

**Journal #4753 from sdc 8.27.20**

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[How Native Americans Bring Depth of Understanding to the Nation's National Parks](#)

## **Finally Organize Those Photos By Sarah Firshein**

Sorting your photographs, whether digital or print or both, can seem daunting. Here are some simple ways to catalog and organize your images.

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***The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."***

— **Lyndon B. Johnson**

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***Niagra Falls*** .....It's not known exactly how long humans have been aware of its existence. And while there are no written records of such events, it's likely that the region's indigenous communities were the first to marvel at the wonder of the falls.....

But although the French explorer Samuel de Champlain first heard rumors of a vast waterfall in the region at the beginning of the 17th century, it wasn't until 1678 that Niagara was first recorded by Europeans. That year, a priest named Father Louis Hennepin witnessed the astonishing spectacle while on an expedition into what was then known as New France.

.....Then, five years after stumbling across the falls, Hennepin published *A New Discovery*, in which he described his incredible find. There, the name Niagara – thought to come from the Iroquoian word “onguiaahra,” meaning “the strait” – appeared for the first time.....

<https://affluenttimes.com/anthropology-and-history/places/niagara-falls-runs-dry-reveals-bodies-1969-united-states-canada/>

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## **What Women's Suffrage Owes to Indigenous Culture**

*Bridget Quinn, YES! Magazine*

Quinn writes: "For the Seneca and all the tribes of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, power resided with the people. All the people." **READ MORE**

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## **Wildfires Hit California's Redwoods and Condors, but There's Still Hope**

*Lauren Sommer, NPR*

Sommer writes: "At 3 a.m. on Friday morning, biologist Kelly Sorenson was awake, nervously watching the live webcam feed of a California condor nest on the Big Sur coast. He could see a 5-month-old chick, still unable to fly, as the flames of the Dolan Fire came into view." **READ**



**MORE**

## **Cowboy Christmas gift show, associated with NFR, canceled for 2020**

The retail gift show, held annually at the Las Vegas Convention Center, won't occur because of the coronavirus pandemic, regardless of whether the rodeo occurs.

## **New Version of How's My Waterway is Now Live!**

EPA announces the release of How's My Waterway. How's My Waterway is a tool that assembles publicly available water quality data into a user-friendly package that provides information on water quality in our nation's waters. Map-centric and mobile-friendly, How's My Waterway works on all different screen sizes—from desktop computers and tablets to mobile phones.

Our goal is that EPA, our partners, and the public will use How's My Waterway to learn about water, explore data and find out what's happening to improve the health of our waters. The tool provides the public with an easily accessible and understandable summary of water quality at the community-, state- and national-level.

- **Community:** Learn about the health of local waters, identify challenges and learn about what's being done to restore or protect the waters. Find out more about your drinking water. Discover if waters in your community are suitable for swimming or eating fish and if they support aquatic life.
- **State:** Choose a state to find basic facts about a state's waters, summaries of specific water assessments, a statewide survey of water quality and state drinking water metrics.
- **National:** Learn about water quality across the nation (lakes, rivers and streams, wetlands and coastal areas) and the main challenges to our water resources nationwide. You will also find information about national drinking water quality and national drinking water metrics.

Check out How's My Waterway (<https://mywaterway.epa.gov>) and explore the waters near you.

### **[Lake Elsinore hydroelectric project would threaten sacred land. Pechanga tribe says](#)**

By Press Enterprise, 8/25/20

The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians once warned that a proposed mine would obliterate a sacred site equal to the Biblical Garden of Eden. Now, the southwest Riverside County tribe is sounding a similar alarm about the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project, or LEAPS, a hydroelectric project proposed for the Lake Elsinore area. "Lake Elsinore is central to our Luiseño Creation Account. Even today, our Tribe has reservation lands in the city," Tribal Chairman Mark Macarro said in an emailed statement.

