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Robert "Bob" Hunter



Project 562



July 30 at 3:40 PM ·

One of my favorite shots from canoe journey this year. It's always an epic feeling to watch dozens of canoes paddle up to our shores. I feel grateful that I am among the generation that gets to know this cultural revolution. That we are the descendants of people who



refused to let canoe culture go to sleep. We are the generation that gets to see this awaken. For that, I will always be grateful.

“Three thousand years ago, there was a human just like you and me who lived near a city surrounded by mountains. The human was studying to become a medicine man, to learn the knowledge of his ancestors, but he didn't completely agree with everything he was learning. In his heart, he felt there must be something more. :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: One day, as he slept in a cave, he dreamed that he saw his own body sleeping. He came out of the cave on the night of a new moon. The sky was clear, and he could see millions of stars. Then something happened inside of him that transformed his life forever. He looked at his hands, he felt his body, and he heard his own voice say, “I am made of light; I am made of stars.” :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: :: He looked at the stars again, and he realized that it's not the stars that create light, but rather light that creates the stars. “Everything is made of light,” he said, “and the space in-between isn't empty.” And he knew that everything that exists is one living being, and that light is the messenger of life, because it is alive and contains all information. + We love this magical place. Just like we love your shine.

Indigenous Groups Applaud Return of Grizzly Bear to Endangered Species List

JULIA CONLEY, COMMON DREAMS

Native tribes and their supporters on Friday defended their push for the continued inclusion of the grizzly bear of Yellowstone National Park on the endangered species list. The bear was officially returned to the list created by the Endangered Species Act on Tuesday, nearly a year after a federal judge found that the Trump administration had exceeded its authority when it attempted to remove the species.

[Read the Article →](#)

Minnesota town makes do without being connected to power grid

Mike Hughlett, Star Tribune staff

SKIBO, Minn. - Television time is restricted in David Fondie's house. Surfing the internet has time limits, too.

That's because the remote Iron Range hamlet where he lives has no electricity — at least not the conventional kind. Fondie must fire up a generator to produce his own power, as does everybody in Skibo. The town is not connected to the grid.

"My son is in college and he tries to explain to his buddies why we don't have power," said Fondie, who lives in Skibo with his wife and daughter. "How can that be?" is their reaction. The lines just don't go that far."

Skibo, tucked into the Superior National Forest, is home to at least 20 residents, though all but four are seasonal, said Joe Fondie, David's dad and a sort of de facto mayor of the unincorporated town, which is in the service territory of Lake Country Power.

Cooperatives such as Grand Rapids-based Lake Country brought electricity to the American countryside beginning in the 1930s, stringing wires to sparsely populated places where for-profit utilities feared to tread.

But while data on the topic is hard to find, Lake Country CEO Greg Randa said there are still several rural nooks in Minnesota like Skibo that were never connected.

"We serve a lot of little crossroad junctions," said Randa.

Lake Country is owned by its 43,000 customers spread over eight counties. But Skibo was always too far and too small to economically justify electric service from Lake Country and its predecessor co-op.

It would cost at least \$1 million to string the 16-mile power line needed to serve Skibo, Randa said. "We wouldn't ask for [Skibo residents] to pay for it all, but we have to make sure existing members don't subsidize it."

Railroad beginnings

The Fondies hoped that a recent Canadian National Railway project near Skibo — which required a grid hookup — would finally bring them full-time power.

"We thought it was a foregone conclusion we'd get connected," said Joe Fondie.

Yet while an underground power cable now snakes along the rail tracks right through Skibo, it is Canadian National's private electrical network.

Skibo owes its existence to the old Duluth and Iron Range Railroad, created in the late 1800s to serve Minnesota's then nascent iron mining industry. The town was named for Skibo Castle in Scotland, an ancient estate bought by Andrew Carnegie after the Scotsman became king of the American steel industry.

In Carnegie's day, railway workers in Skibo did nearby track maintenance. Steam engines stopped for water. Passengers came and went at Skibo's little rail station. The town, for a time, even had a post office, a small school and a sawmill. That's all long gone.

But the railroad is still busy. Six to eight trains brimming with taconite pellets barrel through Skibo each day on their way to Two Harbors. Joe Fondie gets a panoramic view of them through his kitchen window.

Canadian National decided that connecting with Lake Country in Skibo was too expensive. Part of its operations, though, are in another utility's territory, so the railroad effectively ran a miles-long extension cord down its tracks.

