measure of salt content, lower than 10,000 milligrams per liter, which is considered the upper range of potential drinking water sources by the EPA.dar

U.S. Supreme Court Allows Climate Case to Proceed

The high court [denied](#) a Trump administration request to dismiss a landmark climate change lawsuit brought by 21 children.

The lawsuit, *Juliana v. United States*, argues that by not reducing carbon emissions, the U.S. government is impairing their right — and the right of future generations — to a livable planet. The Justice Department sought to throw out the case before it was even heard in federal district court. (*How about the d... preamble?!*)

Though getting onto the docket is a victory, winning the case will not be easy. Richard Frank, director of the California Environmental Law and Policy Center, says that the kids and their lawyers will have a “[formidable challenge](#)” in proving violations of constitutional and public trust law.

The case is scheduled to begin on October 29 in the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon.

LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE: Do you love where you live? Would other people love to live there too? Those two questions are at the heart of economic development, according to Peter Kageyama, a keynote speaker at the **Fourth Annual Nevada Economic Development Conference** Aug. 20-22, 2018 at the Atlantis Casino Resort & Spa in Reno, Nevada. [Details.](#)

ONE SOCK AT A TIME: When you think about love and charity and community, “socks” are probably not the first thing that jump to your mind. Socks are warm and necessary, sure, but they’re just socks. However, for some Reno students, socks *are* love.

Concerned that there was a lack of real engagement for young people who wanted to volunteer or become involved with community service, Bishop Manogue Catholic High School senior Matthew de Montfort Shepherd decided to start from scratch. He began “Socks of Love,” an organization run by high school students who want to take a hands-on approach towards service work. [Find out more.](#)

NCAI's Latest Op-ed on Tribal Workforce Development: The Importance of Strategic Vision and Integration

Today, *Indian Country Today* launched the second in a weekly series of eight op-eds focused on the keys to success in – and the key strategic considerations for – tribal workforce development. The op-ed series is drawn from a new [tribal workforce development toolkit](#) produced by NCAI's Partnership for Tribal Governance (PTG).

For this week's op-ed, titled "Why strategic vision and integration matter to developing a workforce," please click [here](#).

In next week's op-ed: PTG explores two more strategic considerations for tribal workforce development: institutions and culture .

NCAI Contact: Ian Record, *Partnership for Tribal Governance Director*, irecord@ncai.org

Professor Kent Smith is passionate about training the next generation of Native American doctors and scientists.



chickasaw.tv Native Explorers

Watch More at Chickasaw.tv

[Watch More](#)

Hawai'ian Indigenous candidates make bid for Congress,...

This week's primary election focus: Kansas, Washington and Hawaii #NativeVote18. Story by ICT's editor Mark Trahan. [Read more](#) [newsmaven.io](#)



['Māori has gone mainstream': the resurgence of New Zealand's te reo language theguardian.com](#)

[We try hard to teach these kids Cherokee'](#) by [UNC Media Hub](#)

New Kituwah Academy offers full-immersion Cherokee language program for children ranging from infants to eighth graders

Video by [Jonah Lossiah](#) and [Gabi Palacio](#) Story and Motion Graphic by [José Valle](#)

UNC Media Hub CHEROKEE, North Carolina — The New Kituwah Academy opened its doors in 2009 with a full-immersion Cherokee language program for children ranging from infants to eighth-graders.

The school is designed to keep the Cherokee language alive by increasing the number of young fluent speakers, as only 238 people in North Carolina still speak the Kituwah dialect and most of them are above the age of 55.

“It seems like this past year or two, the fluent speakers as old as I am or a little older are all passing away and our Cherokee language is going away with them,” Ann Arneach, a 71-year-old native speaker, said. “We try hard here to teach these kids Cherokee.”

The school starts off teaching in Cherokee and implements English in the students’ later years, simultaneously meeting North Carolina education requirements.

Arneach, who has taught at the academy, recalls going to the grocery store with her granddaughter and experiencing the granddaughter's surprise when there was no response to her greeting someone in Cherokee.

"That's the way it is when the kids go out," Arneach said. "They have to use English when they go out there. But here? Here they can use Cherokee."

Rainy Brake, a first-grade teacher at New Kituwah, believes that the children have a right to express their Cherokee selves and culture. She became fluent in Cherokee by learning from a fluent speaker alongside her students when the school opened. Brake initially went to college planning to become a Native American literature professor, but changed her mind after starting at the academy.

"A lot of times life tells you where to go, so I don't think I'll ever leave here," Brake said. "I really, really feel like I've found a calling. I wake up every morning and I know I'm making a difference and I know that when I go to bed at night that things have gotten better because we're here, and we're on a mission."

***Above:** Kituwah Academy first grade teacher Rainy Brake sings the Syllabary Song, which includes some of the characters in the Cherokee syllabary.*

While everyone at New Kituwah is dedicated to the cause, sometimes the children struggle to learn Cherokee. The same is true for some college students trying to learn the language, according to Ben Frey, an assistant professor of American studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. In his early years, he tried a full-immersion approach but had to alter his plans when students were so taken aback by its lack of resemblance to English.