### **[Fallen Boulder at the Grand Canyon Reveals Prehistoric Reptile Footprints](#)**

### **[How a Japanese Museum Is Documenting Life During Covid-19](#)**

### **Emperor: A New Life of Charles V - How to Rule America**

[https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?](https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?e=085bdd9791&u=6557fc90400ccd10e100a13f4&id=1f05397e83)

[e=085bdd9791&u=6557fc90400ccd10e100a13f4&id=1f05397e83](https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?e=085bdd9791&u=6557fc90400ccd10e100a13f4&id=1f05397e83)

**Watch this fascinating animation of every California wildfire from 1910 to 2019. 🖱️**

[YouTube \(~1:45 mins\)](#)

## [COVID Boosts Embrace of Telehealth in Western States](#)



August 25, 2020 - Roz Brown, Public News Service (NV)

LAS VEGAS -- Telehealth was a lifeline for rural communities even before COVID-19, but such services will likely be further transformed as Americans avoid unwanted social interactions.

This month, governors from Colorado, Nevada, Oregon and Washington announced they will work together to [establish a guide of best practices supporting telehealth](#) in each state.

Public health expert Christina Madison, associate professor of Pharmacy Practice at Nevada's Roseman University, said if some people were reluctant to embrace telehealth or telemedicine previously, COVID-19 has made it the new normal.

"We're kind of at this touchstone within the health care system that I think is really going to revolutionize how we provide care to patients," Madison said.

The federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has announced its intention to make permanent some of the telehealth flexibilities approved during the pandemic.

Madison said dermatologists, psychologists and those treating people with AIDS see a large number of patients via telehealth, but general practitioners can also be accessed as long as there isn't an emergency.

She said some older adults still have difficulty accessing the technology for telemedicine, but enlisting a family member to create "facilitated" telemedicine appointments allows them to connect with a provider using a smartphone, tablet or laptop with webcam. She added it's an easier way to consult with a health-care provider, while avoiding wait times or finding transportation to the doctor's office.

"Some people are just always going to want to come into the office. But there's going to be people who are going to just be fine with calling somebody on the phone, and then they're never going to need to leave their house because then they're going to have the pharmacy deliver their prescription," Madison said.

Data shows nationwide, nearly 59 million Americans live in areas with a shortage of access to local primary care.

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**<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/children-raised-in-greener-areas-have-higher-iq-study-finds/ar-BB18j19e>**

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*(Although most child custody cases go through tribal court, this should be an interesting discussion.)*

## Judge Chuck Weller is retiring. Who will replace him on the Family Court?

Next Tuesday, September 1, we will "lunch from home" with candidates Hon. Paige Dollinger and Hon. Greg Shannon for the open seat on the Second Judicial District Court, Family Division, Dept. 11.

We have asked both candidates to talk about their current role as Court Masters as well as the more encompassing role of the Family Court Judge. Please join us for this special candidate forum.

[Register here to get the login details.](#)

**COST: FREE**

**WHEN: Tuesday, September 1, 12-1 PM WHERE: Your Computer (Using Zoom)**

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**It was on this day(8.25) in 1916 that President Woodrow Wilson signed into law the act that established the [National Park Service](#).** Yellowstone was designated as the first national park in 1872, and by the 1890s, there were three others: Yosemite, Sequoia, and General Grant (now known as Kings Canyon). When Congress created the first national parks, it didn't assign a part of the government to run them, and the task ended up falling to the Army. The Army patrolled for poachers or vandals — traveling on skis in the cold Yellowstone winters — but they didn't have any legal recourse to deal with criminals, so they just gave them warnings. In 1894, the last remaining wild buffalo herd in the country was in Yellowstone, and it was small. That year, a poacher named Edgar Howell bragged to reporters that there wasn't much anyone could do about his buffalo hunting, since the most serious penalty he faced would be to get kicked out of Yellowstone and lose \$26 worth of equipment. The editor of *Field and Stream* ran that story in his magazine, and there was a huge uproar. President Grover Cleveland signed the "Act to Protect the Birds and Animals in Yellowstone National Park," but that was just one park. Without a national system regulating the parks, the government remained limited in its control.

