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Info & tools for teachers - Helping teachers keep teaching

You Can't Visit the Museum. But Your Robot Can.

John Schleicher is the University Libraries' Community and University Archivist

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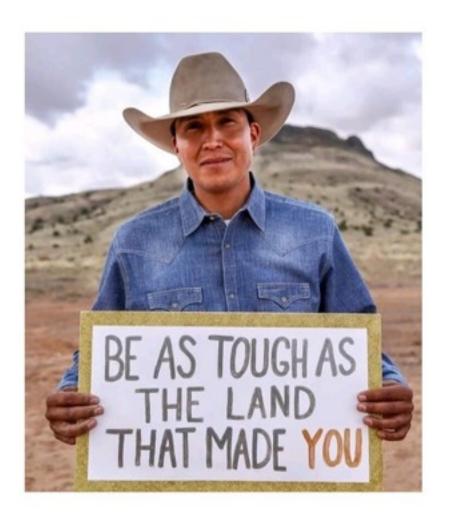
American Dictionary of the English Language was published

Land O'Lakes Removing Native American Woman From Packaging After 92 Years

Power of Preservation

Learn More (Trivia for the Week)

From the family of Jenny Lowry

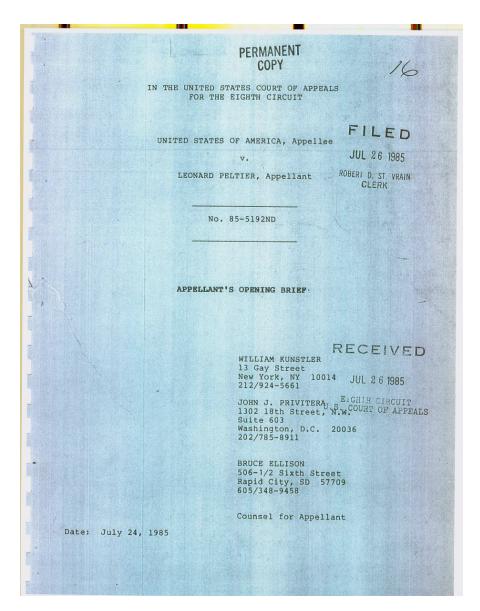


#### A Challenge from the National Archives

Ready for an <u>#ArchivesAtHome</u> challenge? We're looking to transcribe some of our biggest files on the online Catalog!

For our latest challenge, help us transcribe a 1,066 page record. This huge record is the case of United States of America v. Leonard Peltier. In this case, Peltier was originally convicted of murdering two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in 1975. Find a page without a blue tag and start transcribing.

New to the citizen archivist program? <u>Learn how to register and get started</u>.



. Ed note: Needless to say, this is a major opportunity for some "to put their money (time/energy) where their mouth is, particularly in the way the project is presented by the National Archives. sdc)

#### From Elveda Martinez:

**Census Update**: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, we are having to make some significant changes to the 2020 Census response pattern. Most importantly, we are asking for those who have NOT received a Census ID number to WAIT until responding to the 2020 Census.

We recognize this is a significant change from earlier advice, but one necessitated by the need to make sure we count everyone in the right place. The Census ID numbers are going to be necessary to make sure we do not have do extensive follow-ups which would majorly increase the Census presence in your communities at a later date.

This is for EVERYONE - Native and Non-Native

#### A New Way to Preserve Indigenous Languages

#### **ISABELLA GARCIA**

Of the 537 federally recognized Native American tribes, only 139 of them still have speakers of their native language, and more than 90% of those languages are at risk of becoming extinct by 2050. Languages carry tribal knowledge, culture, humor, conversation styles, spirituality, and traditions. When language speakers decrease dramatically and parts of the language is lost, it must be "refashioned" into the new language using different words, sounds, and grammatical structures—if the transfer is even possible at all.

In response to the threat of language loss, some Indigenous tribes are turning towards accessible technology to save and revitalize their languages.

Read the full story

https://www.yesmagazine.org/social-justice/2020/04/15/technology-indigenous-languages/?

