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Navajo Nation implements another three-week lockdown as ICUs reach capacity amid coronavirus surge

The Navajo Nation has extended its lockdown for three more weeks to try to slow the growth of Covid-19 cases in the community that has already filled nearly all of their ICUs to capacity.

Read in CNN: <https://apple.news/AP6ggdB8ISXeUPpWFeYntdQ>

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COVID-19 Related Funding

Projects in Minnesota and the Dakotas Addressing COVID-19 Receive Priority

The Bush Foundation has adapted its Community Innovation Grants program to be responsive to needs and opportunities related to COVID-19.

Support for Efforts to Aid Mainers Impacted by the Pandemic

The Maine Community Foundation's Community Building Grants program invests in local projects and organizations that work to build strong communities throughout the state.

Grants Respond to COVID-19's Effect on Food System Issues in the Chicago Area

The Chicago Region Food System Fund addresses hunger and business disruption by bolstering the Chicago, IL, region's communities and local food system in response to COVID-19 and other systemic shocks.

National Opportunities

Support for Pre-K-12 Library Collections Nationwide

The Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries provides funds to the country's neediest schools so that they can extend, update, and diversify the book and print collections in their libraries with the goal of encouraging students to develop a love *of reading and learning*.

Bicycle Infrastructure and Advocacy Projects Funded

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program offers funding for important and influential projects that build momentum for bicycling in communities across the United States.

Grants Promote Social Justice through Impact Litigation

The Impact Fund is dedicated to assisting nonprofit organizations, private attorneys, and small law firms who seek to advance social justice using impact litigation in the areas of civil and human rights, environmental justice, or poverty law.

Programs for At-Risk Youth Supported

The Sky Ranch Foundation supports nonprofit organizations throughout the United States and its territories that work with at-risk youth.

Regional Opportunities

Funds for Arts and Education Initiatives Throughout Oregon

The mission of the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation is to enhance the quality of life of

Oregonians through the support of classroom education and the performing, visual, and literary arts.

Grants Foster Healthy Aging in Four New England States

The Tufts Health Plan Foundation supports nonprofit organizations that focus on healthy aging and older people in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

Support for Direct Services Benefiting Hawaiian Communities

Friends of Hawaii Charities provides support to nonprofit organizations and public agencies that benefit women, children, youth, the elderly, and the needy in Hawaii.

Programs Serving Children in Minnesota Funded

The Sheltering Arms Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations in Minnesota that benefit children and families who have the least access to resources.

Federal Opportunities

Program Supports AmeriCorps Community Efforts

The AmeriCorps State and National Grants program supports organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities.

Preservation of Humanities Collections Funded

The Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions program helps institutions improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections.

The Cherokee Nation has agreed to purchase **Will Rogers'** historic home and family ranch in northeastern Oklahoma, promising restoration and repairs to the birthplace of the renowned actor and humorist.

A signing ceremony formalizing the purchase from the Oklahoma Historical Society was held on Nov. 4, Rogers' birthday.

(L-R): Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr., District 12 Tribal Councilor Dora Patzkowski, District 14 Tribal Councilor Keith Austin, District 15 Tribal Councilor Janees Taylor and Deputy Principal Chief Bryan Warner. (Courtesy Cherokee Nation)

“Will Rogers’ humor and his unique ability to make complicated political and economic issues easy to understand made him a powerful social critic and commentator,” said Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr., in a written statement released by the tribe. “He captivated audiences around the nation because his humor never insulted or belittled anyone – he was simply telling the truth about people in positions of power.

“He was called ‘The Cherokee Kid’ in his early entertainment career and always embraced his culture and his tribe. No matter how popular he was, Will Rogers was always a Cherokee, and he talked about it. He reminded people every day that there are Native people of this land still alive and who remain a vibrant part of America’s tapestry. It is quite fitting that the Cherokee Nation will now have an opportunity to continue telling this story from such a unique perspective,” Hoskin said.