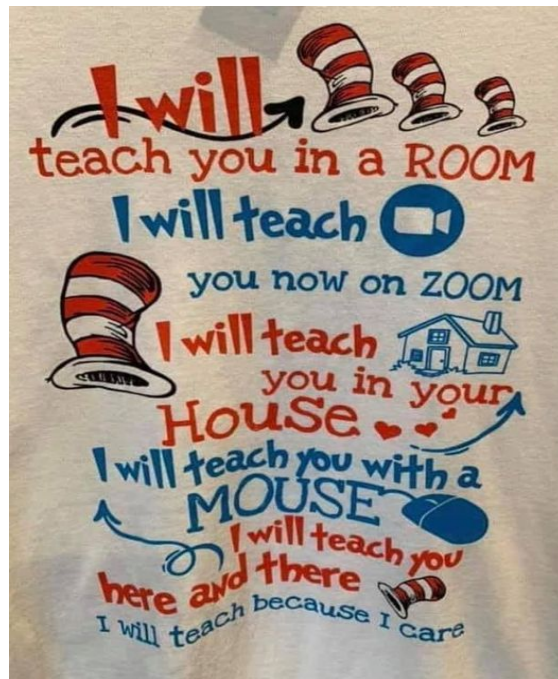
The Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, and the Department of War all claimed to protect the National Parks, but no one was really doing the job. In 1914, the conservationist John Muir died, after losing a long fight to preserve Yosemite's beautiful Hetch Hetchy Valley against developers who wanted to turn it into a dam and reservoir for the city of San Francisco. Although Hetch Hetchy was dammed, Muir had stirred up public opposition, and many citizens worried that the national parks weren't adequately protected. The issue was brought up in Congress that year, but they wouldn't sign a bill to change it.

Secretary of the Interior Franklin Lane knew that they needed a good lobbyist to convince Congress to protect the parks better. Then he got a letter from an old college classmate named Stephen Mather. Mather was a self-made millionaire who struck it rich as the sales manager for Pacific Coast Borax Company, thanks to his genius for advertising and promotion. In his letter, Mather complained that he had just been on a visit to Yosemite and Sequoia and was upset by what he saw: cattle grazing, development, and trails in terrible condition. Lane told Mather that if he was unhappy he should come to Washington and fix the problem himself. Mather agreed.



Mather was talented and he was rich: a perfect lobbyist. He went to Washington and threw himself into a publicity campaign to designate a government agency specifically for the national parks. He hired Horace Albright, a legal assistant, and Robert Sterling Yard, the editor of the *New York Herald*. He paid much of their salaries himself. He sponsored the “Mather Mountain Party,” a two-week trip for 15 extremely influential business leaders and politicians in the Sierra Nevadas — he paid for it himself — and the men enjoyed a luxurious vacation, hiking and fishing, and enjoying fine dining (complete with linens) in the midst of the parks. By the end of the two weeks, they all supported Mather’s request for a national agency to oversee the national parks. He partnered with the railroads in their huge “See America First” publicity campaign. He got national newspapers to run headlines about the cause, started a campaign for school kids to enter essay contests, and after convincing *National Geographic* to devote an entire issue to the national parks, Mather gave every member of Congress a copy. His assistant Albright drafted a bill to create a parks bureau, which would be part of the Department of the Interior. On this day in 1916, Wilson signed it into law, and the National Park Service was created.

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**On this date (8.25) in 1718, French immigrants founded the city of [New Orleans](#).** Jean-Baptiste Le Moyne de Bienville named the new settlement for Philippe II, the Duke of Orléans. The duke was the regent of France, ruling in place of King Louis XV, who was only a boy. The French had claimed the Louisiana Territory in 1682, and the location of New Orleans — at the mouth of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers — meant that it was prime real estate for anyone who wanted to control America’s large interior waterway. Though the city never lost its French character, it was blended with elements of Native American, African, and Spanish cultures.

