

Journal #4509 from sdc 9.20.19

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Video games can bring history back to life

Entrepreneurship and Identity: Building a Native Owned Business

Apply Now: Solar Panel Installers in Reno

'Not one more': Minn. leaders launch effort to find, protect Indigenous women

Heavy duty weekend think piece

Amazing Navajo basket weaver

Sally Black

<https://www.garlandsjewelry.com/collections/sally-black>

garlandsjewelry.com

Sally Black



COMING TOGETHER AFTER WATERS RECEDE



MEETING PLACE Crystal Norcross spoke to visitors at Fort Snelling State Park, which reopened Tuesday after months of flood-damage repair. The park sits at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers, known to the Dakota as *Bdote*, or “meeting place of rivers.”

Visitors return to Fort Snelling park in search of nature, healing

Story by MARY LYNN SMITH • Photo by GLEN STUBBE • Star Tribune staff

Tons of silt from this year’s flooding had to be removed from roads around Fort Snelling State Park, which reopened Tuesday.

The fishing was slow as William Crosby stood on the newly repaired pier at Fort Snelling State Park.

But it didn’t matter.

The south Minneapolis man was just happy to be back at the park, which reopened Tuesday amid sunny skies and 80-degree temperatures after being shut down for six months.

The state park, which attracts about 1 million visitors a year and is one of the busiest in Minnesota, closed in March when persistent spring flooding made much of it impassable and caused extensive damage. With most repairs done, bicyclists, hikers and those looking for a

picnic spot on a warm September day eagerly wandered the grounds and along the water 's edges. For Jim Bear Jacobs, it was good to be back on sacred ground — Bdote. Holding a shell filled with burning sage, the racial justice director for the Minnesota Council of Churches led a Healing Minnesota Stories tour group to the edge of the Mississippi River. It was here at this site — the confluence of Minnesota and Mississippi rivers — where 1,700 Dakota elders, women and children were imprisoned during the winter of 1862, he told the group. Hundreds died; those who survived were loaded up on cattle barges and forever banished from Minnesota, he said. “I’ve led more than 25 tours this year , but there was something missing,” he said, noting the tour’s absence from the grounds.

There’s a spiritual energy here, Jacobs said. “It good to touch the earth where our stories are held.”

Jacobs lightly touched a tree stump, deeply carved and scarred from barge ropes that had been tied there.

Barges also brought slaves to soldiers serving at Fort Snelling, explained Danny Givens, pastor of Above Every Name Ministries and the co-leader of the Healing Minnesota Stories tour.

Eventually, former slaves traveled upstream on rafts, searching for a new start in the North, said Givens, standing barefoot in the soft river sand.

For Givens and Jacobs, the stories are best told on the land where lives were altered.

Minutes earlier, assistant park manager Nick Bartels stood at the Visitor Center in front of media cameras and microphones, formally marking an end to the longest stretch of time the park has been closed due to flood damage since 2014, when it took about a month for cleanup and repairs.

This year, the rivers didn’t drop from flood stage until mid-June, leaving behind major damage. Sections of the park’s main road were washed away. The fishing pier on Snelling Lake was pushed 50 feet off its anchor posts and shoved into trees on shore. Trees were downed, trails and parking lots were covered in silt — 2 to 3 feet high in some places — and part of the water main dropped into the Minnesota River.

Park staff and others spent hundreds of hours restoring the grounds, rerouting the water main, clearing 850 cubic yards of silt and repairing the roads and trails. During that time, the park’s forced closure likely meant the loss of about 500,000 visitors and \$230,000 in revenue, Bartels said.

Although most of the cleanup and repair work is done, a few areas remain closed or partly closed.



Photos by GLEN STUBBE
glen.stubbe@startribune.com
Jim Bear Jacobs led a tour of
Bdote Tuesday for Healing
Minnesota Stories, which
works to foster
understanding between
American Indian and non-
native people. That
won't keep droves of people
from returning to a place that
some say feeds their soul.

Amid the green canopy, ash and oak trees are beginning to show their fall colors along rivers that are still high and flowing fast for this time of year. By the late Tuesday afternoon, 258 cars had passed through the park's gates — double the normal number for a weekday.

