

Journal #4300 from sdc 12.3.18

Quality Control

We thought the Incas couldn't write. These knots change everything

Cave Paintings Suggest Ancient Humans Undersood the Stars Much Better Than We Though

***Fossil Fuel Companies Blocked From West Coast Ports Keep Pushing to Bypass Local Governments
Projects Amass 800+ Violations***

Oil Pipeline Spills 8,000 Barrels of Crude in Peruvian Amazon

Arctic Drilling Is "Ecocide on an Incredible Diversity of Wildlife."

Make a Nomination

Community development loans available to Tribes, Tribal entities and individuals in AZ and NM

New Local Education Prgrams

The Search for Alien Life Begins in Earth's Oldest Desert

Dormant - Where did Nevada's anti-nuke movement go?

Fires hurt pine nut harvest

American Indian Reporter - DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE

American Indian Access to Department of Defense Facilities

Trump Administration OKs Seismic Tests That Could Harm Many Thousands of Dolphins, Whales

Another Social Leader Killed in Colombia



Untitled illustration of Pyramid Lake by Adam Frank. All inquiries can be sent to:

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Quality Control

Well here we are at another 00 issues. Longtime readers will know that this is the time I ask each of you to acknowledge receipt of this Journal (email address check), to comment on contents (critique/covering appropriate topics/topics you wish covered/inappropriate information, and to suggest others (with their eaddresses) you think should/would enjoy receiving the Journal.

It would be inappropriate not to thank those of you, especially Martha, Beth and Chris who constantly send great "stuff" as well as those from whom I purloin FB posts.

And thanks for putting up with the misnumbering or forgetting dates in the masthead....things have been very hectic for the last few months. sdc

We thought the Incas couldn't write. These knots change everything | New Scientist

Cave Paintings Suggest Ancient Humans Undersood the Stars Much Better Than We Thought Popular Mechanics

Ancient humans appear to have understood far more than typically given credit. [Read the full story](#)

Fossil Fuel Companies Blocked From West Coast Ports Keep Pushing to Bypass Local Governments

<https://www.ecowatch.com/fossil-fuels-west-coast-ports-2621746217.html>

Projects Amass 800+ Violations

<https://www.ecowatch.com/energy-transfer-pipeline-violations-2621749915.html>

Oil Pipeline Spills 8,000 Barrels of Crude in Peruvian Amazon

<https://www.ecowatch.com/amazon-oil-spill-2621884466.html>

Arctic Drilling Is "Ecocide on an Incredible Diversity of Wildlife."

FINIS DUNAWAY, TRUTHOUT

Contrary to drilling proponents' description of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as a "flat, white nothingness," it is a biological nursery teeming with life and ecologically connected to places around the world. As the Trump administration rushes to issue leases, Native Alaskans and environmentalists are raising the alarm about the inevitable ecocide of the area's diverse biological species. [Read the Article](#) →

Make a Nomination

Wanted to follow up on a small ask. We're still collecting nominations for the next Grist 50, our annual project that celebrates Fixers -- emerging leaders working toward a future that doesn't suck. Anyone come to mind for the 2019 list?

[Submit your nomination now](#)

[Zap us an email](#) with suggestions when you get a chance. Or, better yet, [fill out the official nomination form](#). The submission deadline is Friday, December 7.



Community development loans available to Tribes, Tribal entities and individuals in Arizona and New Mexico

RCAC's Loan Fund has low interest, long- and short-term loans available for Tribes, Tribal communities and individual Native Americans in Arizona and New Mexico for small business, housing and community facility projects. Eligible projects include: energy efficient affordable housing, infrastructure, community facilities, Native owned small businesses, sustainable agriculture, nonprofit organizations working in Indian Country or with Native populations, and other mission driven social enterprises. For more information and contacts, [download the brochure here](#).

Conference and Workshop Calendar

Drinking Water Compliance Workshop

This workshop will cover MRDL and DBP reporting, updates to lead and copper site sample plans, cross connections and sanitary survey prep. This workshop qualifies for five professional development hours.

December 18 – 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Blue Water Resort & Casino
11300 Resort Dr Parker, Arizona 85344 [Register here >>](#)

Activated Sludge Workshop

This workshop will improve wastewater system professionals overall skills and knowledge in wastewater treatment. This training provides five professional development hours.

December 19 – 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Blue Water Resort & Casino
11300 Resort Dr Parker, Arizona 85344 [Register here >>](#)

[UNR Launching Advanced Leadership Academy to Aid Workforce Needs](#)

Extended Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno is launching an Advanced Leadership Academy in February 2019.