"People can't even wrap their heads around that it's not related to English," Frey said. "It's hard to get students to be able to participate. Nowadays, I'll warn people and say 'OK, this is going to be scary. This is what's going to happen to you,' and hopefully that helps when I teach it next time."

Cherokee is only one of thousands of languages throughout the world facing danger.

The Celtic family is the first family of languages to be endangered in Europe. In Scotland, Scottish Gaelic, part of the Celtic family, has about 60,000 native speakers. Michael Newton, a decades-long Scottish Gaelic scholar, raised his 5-year-old daughter speaking Scottish Gaelic. While he attests that teaching a child another language is difficult, he says it is possible.

"One of the real challenges in the U.S. is a very monolingual, Anglo-centric mindset," Newton said. "That in itself is a challenge to overcome, in addition to learning the language. This kind of globalized approach thinking that there's one solution, and it's the English language and that's going to solve everybody's problems by buying into this package is very problematic."

A similar situation occurs in Guatemala, where some indigenous people spoke K'iche' Maya, but were forced to learn Spanish, the country's official language to obtain better opportunities. This is true for Emilio del Valle Escalante, an associate professor of Spanish at UNC-Chapel Hill, and

it is the reason he is studying K'iche' Maya, one of 21 Maya languages spoken in Guatemala, now.

Unlike Cherokee and Scottish Gaelic, K'iche' Maya has 1.7 million fluent speakers. It is one of the stronger Maya languages, but efforts are being made and new technologies are being developed to preserve the other 20.

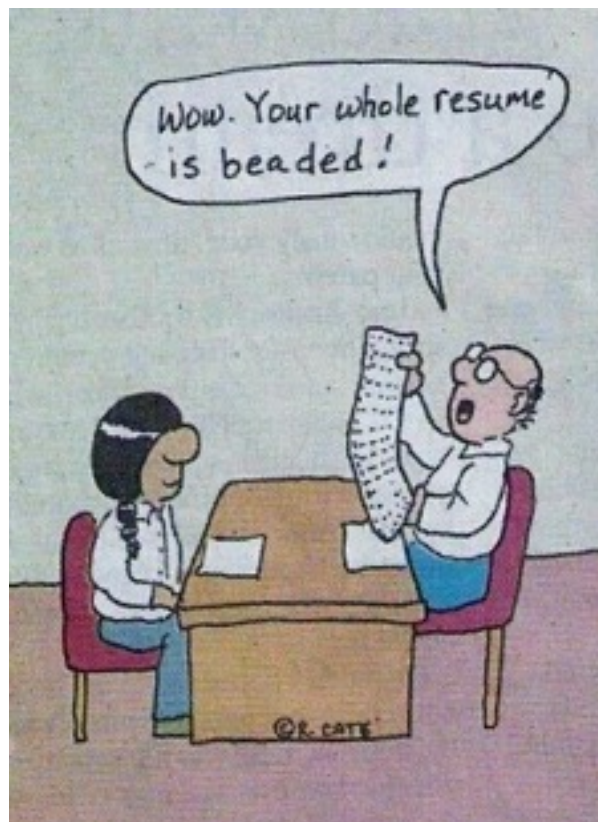
“With technology, it’s like a double-edged sword,” del Valle Escalante said. “We don’t have access to these languages when we turn on the TV or radio or go on the internet, but we’re using technology to revitalize the language through resources like online dictionaries and videos.”

While these and other languages are facing hardship, Frey thinks there is no true point to focusing solely on the doom and gloom of it all.

“I don’t want to sound that way and I don’t want to end that way,” Frey said. “We need to focus on not on what we’re losing and what’s disappearing, but what we can potentially bring with us into the future. People are motivated by joy, and the Cherokee language has a lot to bring to the world in terms of the joy it’s able to generate and able to let people share with one another.”

What is Media Hub?

Media Hub is created by students at UNC-Chapel Hill’s School of Media and Journalism. The students report long-form stories, videos and multimedia news packages covering North Carolina and the world.



Attention Coastal Tribes!

The Secret Ingredient to China's Aggression? Sand. China's mastery of the world's most overlooked natural resource is growing, causing one of the most dangerous confrontations between the United States and China to heat up. (NYT)

Designing the Death of a Plastic By XIAOZHI LIM

Decades ago, synthetic polymers became popular because they were cheap and durable. Now, scientists are creating material that self-destructs or breaks down for reuse on command.

video. ·August 3 at 2:20 AM

Well today finally came! Autumn, Jolie, and Amelia began the **Indigenous Women's Hike**. This 195 mile hike began in Yosemite Valley to Mount Whitney and then end at the Mt. Whitney portal. Thanks to all of their sponsors, family and friends who joined us last night and this morning to see them off. An emotional ceremony was conducted for their protection, strength, and blessings for walking the path of our numu ancestors and reclaiming the numu poho. Please keep these strong indigenous women in your prayers for a safe journey. They will undertake the pain and challenge for all of our indigenous people. Pesa mu [k'lk';lk;lk';k](#)