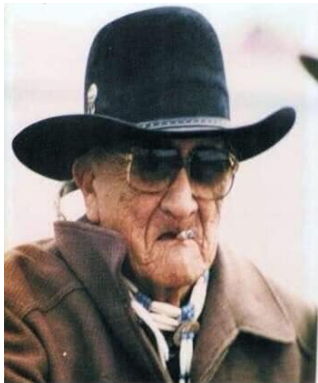
To get things started, France sent a starter population of prisoners, slaves, and bonded servants. They arrived in New Orleans to find a mosquito-ridden swamp that was surrounded by hostile Native Americans, and prone to hurricanes. The new settlers threatened to revolt, so the French

government sent 90 female convicts straight from the Paris jails. These ladies chaperoned by a group of Ursuline nuns until they could be married off to the men who awaited them.

Two engineers laid out plans for a the original walled village, which later came to be known as the French Quarter or the *Vieux Carré* — the Old City. Though it's called the French Quarter, the architecture of the area is mostly Spanish in influence, since fire destroyed most of the original buildings in the 18th century. By that time, the city was under the control of the Spanish, who rebuilt the quarter. New Orleans became an American city in 1803, when Napoleon sold Louisiana to the United States government.

Tom Robbins wrote, in *Jitterbug Perfume* (1984): “Louisiana in September was like an obscene phone call from nature. The air — moist, sultry, secretive, and far from fresh — felt as if it were being exhaled into one’s face. Sometimes it even sounded like heavy breathing. Honeysuckle, swamp flowers, magnolia, and the mystery smell of the river scented the atmosphere, amplifying the intrusion of organic sleaze. It was aphrodisiac and repressive, soft and violent at the same time. In New Orleans, in the French Quarter, miles from the barking lungs of alligators, the air maintained this quality of breath, although here it acquired a tinge of metallic halitosis, due to fumes expelled by tourist buses, trucks delivering Dixie beer, and, on Decatur Street, a mass-transit motor coach named Desire.

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Fool Crow

**Frank Fools Crow** repeatedly said the more humble and unselfish a person is, the more willing Wakan Tanka and his helpers of the four directions are willing to work through them.

Few holy people have been as open about their spiritual practices as Frank Fools Crow, the ceremonial chief of the Teton Sioux who allowed his powers to be written about in books by non-Native authors.

Assuming no ownership of his supernatural abilities—always affirming the “source of power is not ourselves” —Fools Crow explained in detail how he performed “miracles” because he wanted others to believe they could do them as well.

Before he died at the age of 99 on Nov. 27, 1989, Fools Crow spent time in the late 1970s with Thomas E. Mails, a Lutheran minister who wrote about him in several books, including the well-received *Fools Crow—Wisdom and Power*.

In it, the old man explained how he affected cures, consulted with “talking” stones to learn of future events, “lured” to him what he needed in his life, spirit-travelled, and shape-shifted.

He accomplished all of this by becoming a “clean, hollow bone” through which Wakan Tanka’s (The Great Mystery’s) powers funneled through him.

Fools Crow repeatedly told Mails that the more humble and unselfish a person is, the more willing Wakan Tanka and his helpers of the four directions are willing to work through them. “Wakan Tanka is concerned with human needs, and not luxuries. If we want luxuries, He has given us at birth the power to work for and obtain these,” he said.

People who have rid themselves of self-serving ego, like medicine and holy people, are the cleanest bones, he explained.

“The cleaner the bone, the more water you can pour through it, and the faster it will run.” Fools Crow, the nephew of the visionary Black Elk, immortalized in John Neihardt’s *Black Elk Speaks*, explained he was able to handle the self-sacrifice of being a holy person because he possessed “a clear self image.”

As a Sioux person, he was taught to understand there was no limit to what the higher powers could do through him.