<u>utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=YESDaily\_20200416&utm\_content=YESDaily\_20200416+CID\_2b3ce2869eb17a74d099a1c82482f996&utm\_source=CM&utm\_term=Read%20the%20full%20story</u>



## Trump Advances Fracking on Colorado Public Land - EcoWatch <a href="https://www.ecowatch.com/fracking-colorado-federal--land-2645703280.html">https://www.ecowatch.com/fracking-colorado-federal--land-2645703280.html</a>

Judge Reverses Trump Rollback of Healthy School Meal Guidelines - EcoWatch <a href="https://www.ecowatch.com/trump-healthy-school-meals-rollback-2645722995.html">https://www.ecowatch.com/trump-healthy-school-meals-rollback-2645722995.html</a>

**Darting mares.** Have you been getting outdoors? I personally get outdoors every morning, because dog, and it is A Big Thing for both of us. Anyway, some people have been getting out of doors during this our corona life, while observing aggressive social distancing protocols, mind, so they can ... fire darts filled with birth control into wild mares, the (Nevada) Current's Jeniffer Solis reports. The volunteers, the Bureau of Land Management, and a rural Republican legislator all agree this is a fine thing, and this is probably your feel-good story of the week. Thanks, Jen. Volunteers work to reduce wild horse population

NS/S Conservation Director, Noah Schlager speaks with the New York Times about times of crisis and the effect it has on seeds. <u>continue reading>></u>

#### **Protecting Native Elders in a Pandemic**

By Nick Martin/newrepublic.com

"Powwows have been canceled, and casinos are closed up; community houses have bolted their doors, and colleges have sent their students home. Tribal economies on the whole are hurting, and the recessionary tail of the pandemic will be long. But even as the economic realities weigh heavy, the face of the crisis remains profoundly human: It's the risk of losing our elders that has many Native people bracing for impact." <a href="mailto:continue reading">continue reading</a>>

**Looking for resources in Indian Country?** The Tribal Law and Policy Institute's <u>Indian Country Resource Page</u> is a comprehensive guide covering up to date COVID issues, also see <u>Native American Communities and COVID-19: How Foundations Can Help</u> which lists current funding opportunities.

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/how-innovators-are-adapting-existing-technologies-fight-covid-19-180974662/?

<u>utm\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=20200414-daily-responsive&spMailingID=42264368&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1741514717&spReportId=MTc0MTUxNDcxNwS2</u>

https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-of-natural-history/2020/04/14/get-know-scientist-studying-ancient-pathogens-smithsonian/?
utm\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=20200414-daily-responsive&spMailingID=42264368&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1741514717&spReportId=MTc0MTUxNDcxNwS2

How to Detect the Age-Old Traditions of Folklore in Today's COVID-19 Misinformation

Watch the video to this. It's an amazing trip through the lungs from a CT scan. <a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2020/04/12/storm-inside/?arc404=true">https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2020/04/12/storm-inside/?arc404=true</a>

## Native Americans were already decimated by a virus. They're scared it could happen again

Smallpox wiped out an estimated 90% of native peoples in North America. The coronavirus poses a unique challenge to indigenous Americans — and it's a grim reminder of one of their most painful historical traumas

Read in CNN: https://apple.news/Als2gw5l1TmKKVvM54KX8wA

Info & tools for teachers - Helping teachers keep teaching

Learn More
Helping teachers keep teaching

#### You Can't Visit the Museum. But Your Robot Can.

By ANDREW DICKSONWith arts institutions closed around the world, Hastings Contemporary museum in England is offering virtual tours using a telepresence robot.

#### John Schleicher is the University Libraries' Community and University Archivist



Where will you be walking this weekend?



Guess

Old Walker Lake Road

#### Next Wednesday marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day!

The Smithsonian has been committed to conservation since the late 19th century, when a chief scientist was shocked by the threatened extinction of the American bison and began a crusade to save it and other endangered species from disappearing completely. Today, the Smithsonian leads efforts around the globe to save species, protect habitat, and empower future generations to protect our planet.

Join the Smithsonian in celebrating this important day with fun activities you can do from home!

#### Send an Earth Day eCard

Send an Earth Day Digital Postcard to someone special, complete with a vintage National Parks stamp from the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum! Pick your favorite stamp and include a personalized message about why protecting our planet is important to you.

#### Tune in to the Earth Optimism Digital Summit

Earth Optimism brings people together to talk about what's working to protect the future of our planet. Join the Smithsonian online April 22-25, 2020 for an Earth Optimism digital event that will showcase stories of both small and large-scale actions that frame the conversation and demonstrate that success is possible!

