

**Journal #4859 from sdc 1.22.20**

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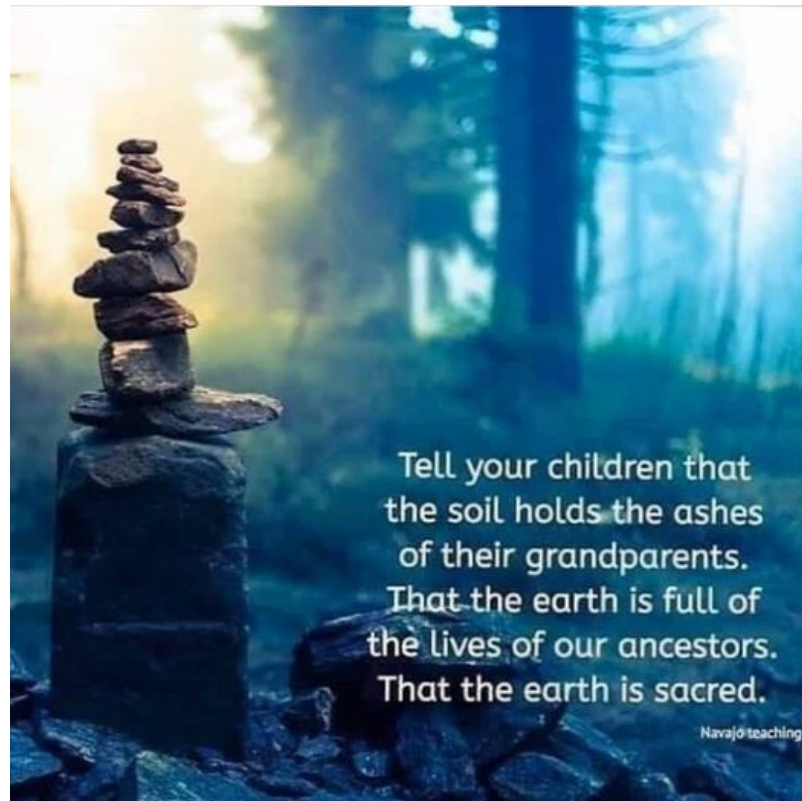
*12 Blackfeet Natives from Browning Heading to Hollywood*

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Tell your children that  
the soil holds the ashes  
of their grandparents.  
That the earth is full of  
the lives of our ancestors.  
That the earth is sacred.

Navajo teaching

## **Today is Inauguration Day: What does a Biden-Harris Administration mean for Indian Country?**

Today marks the beginning of a new chapter as President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris are sworn in. We celebrate all the hard work that went into this win across the country. Every organizer, every volunteer shift, every call, every text — all of it made a difference. We can remain focused on the work that lies ahead, but today we can celebrate and find joy in this historic win and uplift every single organizing effort it took to get here. Today we celebrate, and tomorrow we organize. Millions are still unemployed, our families are struggling to put food on the table, and we're losing our relatives at disproportionate rates to COVID-19. What happens after today is up to us. We must continue to organize and keep our communities at the center of our struggle.

The violent insurgence of our Capitol a few weeks ago left many of us in distress. While people are waking up to the realities of our country's racism this is not new for Indigenous communities and other communities of color. We know firsthand how our country's history is rooted in the oppression of Indigenous, Black and communities of color, but we must continue to dismantle institutions that uphold white supremacy.

If the violent attacks on January 6th revealed anything, it was that these white nationalist groups are disguising themselves as grassroots organizations, but are in fact well funded by powerful people working to uphold white supremacy, which is built into the fabric of the electorate. The very origins of white supremacy and nationalism are predicated on the enslavement of Black, Indigenous, and people of color. In addition, we saw those who attacked the capitol were undercharged and unharmed by law enforcement, meanwhile BIPOC communities have suffered at the hands of police brutality and violence for peaceful demonstrations. When Indigenous water protectors were met with violence during Standing Rock, white supremacists were allowed to storm the Capitol and riot. This is a critical time to stand in solidarity to combat white supremacy and radically transform institutions of power in the United States.

Many say our democracy is under threat, but we know full well that we don't live in a democracy and never have. All of our public institutions — schools, law enforcement, housing, medicine — have done everything to deny our existence, but we are proving time and time again that we are still here. Our political systems continue to allow injustice and white supremacy to run rampant, but we will fight, organize, and win with community organizers on the ground building a people-powered movement.

Biden is expected to cancel the Keystone XL pipeline permit on his first day in office, but make no mistake — that is due to the decades of grassroots organizing led by Indigenous peoples. We must continue to fight and make our demands heard to the new administration. We call on all of you, relatives and allies, to join us in the continued fight toward justice, healing and liberation as we work together to hold the Biden-Harris administration accountable to the responsibilities they have to Native peoples.