“Will Rogers’ humor and his unique ability to make complicated political and economic issues easy to understand made him a powerful social critic and commentator,” said Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr., in a written statement released by the tribe. (Courtesy photo)
The sales price was not disclosed.

Dr. Bob Blackburn, the executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, a state agency that owns the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in nearby Claremore, said the investment by the Cherokee nation will help secure the legacy of the Rogers family ranch.

“The Oklahoma Historical Society and the Cherokee Nation have a long history of mutual respect, cooperation and shared resources,” Blackburn in a statement. “Every penny earned from this transfer will be invested in the Will Rogers Memorial Museum, located in the Cherokee Nation. Together, we will make sure the world will always remember the life and legacy of this famous Cherokee cowboy.”

The Cherokee Nation, which oversees seven other museums, two welcome centers and other retail operations, will manage the property through the tribe’s cultural tourism department.

(See related story: [Google Doodle celebrates Cherokee actor Will Rogers](#))

‘Oklahoma’s Favorite Son

William Penn Adair Rogers was born Nov. 4, 1879, on the family ranch in Oologah, Oklahoma, northeast of Tulsa, the youngest of eight children of Clement Vann Rogers and Mary America Schrimsher.

The ranch started as a 20-acre site but grew to about 60,000 acres at its peak. In the late 1890s, however, the ranch was reduced through allotments created by the Curtis and Dawes acts. The family worked to purchase back land and was able to reclaim approximately 2,000 acres. Today, the property, which includes the ranch-style home and three buildings, is approximately 162 acres.

In his early 20s, Rogers sought to join the entertainment industry, where his skills with a rope and horse drew attention. He worked in vaudeville then joined the Ziegfeld Follies, which led to movie contracts. He would go on to star in more than 70 movies, write a syndicated newspaper column and author seven books. He was also a radio commentator.

[Try watching this video on www.youtube.com](#)

Perhaps his most famous line was, “I never met a man I didn’t like.” He also poked fun at political conventions, declaring, “I am not a member of any organized political party. I am a Democrat.”

Rogers died at age 56 in a plane crash with well-known Oklahoma aviator Wiley Post on Aug. 15, 1935, in Point Barrow, Alaska. He is buried at the Will Rogers Memorial Museum in Claremore, along with other members of his family.

His legacy has endured. On his birthday in 2019, Google honored him with a Google Doodle on the Google home page.

Preserving his legacy

At the signing ceremony in early November, Cherokee Nation Deputy Chief Bryan Warner emphasized the importance of Rogers' legacy as a citizen of the tribe.

“Today is a good day to celebrate this historic site and all that has been accomplished here by those who acted as caretakers of the land for many decades, including the Oklahoma Historical Society,” said Warner. “The story of Will Rogers is such an integral part of Oklahoma history and Cherokee Nation history. I want to thank the Oklahoma Historical Society for preserving this site and allowing folks from all across the world to get a glimpse of the famed Cherokee humorist who left a lasting impression on so many of us.”

Keith Austin, Cherokee Nation Tribal Councilor, said he grew up just a few miles from the family's ranch.

“This is a proud moment for [the] Cherokee Nation and the beginning of what I know will be a promising future for this treasured site,” Austin said. “The Will Rogers birthplace was an important part of my childhood. I spent a lot of time here, and it is a true honor to have the opportunity to share the Cherokee story of Will Rogers and the Rogers family ranch.

“Today, we celebrate part of our Cherokee roots being returned to the Cherokee people, and I'm proud and humbled to be part of it,” he said.

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*Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.” — [Will Roger](#)*

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When Jesus Christ came upon the Earth, you killed Him. The son of your own God. And only after He was dead did you worship Him and start killing those who would not. ~ Tecumseh



## Congress Is Deadlocked on Covid Relief but Came Together to Fund the Pentagon for \$740 Billion

*Sarah Lazare, In These Times*

Lazare writes: "There is always money for war."