Skibo residents don't have the same option, both because of the money it would take and the fact that none of the village falls outside Lake Country's service territory.

Powering up

A native of nearby Aurora, Fondie, 73, started building his compound in Skibo in 1980 and moved there full-time in 1993 with his wife, Diane. They have a 4,000-square-foot home — its interior lushly paneled in pine and spruce — and several outbuildings.

The Fondies worked around the power problem. While Joe was employed as a financial controller at several companies, he's also a tinkerer with electrical know-how, once owning an Aurora company that made electronic parts.

At first, Fondie tried to illuminate his Skibo home with gas lights (powered by propane). That lasted until gas leaked and a cabinet caught fire. Now, he has a 12,000-watt diesel generator and bank of 84 industrial-grade lead-acid batteries.

It cost Fondie nearly \$5,000 a year to fuel the generator, so he invested about \$6,000 in a 15-panel solar array. Sun power cut his diesel fuel bill to less than \$1,000.

But the system has its limits. The clothes washer is run only on sunny days. The refrigerator, another power-sucker, operates on propane — an inferior technology, the Fondies said. Joe has a big mechanical shop, but his electricity often comes up short for welding.

"And if the power goes out, we have to fix it," said Diane Fondie.

Joe and Diane have the Rolls-Royce power system in town. Most electrical setups are more like David Fondie's.

He's got a 3,000-watt gasoline-powered generator and four backups; generators go out a lot and they're particularly finicky in winter, said David, who works at a taconite plant in Silver Bay. He has two marine batteries, which are used to run his water pump and to charge cellphones (plus a booster to even get phone service). Otherwise, the electricity is on only when the generator is running.

"We are running it for lights and TV and a heat bulb for the chickens," said David, referring to his hen house.

Electricity rolls by

Joe Fondie had asked Lake Country Power on and off for years about a grid connection.

Then in 2016, the Canadian National decided to build a new signal system between the Iron Range and Two Harbors. The project called for several 6- by 6-foot signal houses along the track, including three in Lake Country Power's service territory and one on Minnesota Power's turf.

The railroad asked Lake Country about running a line to Skibo for the signal houses. Such a project would have also allowed Lake Country to finally serve Skibo residents at a reasonable cost, Randa said. But Canadian National balked at the price tag.

Instead, it built an in-house electrical network for its signal stations, including its own underground line that extended right up to a Minnesota Power pole not far from Hoyt Lakes.

Lake Country filed a complaint with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC), accusing Minnesota Power of violating state service territory rules. Minnesota Power argued that Canadian National had a choice because the railroad's facilities straddle two power service areas.

The PUC earlier this year dismissed Lake Country's complaint against Minnesota Power, saying the railroad can transfer electricity from one utility's service area to another on its own private network for its own use.

Joe Fondie walks over Canadian National's underground power line when he crosses the tracks to visit his son — a regular reminder of Skibo's lack of electric service.

Fondie said the PUC should have stipulated that since Canadian National ran a line through Skibo, the railroad should give local residents access to electricity. But the PUC says it doesn't have regulatory authority over railroads, and it's unclear whether state law would allow such a resale of electricity.

The Fondies seem resigned to life off the grid. They chose to live in Skibo, and they love the area for its wide-open spaces and fishing, hunting and snowmobiling grounds.

Still, Joe has taken out a power insurance policy of sorts. From 1993 to 2011, he was a full-time Skibo resident. But after he retired in 2009, he built a second house in Aurora, about a dozen miles away and connected to the grid.

Maintaining his Skibo compound's elaborate power system "is like a full-time job."

"I am getting older, and in case something happens, I don't want [Diane] to get stuck with this," he said.

- Departments of Health and Human Services and Education released a joint policy brief on the use of technology with young children to help families and early educators use technology to promote active, engaged, meaningful, and socially interactive learning. The American Academy of Pediatrics suggest for children younger than 18 months to avoid use of screen media other than video-chatting. Parents of children 18-24 months of age who want to introduce digital media should choose high quality programming, and watch it with their children to help them understand what they're seeing. For children ages 2-5 years, one hour of technology use is appropriate per day, inclusive of time spent at home and in early learning settings and across devices. Another great resource for families is [Common Sense Media](#).

Native American Children's Literature Recommended Reading List - For information click [here](#). For additional information on the [American Indians in Children's Literature website](#) [click here](#).

Healthy Native Youth - Raising Healthy Native Youth Through Culturally Relevant Health Education. For information check the [website](#).

