

Journal #4455 from sdc 7.8.19

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While we breathe, we will hope.

~ Barack Obama



First up: petroglyph-palooza (from travelzoo.com by Elisabeth Barker)

In the predawn hours, before most of the casinogoers had called it a night, I set off on my first adventure: a trip to [Grapevine Canyon](#), home to a fabled rock art collection and desert spring just a few miles outside town. Shortly after the turnoff, my Jeep was snaking around sand dunes and sagebrush as the morning's first light began to spill over the surrounding peaks.

The tallest, Spirit Mountain, has been sacred to a lengthy succession of indigenous people, whose handiwork came into view as the sun rose. Among the petroglyphs they had created over the last millennium or so were figures both discernible (the ancestors of the bighorn sheep that still roam this little oasis) and mysterious (possible gods or aliens, depending on your belief system).

It doesn't take long to see why this site is on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places—even the boulders near the entrance are petroglyph-covered—but if you're so inclined (and an early riser), you can do a 3.6-mile hike into the canyon, where more petroglyphs and a waterfall await. Yet as happy as I was hiking through the desert and scanning for rock art, I had a river to run back to in Laughlin.

[Wealthy Hampton Homeowners Are Trying to Suppress Tribal Sovereignty](#)

MARY ANNETTE PEMBER, TRUTHOUT

The Shinnecock Nation's decision to erect two electronic billboards on their sovereign land has angered the wealthy who own homes in the Hamptons in New York but have long ignored their Indigenous neighbors. The billboards will bring in much-needed income for the Shinnecock, who live below the federal poverty line and in close proximity to billionaires who have repeatedly thwarted other economic development projects proposed by the tribe. [Read the Article →](#)

The up-to-date status of the return of lands to the Maidu Summit Consortium.

PG&E owns land across California. What will happen to it?

[https://www.sfchronicle.com/travel/article/PG-E-owns-land-across-California-What-will-14028654.php?utm_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20\(Premium\)&utm_source=share-by-email&utm_medium=email](https://www.sfchronicle.com/travel/article/PG-E-owns-land-across-California-What-will-14028654.php?utm_campaign=CMS%20Sharing%20Tools%20(Premium)&utm_source=share-by-email&utm_medium=email)

The utility is one of the largest private landowners in California, with holdings worth billions of dollars that encompass an area more than four times the size of San Francisco. With the utility in bankruptcy, we're about to find out where all that land is going to go.

The Declaration of Independence Is Sexist, Racist, Prejudiced

MATTHEW ROZSA, SALON

Without the Declaration of Independence, every social justice movement that has followed would never have come to pass. Yet, despite its overwhelmingly positive impact on history, the Declaration was also a product of its time -- and bears some of the shortcomings of its era, including sexism, racism and prejudice against Native Americans. [Read the Article →](#)

Fund Head Start, Not Internment Camps

KENIA ALCOGER, OURFUTURE

Members of the House Budget Committee could decide, for example, that it's more important to put children into Head Start than into migrant jails. Last year, one of the corporations that operates migrant jails got \$234 million to buy beds for children. With that money, we could instead fund Head Start for more than 26,000 children. [Read the Article →](#)

Tree Planting 'Has Mind-Blowing Potential' to Tackle Climate Crisis

Damian Carrington, Guardian UK

Carrington writes: "Planting billions of trees across the world is by far the biggest and cheapest way to tackle the climate crisis, according to scientists, who have made the first calculation of how many more trees could be planted without encroaching on crop land or urban areas."

[READ MORE](#)

Golden eagles hatch in a California park for the first time in decades

by AKALib

[Wildfires sweep across the Arctic circle; seventy percent of soil carbon could be lost by 2100.](#) [by Pakalolo](#)

[FOCUS: The Supreme Court Is One Vote Away From Changing How the US Is Governed](#)



Jeannie Suk Gersen, The New Yorker

Gersen writes: "We are now explicitly on notice that the Court will likely abandon its longstanding tolerance of Congress delegating broadly to agencies." [READ MORE](#)

Watch Marine Dance At Iowa Tribal Pow Wow **Posted by [Toyacoyah Brown](#)**

The 29th Annual Iowa Tribal Powwow took place in Perkins, Oklahoma the weekend of June 20th-22nd.