See the Digital Summit Schedule – and set reminders to tune in!

#### **Create a Conservation Comic**

Anyone of any age can help with conservation! Help inspire others by making a comic strip about successful conservation in your home, school, community, or anywhere on the planet—or print sample comics to share and enjoy!

#### **Explore Earth Day collection items**

From stamps and buttons to posters and bumper stickers, experience Earth Day through objects that celebrate the history of this important holiday and how it has evolved over the years

The Smithsonian is dedicated to preserving our planet for future generations. Your support makes that possible. Thank you.



It was on this day (4.14) in 1828 that <u>Noah Webster</u>'s *American Dictionary of the English Language* was published (<u>books by this author</u>). Webster put together the dictionary because he wanted Americans to have a national identity that wasn't based on the language and ideas of England. And the problem wasn't just that Americans were looking to England for their language; it was that they could barely communicate with each other because regional dialects differed so drastically.

Noah Webster was schoolteacher in Connecticut. He was dismayed at the state of education in the years just after the Revolution. There wasn't much money for supplies, and students were crowded into small one-room schoolhouses using textbooks from England that talked about the great King George. His students' spelling was atrocious, as was that of the general public; it was assumed that there were several spellings for any word.

So in 1783, he published the first part of his three-part *A Grammatical Institute, of the English Language*; the first section was eventually retitled *The American Spelling Book*, but usually called by the nickname "Blue-Backed Speller." The Blue-Backed Speller taught American children the rules of spelling, and it simplified words — it was Webster who took the letter "u" out of English words like *colour* and *honour;* he took a "g" out of *waggon*, a "k" off the end of *musick*, and switched the order of the "r" and "e" in *theatre* and *centre*.

In 1801, he started compiling his dictionary. Part of what he accomplished, much like his textbook, was standardizing spelling. He introduced American words, some of them derived from Native American languages: *skunk*, *squash*, *wigwam*, *hickory*, *opossum*, *lengthy*, and *presidential*, *Congress*, and *caucus*, which were not relevant in England's monarchy.

Webster spent almost 30 years on his project, and finally, on this day in 1828, it was published. But unfortunately, it cost 15 or 20 dollars, which was a huge amount in 1828, and Webster died in 1843 without having sold many copies. The book did help launch Webster as a writer and a proponent of an American national identity. Webster had a canny knack for marketing, traveling around to meet with new publishers and booksellers, publishing ads in the local newspapers for his book wherever he went. He also lobbied for copyright law and served for a time as an adviser to George Washington, and wrote his own edition of the Bible. And his tallies of houses in all major cities led to the first American census.

In his book *The Forgotten Founding Father*. *Noah Webster's Obsession and the Creation of an American Culture* Joshua Kendall argued that Noah Webster would today be diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive personality disorder.

#### Land O'Lakes Removing Native American Woman From Packaging After 92 Years



Photos of members of the farmer-owned cooperative will replace the logo used since 1928. huffpost.com

Land O'Lakes redesign: First her knees went, now she's gone completely

#### **Power of Preservation**

The University Libraries Digital Services Department recently partnered with the Washoe County Recorder's Office to execute a pilot project in which the Libraries digitized 20 volumes of historically significant records from the Recorder's Office library of nearly 4,000 volumes. The Recorder's Office had a desire to create digital copies of records from their library for preservation purposes. The Recorder's Office was also interested in providing potential users with access to the records online.



#### Read Nevada Today article »

#### **Learn More (Trivia for the Week)**

Although Europe is a leading chocolate producer nowadays, the treat can be traced back to Mexico, which has been cultivating cacao plants since 1900 BC. The Olmec were the ones who started the process of roasting and grinding the beans, then mixing with water, honey, vanilla, and chili peppers to create a bitter drink. Mayans and Aztecs believed that the benefits of chocolate were god-like, and eventually reserved cacao for royalty. Spanish conquerors transformed the drink into the sugary substance we know (and eat too much of) today. Hernan Cortes introduced chocolate to Europe, and the rest is history. Today, the average American consumes 12 pounds of chocolate a year. Thank you, Mexico!