“What we hollow bones really become is the pipeline that connects Wakan Tanka and our community together. Wakan Tanka tells us the direction our curing and healing work must follow and establishes the kind of life we must lead. It also keeps us working at things that do not bring us much income ... We have to be strong and committed to stick with this, otherwise we will get very little spiritual power and we will probably give up the curing and healing work.”

Fools Crow described his life as being “filled with power” and he thought about Wakan Tanka constantly. To remain a clean, hollow bone, he refrained from arguing, gossiping and womanizing. He didn’t charge for his healing, although he accepted gifts and gratitude from people he helped. He abstained from mind-altering substances, even the peyote used in the Native American church, because Wakan Tanka could take him higher than any drug ever could.

In his lifetime, he struggled to find someone to pass his medicine to because so few wanted to live morally and frugally.

“While many talk a lot about wanting to do this, they do not really want to give up pleasure and material things. Also, you can tell a true medicine person from an imitator by what they ask you for in return for their help.

“According to where they live, everyone needs enough to live on and pay their bills. But if they ask for more than a fair payment for this, walk away from them. They are only imitators and their power will be very limited.”



As a child born near Wounded Knee in South Dakota around 1890, Fools Crow was forced to quit school in the third grade so he could work and support his family. He travelled around the United States later with the Buffalo Bill Cody Wild West Show before becoming a healer after his initial vision quest in 1903.

He married Fannie Afraid, who passed away in 1954, and his second wife, Kate, died in 1988. Both wives assisted Fools Crow in his curing rites and watched over him while he spirit-travelled inside his sweatlodge.

“Actually, this spirit travel I do has frightened both of my wives,” he once confessed to Mails, explaining he would sometimes remain unconscious inside the lodge for as long as two days.

“Fannie and Kate have had to stay with me and watch over me during this time, and they have told me that sometimes they are afraid I have died.”

Fools Crow used his “mind screen” – the blackness he saw when he closed his eyes and rolled his eyes upward – to receive information from Wakan Tanka. If he saw that a patient’s organs were damaged beyond repair, he revealed to he or she that they could not be cured, but could still be healed.

“Healing is a process that helps the person get rid of anger and blaming” and reconcile unfinished business in their lives, Fools Crow said.

“When we are finished with the healing, the person is calm and ready, even anxious to die. ‘Die’ is not really the best word, because it suggests that it is the end, when it is really the beginning.

“I take them outside to pray with me, and I tell them some of the great secrets I have been shown. At night, I make them a bed under the stars, and I sit beside them for a while. As we continue to talk, I tell them to think about Wakan Tanka being up there and waiting to receive them. If they are Christians, I talk about Jesus’ saying he went to make a place for them.”

Fools Crow asked people who came for curing to spend four days with him. If the weather was good, he fixed a bed for them outdoors under the trees on his property. He loved bringing people to his Pine Ridge reservation home because there was “nothing tall enough to get between us and the higher powers. So we are more conscious of them than people who live in cities are.”

Fools Crow lived long enough to mediate between the U.S. government and AIM activists at Wounded Knee in 1973. At the Elder’s funeral, eulogist and AIM leader Russell Means credited Fools Crow with the peaceful ending of the famous confrontation.

Fools Crow was well-loved for keeping alive Lakota ceremonies that had been outlawed by the government, and is famous for pleading before a congressional subcommittee that the Black Hills be returned to his people.

**Water Shorts** (from **Federal Water Tap**)

**716:** Sea lions that states and tribes will be allowed to kill along sections of the lower Columbia River in the next five years. Killing sea lions, permitted by an act of Congress

in 2018, has the goal of protecting endangered salmon in the watershed. Sea lion predation is one of many pressures on the iconic fish, pressures that include dams and warmer waters. ([NOAA Fisheries](#))

### **Energy Department Proposes Relaxing Showerhead Rules**

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 required that showerheads not spray more than 2.5 gallons per minute.