According to a news release, the program was created “to meet workforce needs in the quickly growing Northern Nevada economy.”

The Advanced Leadership Academy is a... [Read more](#)

[#BizTips: 5 Digital Marketing Trends for 2019](#)

2019 is going to be full of innovation! These five tips will help put you ahead of the curve... [Read more](#)

[Preparing Our Workforce for the Advanced Manufacturing Sector](#)

TMCC is doubling down on efforts to prepare the Nevada workforce for openings at Tesla and many other companies playing a robot-centric role in the state’s booming... [Read more](#)

[Reno Technology Academy Launches New Training Programs](#)

Reno Technology Academy at Multnomah University has received unanimous grant approval from the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED) board in the amount of \$1.1 million. The funds will be used to... [Read more](#)

“ [Bee-brained](#): Are insects ‘philosophical zombies’ with no inner life? Close attention to their behaviours and moods suggests otherwise” (Aeon)

[The Search for Alien Life Begins in Earth’s Oldest Desert](#): In the Martian landscape that is the Atacama desert, astrobiologists are learning how to recognize extraterrestrial organisms.” (Atlantic)

Dormant - Where did Nevada’s anti-nuke movement go?

By [Dennis Myers](#) dennism@newsreview.com This article was published on [11.29.18](#).

The Nevada Test Site, now called the Nevada National Security Site, where 7,000 workers once toiled, is inactive.

Will nuclear testing return to Nevada?

The documentary *Losing Control*, narrated by Bill Kurtis, will be shown at Cathexes, 250 Bell St., on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists is famous for its cover feature—a clock face on which the minute hand is moved forward or backward depending on how tense international relations are and how near is the threat of nuclear war. When the clock was created in 1947, it was set at seven minutes to midnight. By 1991, it was at 17 minutes to midnight.

The minute hand is now at two minutes to midnight, only the second time—the first was 1953—that it has been that close. In the early days of the clock, it tended to reflect concern about the Soviet Union. These days, there are

additional concerns—China, military spending levels, climate change, guerrilla groups that might gain nuclear materials, and volatile national leaders.

Meanwhile, there is pressure to renew nuclear bomb testing in Nevada.

“America has two grave nuclear weapons vulnerabilities which are little known and less understood by the nation’s national security leadership,” wrote former U.S. Defense Nuclear Agency director Robert Monroe in the *Washington Times* this month. “First, we don’t know that the nuclear weapons in our arsenal will work; and second, our underground nuclear test capability in Nevada is so deteriorated that we are unable to conduct prompt tests to verify and certify these weapons. America is living with high existential risk. . . . Without question, America must resume underground nuclear testing.”

On Dec. 7 at Cathexes, 250 Bell St., author Gary Krane’s documentary, *Losing Control*, will be shown. On its original release, *Washington Post* columnist Mary McGrory wrote that the film “shows what can happen when two hostile nations, Syria and Israel in this case, start swapping tactical nukes and chemical weapons.”

President Obama and other leaders say the current war in Syria was fueled in part by that nation’s climate change-driven drought. In a study in the academic journal *Weather, Climate, and Society*, climate scientist Peter Gleick argued that “water and climatic conditions have played a direct role in the deterioration of Syria’s economic conditions.” That has driven the alleged use in Syria of chemical weapons, and some scholars worry that it could go further, to nuclear weapons.

Krane, a new Renoite, also says volatile leaders like Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump put the use of nuclear weapons into play.

All of this is happening as Nevada’s organizations that specialized in nuclear issues are defunct, and Krane calls that unfortunate. “I think all states should” have groups to police nuclear activity, he said. There is always high-powered pressure from the nuclear industry as well as the Pentagon, but no one in Nevada currently represents the other side.

There has been considerable talk of nuclear activism as a feminist issue. The current edition of the *Nation* magazine has a cover story — “Women against the bomb” — but that kind of activism has not surfaced in Nevada. The website of an organization called Beyond the Bomb has a map showing a Reno chapter, but when clicked it has no contact information, only the pitch, “Reno is organizing to prevent

nuclear war. Join us!” Spokesperson Yasmeen Silva told us, “We used to have a volunteer in Reno, but she has recently graduated and is no longer living in Reno. This coming semester we will be looking to recruit more students to continue the chapter there.” But she also said the group does not want just students, but any citizens.