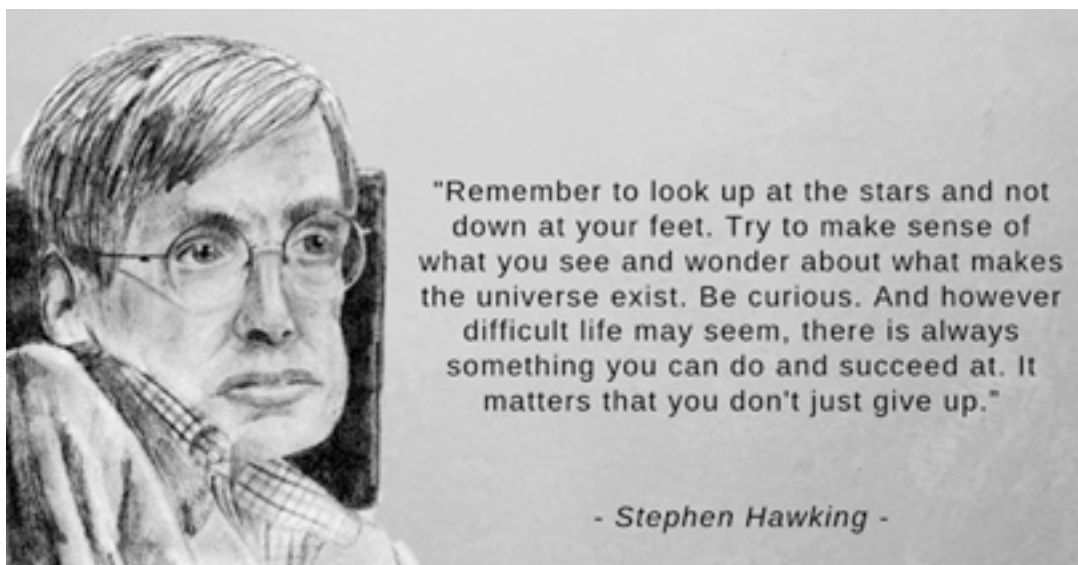
Steve Aller came by bike — a 5-mile trek from his St. Paul home. Despite the park's closure, he was among those who walked and biked through the park most of the summer, navigating around the debris and washouts. But on Tuesday, he brought his fishing pole for the first time this season, stopping at various fishing spots throughout the park.

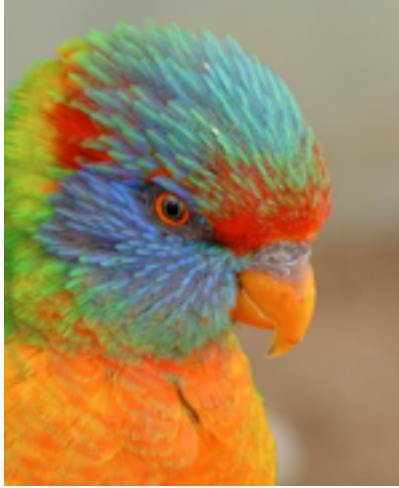
Like others who come to Fort Snelling, he revels in the feeling of seclusion while standing amid a natural landscape that offers glimpses of wildlife. "It's just a cattle drive at other parks," he said. "This is the nicest park in the city. You can get away from everything."

Back at the fishing pier, Crosby had packed up his gear with a promise that he would return the next day with his 6-year-old son after school was out. They'll come to fish but they'll take in all the sights — maybe turkeys or deer — that come with standing in the river watershed.

"My son loves it," he said.

Mary Lynn Smith • 612-673-4788The Tufted Coquette





Juvenile Rainbow Lorikeet (Trichoglossus moluccanus) in Australia by Stephen Alder. As Britt O'Leary pointed out this is a Hybrid of a Rainbow Lorikeet

and another species, probably a Musk Lorikeet. [I Love Birdwatching](#)

[North America has lost 29% of its birds since 1970, study finds. Experts blame habitat loss, pesticides, light pollution and cats.](#)

A massive study of bird populations, using decades of survey data as well as weather radar readings of migratory flocks, shows the United States and Canada have lost 3 billion birds in the past 50 years. The declines have hit sparrows, finches, warblers, thrushes, swallows and many other familiar groups. [Read more »](#)

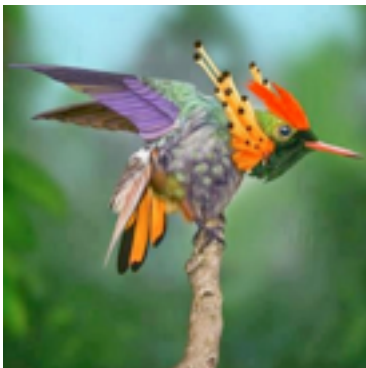
[Neonicotinoid Pesticides Have Caused a Huge Surge in the Toxicity of US Agriculture](#)