There had been debate over the years, as showerhead technology became an arms race, about the definition of “showerhead,” specifically when one unit wielded multiple heads.

The Energy Department is [proposing to nix the existing definition](#), which requires that the entire unit — the flow of each individual nozzle added together — meet the 2.5 gallon-per-minute standard. The new definition would apply that standard to each nozzle individually. That means higher flows in aggregate, because each nozzle could spray 2.5 gallons per minute.

President Trump encouraged the move, but it is a curious decision. The water efficiency mandates in the Energy Policy Act have helped drive down household water use. Efficient fixtures have accounted for nearly all reductions in indoor water use, one study found.

Comments on the proposal are being accepted through September 14. Submit them via [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) using docket number EERE-2020-BT-TP-0002.

*In context: [Efficient Fixtures Cut U.S. Indoor Water Use](#)*

### **Snowpack Monitoring Bill**

California Democrats introduced a bill that would provide \$15 million to restart a novel program for [monitoring Western water supplies](#).

The bill would fund a program that uses sensors mounted on airplanes to estimate the amount of water held in mountain snowpack. [Airborne monitoring](#) is more accurate than traditional, ground-based measurements, which are limited in their scope.

NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory had operated the flights until last December, when it spun off the venture to the private sector. The bill would bring the program back under the public umbrella, establishing an airborne monitoring program within the Department of Interior.

“The much more precise measurements of snowpack that ASO provides will be critical in better managing competing missions of western water storage reservoirs for flood control and water supply amidst a changing climate and growing population.” — Sen. Dianne Feinstein speaking on the Senate floor [in support of her bill](#) on airborne snow observation, which measures the water content of mountain snowpack.

### **Small Colorado River Restrictions In Effect Next Year**

Colorado River water allocations to Arizona, Nevada, and Mexico will be reduced a small amount in 2021.

The reductions, part of a water-sharing plan signed last year, are informed by projected water levels in the basin's two big reservoirs, Mead and Powell. The projected levels at the end of the year set the water releases for the following year.

The Bureau of Reclamation [released those projections](#) last week. They indicate that Lake Mead will be at elevation 1,085. That means Arizona will see its allocation drop by 12 percent. Nevada and Mexico will take a 2.7 percent cut.

[In context: Remarkable Drop in Colorado River Water Use a Sign of Climate Adaptation](#)

### **2019 Climate Review**

Federal researchers contributed to a [review of the planet's climate](#) in 2019 that was published by the American Meteorological Society.

Lake temperatures, on average, climbed across the globe, while Northern Hemisphere lakes were covered in ice for seven days fewer than the 1981-2010 average.

### **Pebble Mine Inquiries**

Democrats on the House Oversight Committee asked the inspector generals of the Army Corps of Engineers and EPA to investigate an agency decision to reverse a veto of a mining project in sensitive terrain in Alaska.

House Democrats that signed the letters — Reps. Carolyn Maloney, Harley Rouda, and Jackie Speier — [asked the EPA inspector general](#) to scrutinize the agency's reversal. They [asked the Army Corps inspector general](#) to evaluate the environmental review process, which the Corps guided.

The Obama administration vetoed the Pebble Mine, a gold and copper deposit in the headwaters of Bristol Bay. The bay is one of the world's great wild salmon fisheries and the agency, at that time, claimed that environmental damage outweighed the benefits of the mine.

The Trump administration overturned the veto in 2019.

### **USGS Water Data**

The federal government's premier water-science agency is seeking advice. The U.S. Geological Survey [wants feedback](#) on its water-quality data and any changes that should be made to its products. There is [a survey](#).

### **EPA Drinking Water Workshop**

The annual workshop is going online this year and is [open to the public](#). Held September 1 to 3, the workshop brings together academics, federal researchers, state officials, and others involved in drinking water treatment and regulation.

There will be sessions on all the big questions of the day: PFAS, lead, pathogens in distribution systems, water access on the Navajo Nation during Covid-19, small system challenges.