Is Nevada ready?

In

the early days of the atomic age, Nevada's test site was badly run, with the Atomic Energy Commission endangering the public while suppressing information citizens needed to protect themselves.

It was widely assumed locally that Nevadans supported the testing as economic development, but there were no ways of determining it. State legislative hearings were not yet used heavily as public forums, if they were held at all. Opinion surveys in the state did not exist. And citizen activism was rare. Moreover, opposing the testing program could be portrayed as unpatriotic. But there were indications of grass roots concern. The papers of former congressmembers include letters from constituents asking about the safety of the program.

One locally-famous missive came from rancher Martha Bardoli Laird, who lived directly east of the test site. A year after her 7-year-old son died of leukemia, she wrote to Republican U.S. Sen. George Malone, and she received a response from him that said, "It is not impossible to suppose that some of the 'scare' stories are Communist inspired." A letter she sent to Atomic Energy Commission chair Lewis Strauss brought her a response that said, "Former President Truman said the dangers that might occur from the fallout in our tests involve a small sacrifice when compared to the infinitely greater evil of the use of nuclear bombs in war."

When University of Colorado scientists Ray Lanier and Theodore Puck wrote a report calling fallout from Nevada a public health threat, Colorado Gov. Ed Johnson said they should be arrested, and the Hearst press red-baited them.

In that kind of political climate, Nevada citizens may have been reluctant to speak out.

One Nevada politician, Gov. Grant Sawyer, was suspicious of the federal assurances of safety. He declined to tour the test site, unwilling to give the governor's imprimatur to the testing program.

With most Nevada leaders supporting the program and businesspeople enjoying the economic benefits, there was little debate over testing. But as the state grew and its demographics changed, discontent began to appear. In 1975, as a spinoff of Maya Miller's 1974 U.S. Senate campaign, two of her volunteers—Katherine Hale and Susan Orr—formed Citizen Alert, the state's first successful organization to scrutinize and combat hazardous nuclear policies. It functioned for the next 35 years.

An important political development came in 1979, when newly inaugurated Gov. Robert List, just days after taking office, sent a wire to federal officials inviting the Carter administration's proposed MX nuclear missile system installation to Nevada. The system would be the largest construction project in human history. List's expectation that the system would be welcome in the state was not unusual, but he was quickly hit by a public backlash from unhappy citizens. When Nevada and Utah were designated for the project, a vigorous movement led by Citizen Alert developed in opposition. List reversed his position and other leaders joined him. After four years of grass roots resistance to the plan, a new President—Ronald Reagan—canceled the Nevada/Utah basing for the missile system.

By then, anti-nuclear forces in the state were well organized, aided by another nuclear issue that had run concurrently with MX—sloppy operation of the state's waste dump for low level nuclear and chemical wastes near Beatty. That state dump was shut down after repeated safety violations.

So when a proposal to put a dump for high-level nuclear wastes into the state at Yucca Mountain was advanced in the early 1980s, the opposition infrastructure was ready. A scientific competition between sites in three states was suddenly canceled in 1987, and Nevada alone was targeted, subverting the scientific aspect. That ignited a fury inside the state that gave powerful political support to state leaders who battled the dump, and they slowed progress on it to a crawl. The 1998 date for opening the dump came and went without notice. State government now had an agency that monitored nuclear projects. Citizen Alert was augmented by Citizens Against Nuclear Waste in Nevada.

Then, in 2005, Nevada's U.S. Sen. Harry Reid became the Democratic floor leader of the Senate. It gave the state more power with which to block the Yucca project, and Reid slowly brought the project to a *de facto* halt. When Barack Obama became president, he zeroed out the budget for the dump.

These successes were accompanied by a decline in the citizen activism that had been so much a part of the fight. With no in-state threats, like MX or Yucca, the opposition infrastructure has deteriorated. Within five years after Reid became floor leader in the Senate, Citizen Alert was gone. (Co-founder Orr died on Sept. 9.) Krane said the state should now get ready for efforts to test bombs by organizing Nevadans.

"The only way we're going to be able to significantly reduce ... the number of nuclear weapons, ideally eliminate them, is by mass movements," he said.