[Hugh Foley](#) attended the pow wow and captured this video of Lance Corporal Trey Iron dancing in his dress blues uniform.

From YouTube: The record should show that this Marine (Lance Corporal Marland Trey Kent) was honored and respected for his participation in the Iowa Powwow, to include carrying out the American flag in the Grand Entry on Friday, June 20, 2014. Not only that, he is dancing with his father, Vincent Kent, who was also active duty at the time, and who wrote to this channel: "The only thing that needs to be known is that is a father and son next to each other, not just a random guy. Both active duty at the time it was shot. Corporal Vincent Kent (combat veteran) with Lance Corporal Marland Trey Kent. This is also a changing of the guard, Native American style. That is the story we are telling in our dancing we crossed paths just once with myself in front and with son behind me, and then I turned to let him lead the rest of the way). We did not

practice this dance because we are both straight dancers from the Ponca War Dance Society. That's how come he busted a move like he did!" [Read More](#)



Shoshone Flag Song

vimeo.com

This is "Shoshone Flag Song" by McKay School of Education on Vimeo,...

Solar Panel Farm Grows 17,000 Tons Of Food Without Soil, Pesticides, Fossil Fuels Or Groundwater

dailyhealthpost.com

What will be left when we're gone? Bones, plastic, and radioactive waste.

KATE YODER

Australian Aboriginals to get billions in compensation for land & spiritual loss in landmark case

[rt.com](#)

The Quake to Make Los Angeles a Radioactive Dead Zone

British Doctors May Soon Prescribe Art, Music, Dance, Singing Lessons

smithsonianmag.com

[Jamie Astor](#)

To the Asshole who came out to my lake to celebrate their holiday, let off fireworks, have aBBQ... u left ur trash, which doesn't disappear just cuz u left it in the bushes...no I'm having to pick up ur shit n throw it out cuz I respect my lake and my land. Next time have more respect. Ur welcome.
[#pickurshitup](#) — at [Pyramid Lake](#).

Janet Davis is with Loni Romo and Nelli Burns .

Spent most of this morning out on the beaches, starting at Popcorn. Thanks to [Nelli Burns](#) for organizing this clean up crew. We were joined by Krista & Arin Wasson, [Loni Romo](#) and Zillie. It was disheartening to see what was left on the beaches, can honestly say we left with heavy hearts.

Especially when campers were packing up without a care in the world and fireworks were still littering the beaches. Is it really worth all the money in the world to see this happening to our lake? Our Council needs to figure out how to regulate and restrict if this venture absolutely needs to continue.



The Quake to Make Los Angeles a Radioactive Dead Zone

Harvey Wasserman, Reader Supported News

Wasserman writes: "Had Friday's 7.1 earthquake and other ongoing seismic shocks hit less than 200 miles northwest of Ridgecrest/China Lake, ten million people in Los Angeles would now be under an apocalyptic cloud, their lives and those of the state and nation in radioactive ruin."

[READ MORE](#)

372 in 1890 to 243 in 1930. As a proportion of the population, blacks dropped from 0.2% in 1890 to a minuscule 0.03% by 1930. In South Dakota the decline was from 0.16% to 0.09%, in Montana from 1.13% to 0.23%. Six counties in Nebraska that had 20 to 50 African Americans each in 1890 had just 1 to 8 by 1930; at the same time, Omaha and Lincoln doubled in black population. Wyoming, the "equality state," had the largest proportion of African Americans in any of these states—1.52% in 1890, its year of statehood—but by 1930, blacks were only 0.55% of its population. Utah's blacks likewise decreased as a proportion of the population, and those who remained beat a retreat to Salt Lake and Weber (Ogden) Counties; by 1930, 88% of the state's African Americans lived in those two counties.