GrantStation

September 13 Deadline - 10 Luce Indigenous Knowledge Fellowships. 12 month self-directed enrichment program to support growth, development, knowledge, and networks on Indigenous knowledge holders and knowledge makers. For more information click [here](#).

National Opportunities

Support for Efforts to Adapt to Extreme Events in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico

The Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) facilitates collaboration and public participation to foster conservation, protection, and enhancement of the North American environment.

Skatepark Construction in Low-Income Communities Funded

The Tony Hawk Foundation is dedicated to promoting the construction of new, quality skateparks located in low-income communities throughout the United States.

Grants Encourage Innovative Projects to Enhance the Lives of Young Children

The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood supports nonprofit organizations throughout the United States that offer programs that will significantly enhance the development, health, safety, education, or quality of life of children from infancy through seven years of age.

Basic Needs Programs in the U.S., East Africa, and Central America Supported

Jewish Helping Hands' *Tikkun Olam* Grant Program is intended to advance the goal of inspiring and supporting tzedakah, justice, and righteousness throughout the world.

Regional Opportunities

Funds Promote Employment Options for Floridians With Disabilities

The Able Trust is a key leader in providing Floridians with disabilities opportunities for successful employment.

Grants Engage Colorado Arts Organizations in Social Challenges

The RedLine Contemporary Art Center fosters education and engagement between artists and communities to create positive social change.

Support for Social Change Groups in Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina

The Fund for Southern Communities supports nonprofit organizations working to create just and sustainable communities that are free of oppression and that embrace and celebrate all people.

Health Equity Efforts in Kansas Funded

The mission of the Kansas Health Foundation is to improve the health of all Kansans.

Federal Opportunities

Funds Support Health Coverage for Native Children

The Connecting Kids to Coverage HEALTHY KIDS American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) program seeks to increase the enrollment and retention of American Indian and Alaska Native children who are eligible for, but not enrolled in, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Apprenticeship Programs Supported

The Apprenticeships: Closing the Skills Gap program seeks to promote apprenticeships as a significant workforce solution in filling current middle- and high-skilled job vacancies and closing the skills gap between employer workforce needs and the skills of the current workforce.

Additional:

[Lois Lenski Covey Foundation](#)

The Lois Lenski Covey Foundation is dedicated to advancing literacy and fostering a love of reading among underserved and at-risk children and youth. The Foundation's Bookmobile Grants support bookmobile programs throughout the U.S. that serve children from disadvantaged populations. [Learn more](#) about the funding guidelines and application process.

[Cummings Foundation](#)

The Cummings Foundation's \$20 Million Grant Program supports nonprofit organizations in Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk counties in Massachusetts that address human services, education, healthcare, and social justice. The Foundation will identify 125 organizations to receive grants of at least \$100,000 each. [Learn more](#) about the funding guidelines and application process.

[Alberta Blue Cross: Healthy Communities Grant Program](#)

The Alberta Blue Cross Healthy Communities Grant Program provides support to help Albertans build spaces for active living in their communities. Grants of \$50,000 are made to support infrastructure projects that foster active living. [Learn more](#) about the funding guidelines and application process.



[Black Oak Wilderness School](#)

Teens learn to navigate the world with awareness, mindfulness, and confidence. Through wilderness survival and traditional skills education, young adults work together in community and as individuals to achieve goals beyond what they can imagine.

Becoming an adult has always been a trying process and can be overwhelming for teens who are not prepared to enter independence with confidence. This full school year program meets every other week on Wednesdays, and one full weekend... [See More](#)

WED, AUG 7 AND 43 MORE

[Fox Walkers- Teen Rites of Passage Program](#)

[Get Tickets](#)

Patrice la Mariana

I remember marching on Inauguration Day with a sign that said

“Some people will not survive this administration”

I never dreamed it would include forests, trees, places of beauty and the environment.

Event was in March but no press til now.....

Sherry Smokey was honored this spring for her efforts on behalf of the Washoe Tribe as a historical woman of importance. firstnationsfocus.com

Sherry Smokey (Washoe Tribe) honored by Carson Valley museum



Powhatan and his people: The 15,000 American Indians shoved aside by Jamestown's settlers

As Jamestown marks the 400th anniversary of representative government and the arrival of the first enslaved Africans, Powhatan's descendants worry their place in its history is being overlooked.