Tara Lohan and Dipika Kadaba, The Revelator

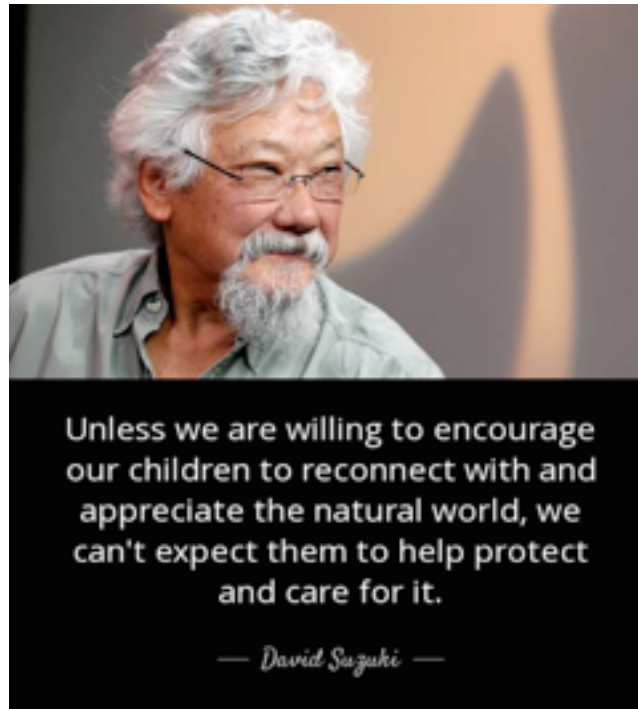
Excerpt: "Scientists are warning about a second Silent Spring after a new study found that U.S. agriculture is 48 times more toxic to insects than it was 20 years ago." [READ MORE](#)

Three billion birds have been lost in North America since 1970 Due to habitat loss, pesticides, and more, North America's springs are more silent than ever.

Read in National Geographic: <https://apple.news/AH4lgbjL2Sk-6irKHCzo9xg>



Lophormis ornatus



Water Shorts

WOTUS Rule Gone

The Trump administration [finalized the repeal](#) of an Obama-era rule that sought to clarify the scope of the Clean Water Act. Repealing the controversial rule will revert the definition of protected waters to determinations that were made in 1986.

Repealing the Obama-era rule is step one for the Trump administration in its attempt to restrict the protections provided by the nation's landmark water pollution law. The administration's second step is to write its own definition. The EPA and the Army Corps published a draft rule in December that will dramatically reduce the number of protected waterways, especially in the American West, where rivers that flow only in response to seasonal rains would not be covered. A less restrictive rule is a measure cheered by the farm lobby, energy companies, and developers. It would give those industries more leeway to pave over wetlands and discharge pollutants.

The administration's maneuvering is part of a decades-long battle over key phrases in the Clean Water Act that neither the Supreme Court nor Congress has adequately defined. The main question is what constitutes "waters of the United States?" Waters of the United States are protected, but the definition remains unsettled.

The Obama rule was subjected to legal challenges from state attorneys general and industry. Similarly, legal experts anticipate that the Trump administration's actions will also land in court.

EPA Water Reuse Plan

Encouraging the recycling and reuse of water and coordinating between sectors and agencies will be a federal government priority under a [draft plan](#) published by the EPA.

The plan provides examples of reuse and identifies potential sources, such as municipal treatment plants, oil and gas operations, and urban stormwater. It recommends 46 actions, including data collection to understand downstream consequences of increased reuse, assessing the use of oilfield produced water, and a national “branding campaign” to rally support for water reuse.

Public comments are being accepted on the draft plan for 90 days. Submit them via www.regulations.gov using docket number EPA–HQ–OW–0174.

Senate Water Funding Bill

The Senate [approved a measure](#) that allows states to transfer money between two water infrastructure loan funds. One fund is designated for drinking water infrastructure; the other for sewer, wastewater, and stormwater.

EPA Seeks Harmful Algal Bloom Comments

The EPA [wants public input](#) for its attempt to define a freshwater harmful algal bloom or hypoxia event of “national significance.”

Legislation passed by Congress in 2017 allows the agency to make a designation and provide matching funds to states for response. But first, the term “national significance” needs to be defined.

The legislation outlined six areas for consideration: toxicity, severity, potential to spread, economic impact, size, and potential to affect multiple political jurisdictions. The EPA is seeking comment on what metrics would be useful for each of these areas.

NOAA, which also has authority to designate a nationally significant event, opened a separate process for defining such occurrences in coastal and marine waters.