Again, these declines were hardly voluntary. We have already seen how, especially in the West, expulsions and prohibitions have been directed not only at African Americans, but also at Chinese Americans and sometimes others. Indeed, western locales established a bewildering variety of rules. Some towns in the West excluded Native Americans but not Chinese Americans. Minden and Gardnerville are adjoining towns south of Carson City, Nevada. In the 1950s, and probably for many years prior, a whistle sounded at 6 p.m., audible in both towns, to warn American Indians to be gone by sundown. William Jacobsen Jr., an anthropologist who lived in Gardnerville in 1955, says it worked: "Indians made themselves scarce." A Chinese American family didn't have to leave. On the other hand, Esmeralda County, two counties to the southeast, allowed black residents but not Chinese. Meanwhile Fallon, Nevada, had a big sign at the railroad depot that said "No Niggers or Japs allowed," and the newspaper in Rawhide, Nevada, bragged in 1908 that "Dagoes" from southern Europe, as well as African Americans, "have been kindly but friendly [*sic*] informed to move on."⁷⁴

South Pasadena, a sundown suburb of Los Angeles, let in Native Americans while keeping out Mexican and Asian Americans. Historian Fred Rolater relates how Professor Manuel Servin at the University of Southern California became the first Mexican American to break the taboo, in about 1964. Servin bought the Loomis House, a historic mansion. South Pasadena thought he was Native American, which was OK; "what the city did not know," Rolater went on to point out, was that his family was from Mexico and had come to the United States in the 1920s. "Thus the anti-Mexican restrictive covenant was broken by a Ph.D. American Indian who happened to be Mexican."⁷⁵

Other California towns also kept out Mexican Americans, including

James

Lorien.

Making Sure the Census Counts Indian Country

By [Jourdan Bennett-Begaye](#), [Indian Country Today](#) July 4, 2019

It was easy to miss an important case from the Supreme Court last week. There were a lot of folks waiting for that [last-minute decision](#) from the [Murphy case](#) looking at the reservation status of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

But just as important: How the country counts the population.

The Supreme Court ruled last week in the *New York v. United States Department of Commerce* case to keep the citizenship question off of the Census forms in 2020. Tuesday afternoon the Trump administration announced it would print census forms without the citizenship question.

Vanita Gupta, president and CEO of The Leadership Conference Education Fund, said: “The people have spoken, the courts have spoken, and finally, the Trump administration has conceded — there will be no 2020 Census citizenship question.”

“Now we double down on the work to ensure a fair and accurate count. We remain particularly committed to ensuring that hard-to-count communities, especially those understandably fearful of this administration’s motives, take part in the next census,” said Gupta. “Through our Census Counts campaign, and alongside our allies, we will stay focused on making sure everyone is counted so that all of our country’s communities get the representation and resources they deserve.”

Oliver “OJ” Semans, Rosebud Sioux and executive director of Four Directions, is involved in one of the four cases opposing the citizenship question on the Census. He is listed as an individual plaintiff in the *La Union Del Pueblo Entero v. Ross* case in the Maryland court. There is no rush on his case anymore.

Semans said it was a “proper” decision made by the Supreme Court.

The justices decided to kick the case back to the lower courts because the government didn’t give a strong enough reason for why the question needed to be added in the first place. The case is a matter of discriminatory action now.

Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the majority opinion and said there is a “disconnect between the decision made and the explanation given” by the Trump administration.

Wilbur Ross, commerce secretary, who supervises the Census Bureau, gave the greenlight to add the question last year. Ross said the question would enforce the Voting Rights Act. The act was passed in 1965 and the citizenship question hasn’t appeared on the Census forms since.

The Supreme Court needed to make a decision before July 1 so the 1.5 billion Census forms and mailings could be printed.

As of yesterday, the printing did not start. [NPR reported](#) that the census materials “did not appear to have been officially approved by the White House’s Office of Management and Budget.”

However, little does mainstream media (and some of Indian Country) understand or know that tribal citizens do get confused about the citizenship question, too.

Semans does know. He said Indian Country is “unaware” of how a citizenship question on the 2020 Census could cause harm to Native communities.

If the citizenship question were to be included Semans said it “will result in a larger undercount from previous Census.”

“The main reason our organization, Four Directions, and me personally became involved is our work in Indian Country, in the U.S., we have come into situations over and over where tribal members identify their citizenship with their tribal nations and not the United States,” he said. “We thought it was very important to have the court distinguish that citizen question because of that.”

His organization has been involved heavily in voting rights coalition since [2004](#). They traveled around the country to different communities in Indian Country and heard the same questions and concerns about the citizenship question.