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### **Washington NFL team drops Native foundation      Nov 20, 2020**

*Updated: The team says it's reviewing its philanthropic strategy and will no longer contribute to the Original Americans Foundation*

**Dalton Walker**    [\*Indian Country Today\*](#)

The Washington NFL team dumped its controversial mascot earlier this year and now, it appears it has dumped its foundation created to help Native people.

The team will no longer make contributions to the Original Americans Foundation and will instead focus its charitable efforts on the [Washington Football Charitable Foundation](#), USA Today [reported this week](#). The Washington Football Charitable Foundation will continue to assist Native communities, according to the newspaper, but it's unclear how.

"As part of our evolution into a franchise of the future, the Washington Football Team's new leadership is reviewing our philanthropic strategy," read a team statement to USA Today.

A spokeswoman for the foundation confirmed the shift away from the Original Americans Foundation and a new philanthropic strategy to Indian Country Today.

Julie Jenson said part of the strategy is working with advisors and leadership within the Native American community that is long term and sustainable. Strategy specifics haven't been built out yet, she said.

In July, the team said it was retiring its logo and nickname, a dictionary-defined racial slur, after mounting pressure from activists and sponsors. It hasn't made a public decision on a new name and is competing in this NFL season as the Washington Football Team.

#### **(Related: Washington NFL team kicks out R-word)**

The team launched the Original Americans Foundation in 2014. An [announcement](#) on its website from that time outlined its goals and cited its ability to "provide resources that offer genuine opportunities for tribal communities."

According to the post, Snyder and his staff traveled to 26 reservations in 20 states and met with 400 tribal leaders.

"The fact is, too many Native American communities face much harsher, much more alarming realities," Snyder said in the announcement. "I've listened. I've learned. And frankly, it's heart

wrenching. It's not enough to celebrate the values and heritage of Native Americans. We must do more."

It also noted the foundation had given a new backhoe to the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, among 40-plus projects being processed that year.

[USA Today reported](#) that the foundation donated \$3.7 million in its first year, \$1.6 million in the second, \$650,000 in the 2017 fiscal year, \$303,000 in the 2018 fiscal year, and \$0 in 2019. It's unclear where the money was spent or which tribes benefited.

The NFL franchise is facing sexual harassment claims that were recently exposed by the [Washington Post](#). The report names Original Americans Foundation Executive Director Gary Edwards as one of the franchise employees accused of sexual harassment.

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### **How Dinosaurs Thrived in the Snow**

Discoveries made in the past decades help show how many species coped with cold temperatures near both poles.



**Dinosaurs found in Alaska's Prince Creek formation likely remained in the region when it snowed during the winter. (Julio Lacerda)**

By **Riley Black**

<https://>

[www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/how-dinosaurs-thrived-snow-180976435/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20201203-daily-responsive&spMailingID=44033524&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1900302207&spReportId=MTkwMDMwMjIwNwS2](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/how-dinosaurs-thrived-snow-180976435/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20201203-daily-responsive&spMailingID=44033524&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=1900302207&spReportId=MTkwMDMwMjIwNwS2)

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### **A Huge Oil Pipeline Is Coming to Minnesota - and With It the Risk of COVID**

***Emily Holden, Guardian UK***

Holden writes: "As Covid-19 cases surge in Minnesota, an oil company is bringing in thousands of out-of-state workers to finish building a pipeline from Canada that will stretch hundreds of miles across the state." **READ MORE**

## In India, One Robot A Day Keeps The Doctor Away (Daily Pnut)



Mitra's not statuesque, or even lifelike, but she's still kinda cute. And as long as the WiFi isn't interrupted, she'll continue gliding around hospital wards in India with a chest-mounted tablet that lets COVID-19 patients and their loved ones see each other. Plus, because she can take vital readings and help in consultations — thereby reducing the risk of infection to medical personnel — [she's become hugely popular during the pandemic](#).