Comments are due October 31. Submit them via www.regulations.gov using docket number EPA–HQ–OW–0463.udies and Reports

Snake Valley Groundwater

There is not enough water to support important wetlands and springs in a semi-arid desert ecosystem that straddles the Nevada-Utah border if all permitted and proposed groundwater rights are put to use, according to a [U.S. Geological Survey study](#) of the Snake Valley. There also may not be enough groundwater to satisfy the desires of the Las Vegas area, whose water agencies have eyed the valley for decades as a potential supply source.

Some 250 miles north of Las Vegas, the Snake Valley is threaded with groundwater-fed springs and wetlands. Those waterways are habitat for threatened and endangered fish species and support the rural area’s ranching and farm operations. The water beneath the valley has also been targeted by the Southern Nevada Water Authority, a regional wholesaler that serves Las Vegas. As the region becomes drier, climate change is putting pressure on water availability for humans and nature.

Read [more about the study](#) from Circle of Blue.

[Youth Activists Tell Washington "We're Coming for You" on Climate Change](#)

JASKIRAN DHILLON, TRUTHOUT

As the world teeters on the edge of climate disaster, young immigrants, Indigenous youth and communities of color are taking the lead in pushing for climate action at the local level. In preparing for the upcoming global youth climate strike on September 20, organizers of Pennsylvania's Youth Climate Strike are centering the voices of communities at the front lines of climate justice. [Read the Article →](#)

[Youth climate movement puts ethics at the center of the global debate](#)

[Marion Hourdequin, Colorado College](#)

Economic and political assessments of climate change have for years helped justify inaction. Now, young environmentalists worldwide are shifting the debate to focus on values, ethics and justice.

[In the Face of Ageist Attacks, Greta Thunberg Is Still Leading by Example](#)

AUDREY BRYAN, RTÉ

Greta Thunberg has become a proactive force in pressing world leaders to commit to keeping carbon in the ground and highlighting the political and economic factors driving emissions. But the radical steps Thunberg has taken show that individual behavioral responses to the climate emergency are also vital. [Read the Article →](#)

25 Books That Teach Kids To Care About The Environment

As climate-related disasters continue to make headlines, parents today are understandably concerned with raising kids who care about the environment. There are many ways to teach children to take care of the planet, and one simple yet powerful approach is through books. Countless children's books offer meaningful messages about nature, recycling, environmental activism and more. We've rounded up a sample of 25. Keep scrolling for a selection of books that feature themes of environmental conservation. .
Read in HuffPost: <https://apple.news/Am01dUjb4RiaciT8ITUmNOA>

[Amnesty Head: Climate Crisis Is a "Death Penalty" for Humanity](#)

AMY GOODMAN AND NERMEEN SHAIKH,
DEMOCRACY NOW!

More than a million students are expected to walk out of class in a Global Climate Strike on Friday, with more than 800 climate strikes scheduled in the United States alone. Amnesty International's Secretary General Kumi Naidoo urges school districts across the globe not to punish students striking against climate injustice this week. [Watch the Video and Read the Transcript →](#)

African Flower Beetle



Why Indigenous Hunting Is Essential to Forest Sustainability - EcoWatch

https://www.ecowatch.com/indigenous-hunting-forest-sustainability-2640365410.html?utm_source=EcoWatch+List&utm_campaign=2847efa101-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_49c7d43dc9-2847efa101-86153277

What Happens When Americans Try Native Cuisine?

In another hilarious video from BuzzFeed, we find out what happens with typical Americans try Native American foods. How do you think they'll react? Watch and see! Consensus? "I bet this is what you eat when you have your life together." Haha! In other words, healthy and tasty.

We Tried Native American Cuisine And It Was So Good

"I bet this is what you eat when you have your life together." Haha! In other words, healthy and tasty.

The video could have gone much deeper though. What other foods would you have liked to see them try? Sofke, grape dumplings, wojapi, mutton, bison, elk or moose? [Read More...](#)

Netflix show "Chambers" casts Apache actress Sivan Alyra Rose as lead!

Netflix announced on December 20th, 2018 that Apache actress Sivan Alyra Rose was cast in the new Netflix show "Chambers" as the lead Sasha Yazzie. Sasha is a young woman who receives a heart transplant and begins to take on attributes of the heart donor.

This is definitely a show I will be tuning in to see.

According to Hollywood Reporter:

Chambers will tell the story of a heart attack survivor who becomes focused on the mystery of the heart that saved her life. The more she learns about her donor's sudden death, the more she starts to take on the characteristics of the deceased.

[Read More...](#)



Trump Moves to Open 1.5 Million Acres of Alaskan Refuge for Oil Drilling By End of the Year - EcoWatch

<https://www.ecowatch.com/trump-alaska-refuge-oil-drilling-2640355340.html>

Water Protectors Are Prepared for Battle. Join Us.