Seman said Indian Country is already undercounted from the last Census and it “adversely affected tribal governments funding.”

The Census Bureau reported an undercount of American Indians in the last three Censuses. In 1990, there was a 12.2 percent undercount of American Indians on reservations, a 0.7 percent undercount in 2000, and a 4.9 percent undercount in the 2010 Census.

Not being counted hurts Indian Country, Semans said.

“Basically for every person that is not counted in Indian Country, you can put the amount of \$3,000 on each person,” he said. “If they identify themselves as a citizenship of their tribal nations and that is on there, it’s really going to be hard. It’s going to cost us more as far as tribes, tribal housing and transportation, health services so that’s the main reason why we decided that we need to be part of this.”

The majority of the funding comes from the treaty obligation but the government uses the Census data to determine how much money that is, Semans said.

Kitcki Carroll, executive director of the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., asked the executive committee of the National Congress of American Indians at the organization’s [mid-](#)

[year meeting](#), why tribal nations should participate in a process that is race based when tribal nations are sovereign nations and political entities.

Semans agrees.

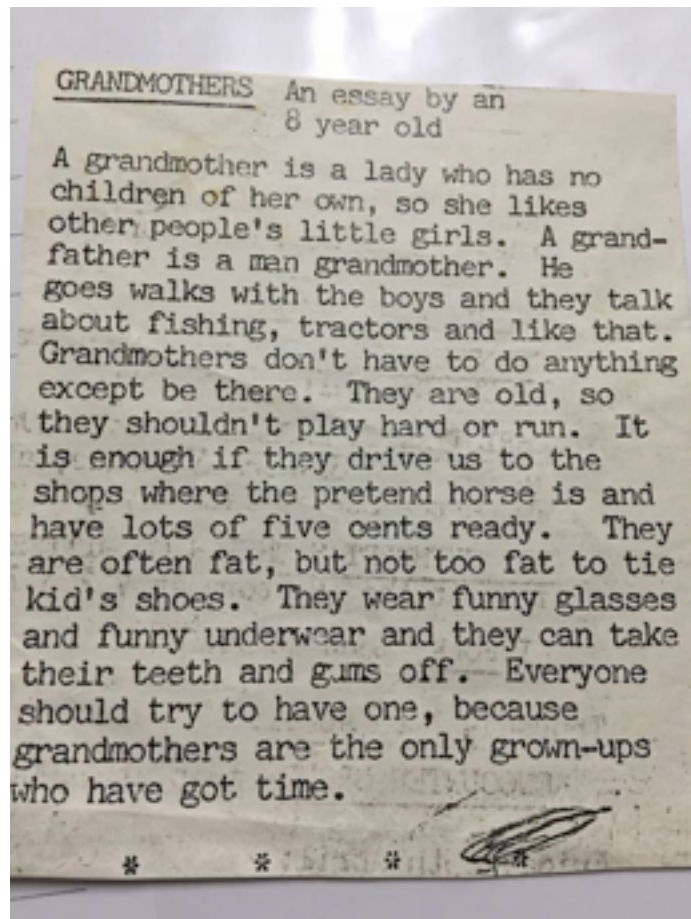
“That type of attitude is correct,” Semans said. “We’re nations that have been created by treaties.”

On top of the citizenship question, Indian Country faces the hurdles of being one of the hard-to-count populations and not trusting the government at all.

The decennial census helps the government how the \$900 billion should be allocated across the country.

President Donald J. Trump is hoping to delay the Census.

“Seems totally ridiculous that our government, and indeed Country, cannot ask a basic question, of Citizenship in a very expensive, detailed and important Census, in this case for 2020,” he tweeted. “Can anyone really believe that as a great Country, we are not able the ask whether or not someone is a Citizen. Only in America!”



While everyone is asking why such a question should be added, the [Brennan Center for Justice](#) thinks the move may have “political motives.”

The center says those who want the question included on the Census forms may want to change the apportionment of congressional seats and they want to “meddle in the next round of redistricting.”

The Census data is used to help redraw district lines so the number of congressional seats matches the population correctly.

The first count is set to start in January in Toksook Bay, Alaska.

157 Republicans Just Opposed Renewing The Violence Against Women Act

[huffpost.com](https://www.huffpost.com)