Mitra stands just five feet tall and costs around \$13,600. She was developed by the Bengaluru startup Invento Robotics to assist in care homes. Initially, Indian hospitals enlisted the Mitra robots due to a shortage of PPE, and because they could be used for disinfecting floors with ultra-violet radiation and strong disinfectants. As the crisis continued, they became even more useful in treating COVID-19 patients.

Other robotic systems had been in use in hospitals long before the pandemic. One colorectal surgeon employed Intuitive Surgical's Da Vinci XI. "This [remote control robotics system] helps me in performing difficult surgeries with 10 times more magnification, and 3D views. 'Firefly' fluorescence technology used with the Da Vinci robot lights up the blood supply to the organ, and helps differentiate cancerous from healthy tissue," he said. "Though these systems are very expensive and have to be imported, their superior advanced technologies are invaluable in complex surgeries."



As a range of other sectors began adopting automation to reduce costs or time, or to take on hazardous tasks, projections were made that India's robotics market would grow 20 percent between 2017 and 2025. One startup, Genrobotics, collaborated with local authorities in the southern state of Kerala to adapt its spider-shaped robot Bandicoot to clean sewers and manholes — notoriously dangerous and unpleasant work that previously had been done manually. The head of Genrobotics said: "We found manual scavenging is a global issue, and there was no efficient tech to clean manholes." Now more than 11 Indian states are using the world's first manhole cleaning robot.

The Indian army has used Daksh robots equipped with x-ray vision and chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear hazard detection mechanisms since 2011. By 2017, the automotive sector accounted for 62 percent of industrial robots, which were used to perform everything from welding to lifting heavy loads. India's industrial robot sales have landed it among the top 10 countries for the annual installation of machines in industries.

India still has only about three robots for every 10,000 workers, but the pandemic has likely incentivized its robotic industry to grow even faster than projected.

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**GeekWire**

**President Trump signs an executive order guiding how federal agencies use AI**

[https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/president-trump-signs-executive-](https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/president-trump-signs-executive-order-020017642.html?tsrc=daily_mail&uh_test=1_11)

[order-020017642.html?tsrc=daily\\_mail&uh\\_test=1\\_11](https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/president-trump-signs-executive-order-020017642.html?tsrc=daily_mail&uh_test=1_11) (Geek Wire)

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**Excerpt of *Esquire* Interview with Kelly Reilly:**

I was also going to ask you about the discussion of indigenous women going missing. What *Yellowstone* does, in my opinion, so well is they present it, but they don't just dump the entire bucket. It's just a little bit at a time. I think that makes it resonate so much more.

Thank you for bringing that up. It's something that when I do interviews for the show, people don't really touch on. Especially not with me, but it's something that is one of my, the things that I'm so proud of to be part of this show. I think for a long time they just assumed this was a show about cowboys and rednecks and, "This is our land." Actually, if you kind of pay attention the people that [Taylor Sheridan] shows so much respect and love for in the show is for the Native Americans. He has a deep history with that personally in his life. Obviously if you've seen his other films like *Wind River*, this is a theme in his work that he's so passionate about. For him to draw attention to that, and to put that into the living room of so many Americans who don't necessarily want to look at that part of our history, it's uncomfortable. But I'm so glad that he is. I feel like it's without being preachy, I think it's really, a really important thing to know about.

But I do like the fact that there is not that self-righteousness in our show. We're playing characters and we're not trying to be too sort of, dare I say it, "woke" about things. If we get into that area, I'm not really interested. I'm interested in complicated and messy and human, and the sort of things that we all can, "How can we find these characters so sort of enthralling and

intriguing when they're kind of so bad?" It's a fantasy. These characters are sort of fantasy. I love that.

**[New research explains why salmon are dying in the Pacific Northwest. The danger lurks in California, too](#)** **[By SF Chronicle, 12/3/20](#)**

Scientists in the Pacific Northwest say they've solved a long-running mystery behind the region's dying salmon, a discovery that may explain what's harming fish elsewhere around the globe, including California. In research published Thursday, a team of university and government scientists identify a toxic material derived from tire treads that is washing into rivers and creeks as the killer of as many as 90% of the coho salmon in parts of the Puget Sound.