WINONA LADUKE, TRUTHOUT

As the dying fossil fuel industry tries to foist the largest tar sands pipeline project on the Anishinaabe people, Water Protectors, immortalized in the battle to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline, stand prepared to battle once again over water and the rights of Indigenous peoples and nations. Like Standing Rock, this, too, is a battle in the environmental movement to protect our collective future. [Read the Article →](#)

A digital archaeologist helps inaccessible collections be seen

Davide Tanasi, University of South Florida

Davide Tanasi, a digital archaeologist, thinks it's a pity when historical artifacts are locked away in storage. He's working to fix this by sharing them as 3D models.

Video games can bring history back to life

Bob De Schutter, Miami University

A new genre of video games lets players explore virtual environments that recreate actual places and real people's lives and memories.

*

Entrepreneurship and Identity: Building a Native Owned Business

On Thursday, September 26, MPR (Minneapolis Public Radio) News will present a panel discussion with prominent Native entrepreneurs about how they are building their businesses that range from telecommunications to architecture to athletics. They will also discuss how tribal ties, culture and tradition play into their work.

Tickets are free, but reservations are requested.

[Get your tickets »](#)

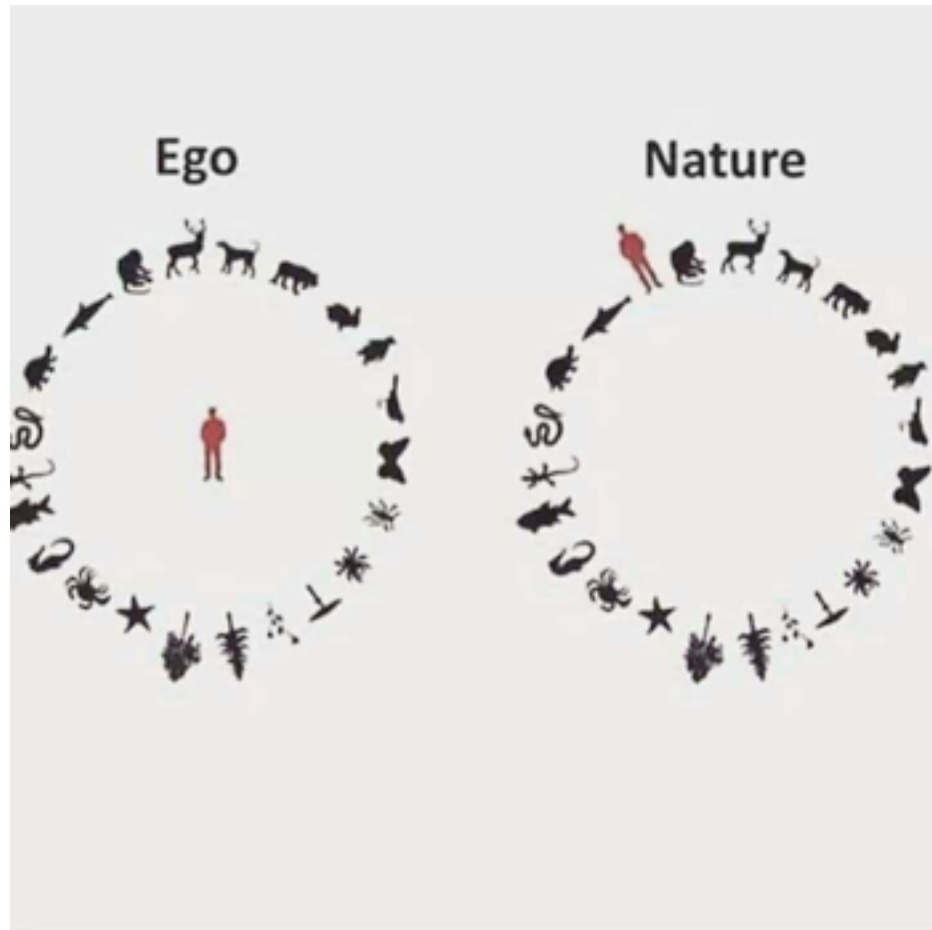
<https://job-openings.monster.com/solar-panel-insta...> [Apply Now](#)

Apply Now: Solar Panel Installers in Reno, NV

'Not one more': Minn. leaders launch effort to find, protect Indigenous women |

Duluth News Tribune

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/news/government-and-politics/4669642-Not-one-more-Minn.-leaders-launch-effort-to-find-protect-Indigenous-women#.XYOdcMudrk.email>



Heavy duty weekend think piece: <https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/173033>