In solidarity, California Native Vote Project

## **Amazon rainforest rock art 'depicts giant Ice Age creatures ...**

[www.bbc.com > news > world-latin-america-55172063](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-55172063)

Dec 3, 2020 — *Rock art found in the Amazon rainforest carries images of the area's earliest inhabitants living alongside giant Ice Age creatures, researchers ...*



*The Washington delegation carried a petition concerning an irrigation reservoir several times during 1919-1921. (l-r) James X. Willie, George Knerim and Richard Sides. (courtesy Mary Wilson Collection)*

### **Anne Willie Susan**

Reflecting on today's Presidential Inauguration events, I thought of my Grandpa James Xavier (Dutchman Creek) Willie who served as the Tribal Chairman of the Walker River Paiute Tribe in Schurz, Nevada in the 1930s. He traveled to Washington D.C. between 1919-1921, so long ago to negotiate with the federal government on land and water rights. A new dawn has arrived today and with respect to tribes, I look forward to strong innovation and strengthening of our sovereignty in our government to government relationship with the Biden-Harris Administration.

### **Dispatches from Out of Eden Walk**

In 2013, journalist Paul Salopek set out to retrace our ancestors' global migration on foot. Salopek's 21,000-mile odyssey is a multiyear experiment in slow journalism. If we choose to slow down and observe carefully, he says, we also can rediscover our world.

[https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/out-of-eden-walk/the-journey/chapters/5-riverlands/?sort\\_dir=desc](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/out-of-eden-walk/the-journey/chapters/5-riverlands/?sort_dir=desc)

**This winter break, cozy up with a fun read** (like this one about [hibernation!](#)) from National Geographic Education's [Resource Library](#). Filled with over 4,000 free, low-tech resources, the Resource Library has a variety of content for your learners to enjoy this holiday season and to prepare for the new year. Share your favorite image, article, or activity with @NatGeoEducation!

[https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/resource-library/?q=&page=1&per\\_page=25](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/resource-library/?q=&page=1&per_page=25)

### **Barrick Cultural Programs**

<http://www.barrick.com/English/operations/nevada-gold-mines/cultural-heritage/default.aspx>



[cbc.ca](http://cbc.ca)

['Drop the Pringles and let's jingle!' Powwow sweat video | CBC News](#)

[Have you ever wanted to learn powwow dancing? A new video series produced by Coeur d'Alene Tribe in Idaho is turning traditional powwow dances into workouts.](#)

### **Minnesota tribes blast Rep. Pete Stauber for opposing Interior nomination**

By [Patrick Condon](#) Star Tribune

January 21, 2021 — 4:45pm

Leaders of Minnesota's biggest American Indian tribes are criticizing U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber for his efforts to build opposition to President Joe Biden's pick for Interior Secretary, who is herself a tribal member.

Most egregiously, state tribal leaders said, Stauber — a Republican whose northeastern

Minnesota district is home to several of the state's largest bands — did not even give them a heads up that he would be trying to sink the nomination of Democratic Rep. Deb Haaland of New Mexico to lead the Department of the Interior.

"We felt like we were blindsided," Faron Jackson, Sr., chairman of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, said Thursday. "You know, we might not change his opinion or his outlook, but at least give us the consultation."

Several groups of tribal leaders sent blistering letters to Stauber last week, after learning that he had been reaching out to House colleagues seeking co-signers for a letter to the new Biden Administration asking that Haaland's name be withdrawn from consideration.

Stauber cited Haaland's support for the Green New Deal, a broad environmental initiative put forward by progressive Democrats as a means of fighting climate change.

Calling Haaland a "direct threat to working men and women and a rejection of responsible development of America's natural resources," Stauber said her support for the Green New Deal makes her unfit to lead the Department of Interior.

Stauber declined an interview request for this story. A spokeswoman, Kelsey Mix, said his opposition to Haaland is tied only to support for environmental policies that she characterized as "anti-jobs and anti-mining."

Stauber "remains committed to working with and building strong relationships with tribal communities and their leaders, and he will continue to hear them out on this issue," Mix wrote in an email. She said that Stauber has not yet sent the letter about Haaland to the Biden Administration.

Haaland is an enrolled member of the Laguna Pueblo. In 2018, she was one of the first two American Indian women elected to the U.S. House.

In December, in announcing the nominations of Haaland and his picks for other environmental, energy and natural resources agency, Biden said: "They share my belief that we have no time to waste to confront the climate crisis, protect our air and drinking water, and deliver justice to communities that have long shouldered the burdens of our environmental harms."

If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Haaland would also become the country's first American Indian Cabinet Secretary. The Interior Department is the main federal agency that manages relations between the U.S. government and tribes; the Bureau of Indian Affairs is part of the agency. Jackson said several tribal leaders had a brief phone call with Stauber after the dispute blew up, and that he apologized for not consulting them. But Jackson said he was disappointed that Stauber wouldn't reconsider his opposition.