Read in The Washington Post: https://apple.news/AgwHjrQv2TEyinV4BE_Nozw

Facilitator to aid Interior on water talks

By Herald News, 8/3/19

A coalition aimed at bringing multiple parties together to discuss the future of water resources in the Klamath Basin is hiring an additional facilitator to help with the effort. Alan Mikkelsen, senior advisor to the Secretary of the Interior on water and western resource issues, said Friday he is continuing to take part in the so-called "Coalition of the Willing" meetings in addition to the facilitator. Mikkelsen met with the coalition at the building housing the Bureau of Land Management office in Medford on July 30 and 31.

Tribes continue testing for cyanotoxins

By Lake County Record-Bee, 8/3/19

CLEAR LAKE — The latest testing of the waters of Clear Lake by the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians and the Elem Indian Colony found concerning levels of toxic cyanobacteria in six locations in the Lower Lake arm of the lake, as the County of Lake reported this week. Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, is a naturally occurring bacteria that contains cyanotoxins, which are harmful in high concentrations to humans and animals. Big Valley Pomo Environmental Director Sarah Ryan, who has been involved with the tribe's methodical cyanobacteria testing program since its inception in 2014, said the current testing levels aren't remarkably high, but are notable for their appearance all at once.

An activist bought 4.5 acres of the L.A. River just to have a stake in its revitalization

By Los Angeles Times, 8/5/19

An official with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers once told Steven Appleton that there were no more frogs in Frogtown. It was the kind of offhanded comment that made Appleton — as close as there is to a steward of Frogtown's amphibians — wish for a cudgel to wake up feckless bureaucrats. Now, the Elysian Valley artist has obtained that cudgel. With \$15,000 from an anonymous donor, Appleton, who leads wading expeditions for frog-listening and rents kayaks for river tours, has purchased a piece of the Los Angeles River.

Politicians keep ignoring Native American voters. It's a huge mistake.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2019/08/05/politicians-keep-ignoring-native-american-voters-its-huge-mistake/?wpisrc=nl_popns&wpmm=1

This could absolutely be the waste disposal method of the future and we could find ourselves mining old landfills for fuel:

[Revolutionary Blast Furnace Creates Clean Energy By Vaporizing Trash Without Any Emissions](#) [disclose.tv](#)

[Respected Tribal Elder Gunned Down and Killed on His Property](#)

[nativenewsonline.net](#)

[Target's newest incubator program focuses on Generation Z entrepreneurs - StarTribune.com](#)

<http://www.startribune.com/target-s-newest-incubator-program-focuses-on-generation-z-entrepreneurs/514624232/>

[The battle over the Amazon has been turned into a Brazilian telenovela](#)

PAOLA ROSA-AQUINO

Why are so many Native Americans missing from the last census? Why it matters and what's being done now | INFORUM

<https://www.inforum.com/news/government-and-politics/4045555-Why-are-so-many-Native-Americans-missing-from-the-last-census-Why-it-matters-and-whats-being-done-now#.XUkIdoKJwH8.email>

[Report: 'No Evidence That Fracking Can Operate Without Threatening Public Health'](#)

Tara Lohan, The Revelator

Lohan writes: "The research has been piling up for years, and the verdict is clear: Fracking isn't safe." [READ MORE](#)

[Should U.S. Public Schools Eliminate Homework?](#)

ELEANOR J. BADER, TRUTHOUT

While schools in Finland have reduced daily homework or eliminated it completely, U.S. public schools have increased the volume of homework over the last several decades -- sometimes by as much as 51 percent. Yet, Finland ranks third in educational achievement to the U.S.'s 21st. This has given rise to a debate in the educational community over whether homework actually reinforces classroom learning or just exacerbates student stress and anxiety.

[Read the Article →](#)

IN MEMORY OF

ROBERT "BOB" HUNTER

January 28th, 1940 - August 1st, 2019

VIEWING SERVICE

Thursday, August 8th
5pm - 7pm

Walton's Chapel of the Valley
1281 North Roop Street
Carson City, NV

**For More Information
Contact**

Granddaughter Ondrea Zink
(229) 815-5847

FUNERAL SERVICE

Friday, August 9th
11am

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Gym
34 Reservation Road
Reno, NV

BURIAL TO FOLLOW AT

Lone Mountain Cemetery
1044 Beverly Drive
Carson City, NV

**POTLUCK RECEPTION
AFTER BURIAL**

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Gym

**FOOD DONATIONS
APPRECIATED**