Thanks to Teddy Roosevelt, the United States didn't bulldoze its sprawling forests. Instead, we ended up with millions and millions of acres of beautiful protected wilderness, where Americans can commune with all kinds of nature. Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska is the biggest of all of them. It covers 16.5 million acres, roughly half the size of North Carolina. There's no shortage of activities either. Take a hike, spot some eagles, camp, fish, or ride a dog sled across a glacier. There are also a few cultural centers in the forest, where you can learn about native culture, geology, and wildlife.

Nacogdoches was founded in 1779 and is said to be the oldest city in Texas. A native Caddo tribe, called the Nacogdoche, first inhabited the area around 800 A.D., remaining there until the Spanish claimed ownership. When the Spanish later lost control, a series of conflicts broke out, culminating in the 1832 Battle of Nacogdoches between Mexico and Texas. Texas claimed victory and later joined the United States in 1845. Located in eastern Texas, Nacogdoches remains one of the most historic towns in the Lone Star State and attracts visitors worldwide, just like it did centuries ago.

Five might sound like it's wrong, but let's count them off. Everyone gets Atlantic and Pacific relatively quickly. Then you have the Indian Ocean and the Arctic Ocean, which is getting a lot of attention recently, what with all the melting ice caps. The one we hear the least about is the Southern Ocean, which is the youngest. Not youngest in that it just formed, but youngest in that it was only officially defined back in 2000, when the International Hydrographic Organization set its limits. If you want to get truly technical, there really is just one ocean: The boundaries and names of these five are purely human inventions.

Among the most iconic and important waterways in American history, the Mighty Mississippi begins at its source in Lake Itasca, Minnesota, and ends in the Gulf of Mexico. In total, the

Mississippi River is over 2,300 miles long and is fed by tributaries from 32 different U.S. states. Though many might assume it's the longest river in the country, the Mississippi is actually in second place behind the Missouri River, the longest river in North America.

The root of the word Mississippi begins with "Messipi" — a French interpretation of the Native American Anishinaabe term "Misi-ziibi," which translates to "Great River." This 2,348-mile river is the second largest on the North American continent. It starts in northern Minnesota in Lake Itasca and goes through 10 U.S. states before emptying into the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana. At its widest point, the Mississippi River stretches seven miles. Interestingly, many of Mark Twain's stories feature the Mississippi river, which helped cement it into American folklore.

Contrary to its name, Two Ocean Lake does not drain into two oceans. That trait is unique to Isa Lake in Yellowstone National Park in the northwest corner of Wyoming. At an elevation of 8,262 feet, Isa sits at the top of the continental divide, so high that it sometimes overflows with snowmelt in the spring, forcing the lake to drain in two directions. In one direction, water flows to the Firehole River in the west and then zigzags, eventually ending up in the Atlantic Ocean via the Mississippi Delta. In the other, water from the east passes into Shoshone Lake, then zigzags west via the Columbia and Snake Rivers, at last arriving in the Pacific Ocean. That's a big feat for a small lake!

Hawaiian King Kalakaua and his sister/successor, Queen Liliuokalani, once called Iolani Palace home. Located in Honolulu's downtown, the palace served as the official residence for the monarchy from 1882 to 1893. Built by "The Merrie Monarch," Iolani featured opulent furniture, international ornaments, and royal portraits, as well as the first flush toilet and electric light system in all of Hawaii. The royals were overthrown by the U.S. government in 1893, Hawaii became a U.S. territory in 1898, and finally a state in 1959, where the Iolani Palace served as the state's capitol building. Nowadays, when you visit, you can go on a walking tour of the historic area, including a self-guided audio tour of the palace.

In general, the East Coast of the United States tends to be more densely populated than the rest of the country (largely due to these states' smaller size). With that in mind, New Jersey takes the ultimate title of most densely populated state. According to World Population Review's 2019 estimates, the Garden State has a population of 8,922,547, making for a density of 1,213 people per square mile. This is just ahead of Rhode Island's 1,022 people per square mile. Compare that to the vast land of Alaska, which boasts just one person per square mile, or Wyoming, with six per square mile.



# In Loving Memory of VELDA "JENNY" LOWERY

February 3, 1962 - April 14, 2020



Our family would like to thank everyone for all of the love and support you have shown us during this very difficult time.

Due to the current COVID-19 guidelines, the family will be holding a private viewing with a memorial service to be held at a later date.

Our family urges you to take this pandemic seriously. This virus has taken a very special part of our lives and we want all of you to stay healthy and safe.