"We view [Haaland] as someone who can turn a dark page on our shared history with the U.S. government and finally work in true partnership with us," Jackson said. Minnesota tribes have raised concerns about several high-profile mining and pipeline projects in northern Minnesota, while Stauber has been an outspoken proponent.

"We want to make sure we're protecting our clean water, our forests, our air," Jackson said.

"We're caretakers of the earth here, and we want to look at different avenues for producing energy."



In a separate letter to Stauber about his opposition to Haaland, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin pushed back at Stauber's argument that policies championed by Haaland would be bad for jobs in his district.

"Collectively, the five tribal governments in your district are the largest employees in the 8th District and the vast majority of jobs we have created are held by non-Native people," she wrote.

Tribal leaders noted particular disappointment in Stauber given his membership on the House Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples. Haaland has also been a member.

"Your opposition to the first and only American Indian ever nominated to a Cabinet position is likely to reverberate across Indian country," wrote the leaders of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, the Grand Portage Band of Superior Chippewa, the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

Patrick Condon • 612-673-4413



[earthjustice.org](http://earthjustice.org)

[Shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline](#)

[It's time to shut down the Dakota Access Pipeline. DAPL is currently operating without a permit and in violation of key environmental laws, needlessly endangering the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe for the sake of oil industry profits. The Trump administration has refused to force the pipelin...](#)

### **Will States Use the Capitol Riot to Crack Down on Pipeline Protests?**

*Naveena Sadasivam, Grist*

Sadasivam writes: "The ideological affiliation of a given protest can have a profound effect on the way it's handled by law enforcement." [READ MORE](#)

As Biden axed a key permit for the Keystone XL pipeline on his first day in office, Indigenous Water Protectors in Minnesota want to see Biden's campaign promise extended to another notorious tar sands pipeline project: Enbridge's Line 3 expansion.



[truthout.org](https://truthout.org)

[As Biden Axes KXL Pipeline, Water Protectors Urge Him to Reject DAPL and Line 3  
Indigenous Water Protectors are taking direct action to stop another tar sands pipeline.](#)

### **[UNR Extension's gardening classes return with online sessions](#)**

The University of Nevada, Reno Extension's annual gardening classes return this year, online that is. [Read on »](#)

### **'One of a Kind': Calls to Protect Alabama's 60,000-Year-Old Underwater Forest** *Paola Rosa-Aquino, Guardian UK*

Excerpt: "Efforts are under way to designate site of submerged forest off the Alabama coast a marine sanctuary." [READ MORE](#)

*We must rapidly begin the shift from a thing-oriented society to a person-oriented society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights, are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism, and militarism are incapable of being conquered." — MLK*

[energyfactor.exxonmobil.com](https://energyfactor.exxonmobil.com)

[Tomorrow's energy solutions start here](#)

[Peek behind tomorrow's energy solutions](#)

<https://energyfactor.exxonmobil.com/energy-innovation/collaborations/nrel-energy-innovators/>

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

January 22, 2021

The **Native Community Action Council is celebrating the Treaty on Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons** entry into force by gathering in Las Vegas at the Federal Courthouse to hold banners affirming the entry into force of the treaty. The treaty was approved by the 193-member U.N. General Assembly on July 7, 2017 by a vote of 122 in favor, the Netherlands opposed, and Singapore abstaining. Five nuclear powers and four other countries known or believed to possess nuclear weapons — India, Pakistan, North Korea, and Israel — boycotted negotiations and the vote on the treaty, along with many of their allies.

The Shoshone people view the treaty as a positive step leading to relief from over 900 nuclear weapons tests above, and below ground that released radiation upon the homelands of the Shoshone Nation of Indians. *“We are all down-winders,”* stated Ian Zabarte, Secretary of the Native Community Action Council. Mr. Zabarte has worked for decades to end full-scale nuclear weapons testing conducted in secret and investigate health consequences of radiation exposure on his people and land. His goal is to end the need for nuclear weapons, mitigate the impacts upon the Shoshone people and land and prevent Yucca Mountain from being developed as a high-level nuclear waste repository. The Native Community Action Council is a party to Yucca Mountain licensing with the only ownership contention. After spending \$15 billion dollars the Department of Energy cannot prove ownership to Yucca Mountain even with the Bureau of Land Management Master Title Plats because the Treaty of Ruby Valley is controlling under the US Constitution, Article 6, Section 2, treaty supremacy clause. Shoshone ownership is enduring.