There is one indication that new testing would not be received without objection by an existing political group, though it is not specifically nuclear-oriented. Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada director Bob Fulkerson said, "We'd have to lead some direct action against it." *



Fires hurt pine nut harvest

By [Dennis Myers](mailto:dennism@newsreview.com) dennism@newsreview.com

Reno resident Patty Dickens told us last week, “I went to Save Mart looking for pine nuts to add to my stuffing for my tomorrow’s Thanksgiving dinner redux. The grocer said that fires and drought have destroyed this year’s potential harvest, but I could buy unshelled ones at Safeway for \$22 a pound.”

The pine nut harvests have already been troubled, and the fires added to a combination of difficulties facing harvesters, such as competition from Asian imports.

Pine nut crops may not be doing well in Nevada, either. Two years ago, Texas commercial harvester Dayer LeBaron told the Las Vegas Review-Journal, “There’s definitely something going on. Being in these mountains for 40 years, I’ve seen it with my own eyes. I know something’s going on.”

The fruits of Nevada pine nuts, previously known for their fullness, have been shrinking, and so have the number of commercial harvesters—LeBaron was one of six left in 2016, and he predicted then that number would continue falling.

In fact, there was no commercial harvest in Nevada this year. The auction at which commercial harvesters bid to take pine nuts from marked sections of forest fell flat, according to Bureau of Land Management lead forester Coreen Francis, who said, “There were no bidders because there were very few pine nuts anywhere to be found.”

She said there are “high years and low years” in the supply.

In 2016, the commercial auction held in Ely attracted six harvesters who paid \$31,625 to take up to 126,500 pounds of pine nuts from 11 areas in eastern Nevada, the RJ reported that year.

The pine nuts have an important history in Nevada. A staple of tribal diets in the 1800s, the arrival of whites in the Great Basin put pressure on the supply, both because whites started harvesting them, too, and because the invention of square set timbering for mines by Comstock engineer Philip Deidesheimer in 1860 caused swaths of the Sierra to be denuded of trees.

Supplies fluctuated as mining booms came and went, causing friction between whites and tribes, which eventually began marketing to whites around the West. In 1883, tribal shipments of pine nuts from Carson City on the Virginia and Truckee Railroad reached 75,000 pounds at a time when the harvest was believed to be only half finished, with San Franciscans a big market. (The sale of pine nuts may have benefited from a notion that they were good for lung trouble.)

But two years later, the New York Times reported, “The Piute Indians are said to be starving on their barren reservation in Nevada. ... Almost their sole means of subsistence has been pine nuts, fish from Pyramid Lake, and rabbits, latterly the only game on the reservation. Sarah Winnemucca, a member of the tribe, who lecture[d] in the East on the condition of the Piutes, and who is now spending a few days in this city, says: ‘My people are utterly destitute, and numbers of them are famishing in the snow.’”

Dickens, referring to the current difficulty obtaining pine nuts, said, “I wonder if this [is] the new normal and a sign of extinct wildlife, foods and living spaces that the human race is blindly and unapologetically accelerating.”

American Indian Reporter

DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE YOUR DIRECT DOWNLOAD LINK

<http://www.americanindianreporter.com/AIR-CurrentIssue.pdf>

OR

<http://www.americanindianreporter.com/downloads/back-issues/>

(some great book reviews)

American Indian Access to Department of Defense Facilities ... - DTIC

www.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a270648.pdf by RW Stoffle - 1993 - Related articles

Apr 19, 2018 - Lands Returned to Native American Groups 13 Congress set aside funds to be used to establish and support the program in fiscal year 1991 located within the Naval Weapons Center, China Lake, California. ... Access to military facilities is a particular area of concern for Native Americans.

Trump Administration OKs Seismic Tests That Could Harm Many Thousands of Dolphins, Whales

Darryl Fears, The Washington Post

Fears writes: "The Trump administration is preparing to take an important step toward future oil and natural-gas drilling off the Atlantic shore, approving five requests from companies to conduct deafening seismic tests that could kill tens of thousands of dolphins, whales and other marine animals." [READ MORE](#)

Jose Antonio Navas: Another Social Leader Killed in Colombia teleSUR

Excerpt: "The Campesino Association of Catatumbo (Ascamcat) in Colombia denounced Thursday the killing of the social leader Jose Antonio Navas. Like other social leaders and human rights defenders killed in Colombia in 2018, Jose Antonio was murdered by unknown gunmen who shot against him and fled. teleSUR has registered at least 178 murders this year alone." [READ MORE](#)