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**[Meet Julian Brave NoiseCat – the 26-year-old shaping US climate policy](https://thecorrespondent.com/152/meet-julian-brave-noisecat-the-26-year-old-shaping-us-climate-policy/20122769128-6ac4dd6a)** **[https://thecorrespondent.com/152/meet-julian-brave-noisecat-the-26-year-old-shaping-us-climate-](https://thecorrespondent.com/152/meet-julian-brave-noisecat-the-26-year-old-shaping-us-climate-policy/20122769128-6ac4dd6a)**



**[policy/20122769128-6ac4dd6a](https://thecorrespondent.com/152/meet-julian-brave-noisecat-the-26-year-old-shaping-us-climate-policy/20122769128-6ac4dd6a)**

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**Ecuador to Draft New Bill on the Consultation of Indigenous Peoples, Without Consulting Them**

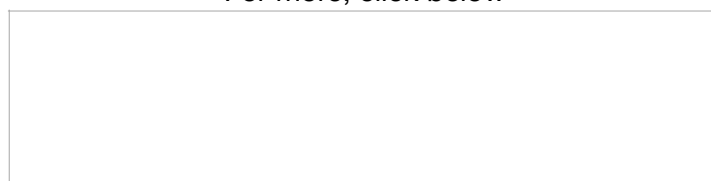
**Eight months after the COVID-19 crisis crippled Ecuador's economy**, the country is pinning its post-pandemic recovery hopes on expanding oil and mining extraction in the Amazon.

Desperate to build investor confidence, **legislators are drafting a bill on the "Free, Prior, and Informed Consultation" of Indigenous peoples**. They hope to signal that Indigenous opposition, protests, and legal challenges that have halted projects in recent years are a thing of the past.

**But legislators haven't bothered to consult with Indigenous peoples** on the bill, and they have neglected to include the right to *consent* – the internationally accepted standard that acknowledges Indigenous peoples' autonomy to accept or veto any project or policy that affects them.

Ecuador needs a **law on the *consultation* and *consent* of Indigenous peoples that comes from Indigenous peoples** – a law whose construction reflects the very process it is meant to enshrine.

For more, click below





### [Nevada Indian Commission](#)

Nevada Indian Commission Commissioner **Lori Pasqua will be honored with a posthumous Bachelor of Arts degree** by the University of Nevada-Reno at its winter commencement on Saturday. Her family will accept this honorary degree on her behalf.

“As Lori Pasqua’s colleagues and friends, our entire community wants this tireless advocate of education to own a legacy which is an enduring example to the hundreds of students she supported,” said Stacey Montooth, Executive Director of the Nevada Indian Commission. “For UNR to confer her with this degree is completely fitting, and we are grateful to the university.” Commissioner Pasqua died from cancer on Aug. 23, 2020, just three courses shy of completing her formal education. A board member of the Nevada Indian Commission, Ms. Pasqua was a Welmelti from the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, and a descendant of the Cui-ui Dicutta of Pyramid Lake, and descendant of the Pit-River Susanville Indian Rancheria.

She graduated in 1980 from Carson City High and earned a certificate in Social Work from Haskell Junior College in Lawrence, Kan., in 1982. In 2009, she earned an Associate of Arts degree from Western Nevada College. Ms. Pasqua continued her higher education endeavors at University of Nevada Reno, to major in sociology with a minor in addiction treatment services. Ms. Pasqua dedicated over 30 years of service to the Washoe Tribe education program. She was recognized for her outstanding contributions in the field of Indian Education by Senator Harry Reid in 2009 and 2010. Lori was named "Role Model of the Year" for her work with American Indian Youth Services by the Nevada Indian Commission. She was also awarded "Employee of the Year" in 2010 by the Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Authority and The Record-Courier. She was appointed by Governor Brian Sandoval to serve as a board member of the Nevada Indian Commission from November 2018 to August 2020.