*“Our relationship to the land and pure water of the Great Basin is our identity”* said Mr. Zabarte. Destructive nuclear weapons testing left vulnerabilities in the land destroying the delicate flora and fauna that allowed noxious and invasive plant species to take hold. Mr. Zabarte was acquitted of rounding up Indian horses the US claims are “wild” under the definition of Congress in the Wild Horse and Burro Act of 1971. *“We acted out of necessity to protect our horses from the destruction of the range caused by nuclear weapons testing.”* The US Bureau of Land Management blames the Shoshone livestock for destroying the land.

Shoshone leaders will then travel to the Nevada National Security Site at 2:00 pm to hold banners and create awareness among test site workers that their work is illegal.

###END###



## **PNut: Lab-Based Plants, But So Far Nobody's Botany**

- It seems like every day the threat of climate change asks us to change our behavior. Eat less meat. Use less plastic. Drive less. But stubborn humans will always look for a way around lifestyle change. The latest innovation: lab-grown plants.
- MIT researchers have developed a method for growing plant tissues in a lab, not unlike recent developments in growing lab-based meat. Lab-grown plants could be a substitute for the vast amount of natural resources destroyed by the agriculture and forestry industries. Rather than wasting multiple acres of land to feed a single cow or raze a forest to build a few more wood-frame houses, companies may soon purchase lab-grown materials instead.
- Just as with lab-grown meat, the development process has far to go, and scaling up to massive amounts of lumber is an immense challenge, but the potential of lab-grown plants to revolutionize climate-destroying industries is tremendous.

## **Farmers In The Future: Turn On Your Drone Cow-sitter, Go To The Moo-vies**

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) maintains that cattle production is “the most important agricultural industry” in the country. But times have changed from when ranching meant (even if theatrically) hundreds of lush grazing acres and dozens of cowhands babysitting the herds.

Things have downsized a lot, thanks to climate change, a declining labor supply, and land development. Nowadays there are small-herd guys for whom cattle producing may very well be their second job. Take many cattle producers in Kentucky and Colorado, for example. 5 pm isn't the end of their workday, but when they transition from their non-farming day jobs to working with their livestock. Those early evening chores — like putting out hay, refilling water tanks, locating cattle, and checking on their health — become a lot harder after sunset, in bad weather, or if a cow is hiding in a secluded area.

It's for these folks that a team of researchers at the University of Kentucky is testing the feasibility of using drones to remotely handle those kinds of assessments. “The idea is to make it easier for [small-herd cattle guys] to have this second form of income ... by automating some of it ... without them having to be there,” says Jesse Hoagg, professor of mechanical engineering at the university. It's about [making the ranching industry more efficient through smart technology](#).

The ability to accurately and quickly monitor cattle location and wellbeing isn't just a time-saver for busy ranchers — it has important financial implications. Every year, more than 2.5 million cows in the US die from health problems, costing the cattle industry \$1.5 billion.

It's important enough work that in 2018 Hoagg and his team received a three-year, nearly \$900,000 grant from the USDA to train drones to patrol pastures, locate cattle, and monitor health indicators. That's tricky because it requires teaching drones to identify and track specific cows. Now Hoagg is working on fine-tuning this last part — testing computer algorithms that

can turn current human facial recognition technology into software that can differentiate Elsie from Ferdinand. (BBC)

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***Benjamin Franklin:***

***“Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.”***

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"The twelve full-blooded Blackfeet were to be extras in the film, relatively rare in an era where Hollywood was more likely to hire readily available Hispanic actors, if not just Caucasians in facepaint to appear as 'Indians.'"



[distinctlymontana.com](http://distinctlymontana.com)

[Historical Photo of 12 Blackfeet Natives from Browning Heading to Hollywood](#)

[The twelve full-blooded Blackfeet were to be extras in the film, relatively rare in an era where Hollywood was more likely to hire readily available Hispanic actors, if not just Caucasians in facepaint to appear as "Indians."](#)

[npr.org](http://npr.org)

[A New Hippocratic Oath Asks Doctors To Fight Racial Injustice And Misinformation](#)

[At the University of Pittsburgh, new medical students recited an alternative oath, drawing on current events and recent political turmoil to highlight the societal responsibilities of doctors.](#)

[President Joe Biden](#)

took an immediate shot at one of his predecessor's key legacies Wednesday evening when he signed a proclamation calling for border wall construction to come to an end



[cnn.com](https://www.cnn.com)

[Defense Department slams brakes on border wall as it reviews Biden order](https://www.cnn.com)



**Bernie in Indian Country**



frfh.net

Obituary for **Randolph 'Randy' Sargent** at Freitas Ruprecht Funeral Home

Randolph Brett Sargent passed away on Monday afternoon, January 4, 2021 at the Renown Regional Medical Center. He was 49 years old. Randolph was born in Schurz, Nevada on January 1, 1972, the only child of Sandra Stone and Robert Sargent. While his parents worked, he was raised in Carson