Scholarships with December 15-31 Deadlines

Burger King Scholars	Amount	\$1,000	12/15/2018
5 Strong Scholarship		\$50,000	12/31/2018
AAG's Do Something Good Grant		\$1,500	12/31/2018
Agora Foundation Scholarship for Change		\$1,000	12/31/2018
AMWA Haffizulla Family Scholarship		\$1,000	12/31/2018
Annual Prayer Soup Scholarship		\$1,500	12/31/2018
Apprentice Ecologist Open Space Initiative		\$500	12/31/2018
Apprentice Ecologist Scholarship		\$1,000	12/31/2018
Carson Scholars Fund, Inc.		\$1,000	12/20/2018

Civil Air Patrol Academic Scholarships	\$2,500	12/31/2018
Civil Air Patrol Col Mary Feik Cadet Flight Scholarship	Varies	12/31/2018
Civil Air Patrol Flight Scholarships	Varies	12/31/2018
Civil Air Patrol SPAATZ Association Aerospace Leadership Scholarship	Varies	12/31/2018
Committee 14 - Yards & Terminals Scholarship	\$1,500	12/22/2018
Competitive Gaming Essay Scholarship	\$1,500	12/31/2018
CouponSurf Entrepreneurs Scholarship	\$1,000	12/31/2018
CSU Sustainability Scholarship	\$1,500	12/31/2018
Dina Reis Film & Media Scholarship	\$1,000	12/22/2018
Free Speech Essay Contest	\$10,000	12/31/2018
Geri Wolff Scholarship For Women in Computer Science or Design Degrees		
	\$2,000	12/31/2018
Greenhouse Scholars Scholarship	\$20,000	12/17/2018
Hellenic Professional Society of Texas	Varies	12/31/2018
Leadership Speech Contest	\$5,500	12/31/2018
Linly Heflin Scholarship	\$20,000	12/31/2018
Minority Scholarship in Classics and Classical Archaeology	\$4,500	12/16/2018
NATA Business Scholarship	\$2,500	12/30/2018
National Defense Science & Engineering Graduate Fellowship	Varies	12/18/2018
National WWII Museum Student Essay Contest - Middle & High School		
	\$1,000	12/28/2018
Next Generation Teacher Scholarship	\$30,000	12/31/2018
NRA Civil Rights Defense Fund Youth Essay Contest	\$1,000	12/31/2018
Pioneers of Flight Scholarship	\$1,000	12/30/2018
Reading Community Singers Music Scholarship	\$1,000	12/31/2018
Rebekah Assembly of Texas Irma Gesche Scholarship	\$1,000	12/31/2018
Richard L. Taylor Flight Training Scholarship	\$1,500	12/31/2018
Take Care of Texas Video Contest	\$2,500	12/16/2018
The James Davidson Innovative Student Scholarship	\$600	12/21/2018
The Outstanding Achiever Award	\$50,000	12/16/2018
William B. Ruggles Journalist Scholarship	\$2,000	12/31/2018 ;lk

DECEMBER 2018

1. GIVE SOMEONE A HUG OR COMPLIMENT	2. LET SOMEONE IN FRONT OF YOU IN LINE	3. BUY A FRIEND OR COLLEAGUE COFFEE	4. HOLD THE DOOR OPEN FOR SOMEONE	5. GIVE A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE YOUR FULL ATTENTION
6. DONATE A CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO A CHARITY	7. TELL A JOKE TO MAKE SOMEONE SMILE	8. DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	9. HIDE A HAPPY NOTE FOR SOMEONE TO FIND	10. DONATE UNWANTED BOOKS TO CHARITY
11. TAPE SOME MONEY ON A VENDING MACHINE	12. SMILE AT A STRANGER OR 2, OR 15	13. GET IN TOUCH WITH AN OLD FRIEND OR RELATIVE	14. LET A CAR IN FRONT OF YOU IN TRAFFIC	15. WRITE OR SEND A THANK YOU NOTE TO SOMEONE
16. SMILE AND THANK SOMEONE WHO SERVES YOU	17. TELL SOMEONE YOU LOVE THEM	18. PAY FOR A STRANGER'S COFFEE	19. OFFER TO HELP SOMEONE	20. FEED ANIMALS (BIRDS, DEER, ETC.)
21. DONATE UNWANTED CLOTHES TO CHARITY	22. DO SOMETHING UNEXPECTED FOR SOMEONE	23. GIVE A TREAT TO YOUR POSTAL CARRIER	24. DO SOMETHING KIND FOR YOURSELF	25. REFLECT AND RECORD HOW MUCH JOY THIS SEASON BROUGHT YOU

ADVENT OF KINDNESS

