

## **Journal #4907 from sdc 3.24.21**

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## **FOIA FAQ: How to explore MuckRock’s public archive of FOIA requests and releases**

**Sort requests to see what other users have uncovered, then use the “Clone” feature to build off their work**

Written by [JPat Brown](#) Edited by [Michael Morisy](#)

Over the last nine years, MuckRock users have filed over 60,000 public records requests at the local, state, and federal levels, resulting in the release of four million pages of government records. Today, we’re going to look at how you can use [the Requests page](#) to explore the archives, and even build off the great FOIA work of others.

<https://www.muckrock.com/news/archives/2019/may/14/foia-faq-archives/>

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## **New House bill attempts to make presidential records more easily searchable**

By [Nicole Ogrysko @nogryskoWFED](#)

To kick off Sunshine Week, House Oversight and Reform Committee Chair Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.) is introducing new legislation designed to update a decades-old presidential records law.

The bill, called the [Presidential Records Preservation Act](#), would require the president, vice president and White House senior officials to “make and preserve” records that track the president’s official activities.

The bill would also require White House officials to establish specific records management controls to capture and preserve electronic records, and to make them easily searchable and accessible.

Several laws on managing federal and presidential records already exist. But Maloney said her bill would bring the Presidential Records Act — a 1978 act that governs the legal ownership structure of official records from previous and current administrations — in line with another law — the Federal Records Act.

The 1950 Federal Records Act created general policies for creating, maintaining and disposing certain agency records. It also established the legal framework for preserving those records as a way of documenting official agency activities.

Congress updated the law back in 2014 to include electronic messages and documents as another form of federal records.

“These reforms to the Presidential Records Act will strengthen the current law and improve transparency by requiring the president and the president’s senior advisors to document decisions,” she said in a statement. More at:

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/open-datatransparency/2021/03/new-house-bill-attempts-to-make-presidential-records-more-easily-searchable/>

**What are the unintended consequences and challenges of fighting climate change?**  
Find out at our virtual Public Policy Conference.



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**6th Annual Public Policy Conference | Virtual on April 7**

In California, support for fighting climate change is broad and urgent. Wildfires endanger our communities. The rising ocean is beginning to flood our coast. Shifting weather patterns threaten

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**Apply now for #EnterpriseDocFund**

**One month left to apply for \$100K in production grants**

The IDA is looking to fund feature-length documentary projects in production that integrate journalistic practice while exploring original, contemporary stories. The deadline to apply for #EnterpriseDocFund is approaching in one month so apply now!

*Philly D.A., Mayor, Users, Through the Night, And She Could Be Next*, are just some of the acclaimed titles that have received funds as well as project-tailored pro bono legal support, research and fact-checking support, and consultations with experts and craftspeople. **The deadline to apply for funding is April 19, 2021. SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION**

Delancey: Today's selection -- from *Grand Canyon Women* by Betty Leavengood.

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**[KUNR Today: Nevada Electric Highway Nears Completion, Fernley Sues Feds Over Irrigation Canal Repair](#)**

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*“Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check. But that is not what I have found. I found it is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love.” — Gandalf*

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**Catalyzing an Indigenous-Led Just Energy Transition**

*Rhett A. Butler, Mongabay*

Excerpt: "A Just Transition is the idea that the shift toward low-carbon economies needs to be fair and inclusive, meaning it considers the people that will be most impacted by abandoning fossil fuels."

**[READ MORE](#)**

## **Mule wrangling in the Grand Canyon**

"For more than a century, wranglers (folks who work with mules and horses) have guided dudes (city folk pretending they are cowboys) into the Grand Canyon. Mule rides are a favorite pastime for canyon visitors, and most agree that exploring trails while atop a mule is the most exciting way to see the canyon. Not only have they been brought face to face with the canyon's exquisite beauty, the 'dudes' have had a true Western experience.

"Mules are crafty animals, known for being sure-footed and stubborn, yet safe. In the more than one hundred years that mule wranglers have been taking dudes into the Grand Canyon, they've never lost a dude! That's because mules have a special set of breeding requirements. A male donkey is called a jack, and a female donkey is a jenny. In horses, the male is a stallion, and the female, a mare. Breed a jack with a mare and you have a mule. The result of this breeding is an animal with the shape and sure-footedness of a large donkey and the disposition of a horse, making it an ideal animal for trips along steep, narrow ledges like those found in the canyon.

"Mules were the work animal of early prospectors like John Hance and William Bass, who used them to haul ore from their mines in the canyon. Both men soon learned that putting a dude on the back of a mule was more profitable than ore, and by the mid-1880s both men offered trips into the canyon.

"In the early years, women rode into the canyon wearing long skirts and proper hats, but none was counted among the ranks of the wranglers. That is until William Bass's daughter Edith came along. She rode her own mule down to Shinumo Camp at age three and a half, and by age thirteen she could wrangle a mule better than most cowboys. Edith's outgoing personality and skill with mules made her a natural with dudes, and she can rightly be called the Grand Canyon's first woman wrangler. Edith married Bert Lauzon in 1916 and lived at the canyon until her untimely death in 1924 after gallstone surgery.

"Wrangling was incredibly hard work, and it remains so even today. No modern devices substitute for the personal touch of the wranglers. Today at the Grand Canyon, a mule wrangler's day begins much the way it always has: with a cold splash of water on the face at 4:00 A.M. and a quick, hearty breakfast. The wrangler is in the stables before the sun crests the horizon. Stalls are swept clean, and fresh hay replaces the matted, day-old pile. The wranglers haul grain for the mules' breakfasts and then brush, comb, and check the animals head to heel for cuts, bruises, or other injuries that may not have been apparent the night before. All are then saddled, cinched, and led off to the corral to await the day's dudes.

### **Grand Canyon Women by Betty Levengood**

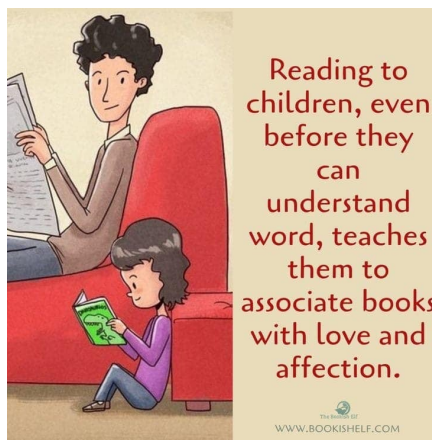
**Published by Grand Canyon Association 2004 pp 235-36**

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**['When will we have peace?' Grief and outrage at three Indigenous deaths in custody in a week](#) (Guardian)**

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**[Scientists want to store DNA of 6.7 million species on the moon, just in case](#) (Live Science)**



## U.S. Jesuit Conference Pledges \$100 Million in Reparations for Catholic Church’s Role in Black Enslavement

Administrators of the U.S. Jesuit Conference of Priests (USJCP) just announced they will attempt to raise \$100 million dollars to benefit the descendants of enslaved Black people.

During the days of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, Black Africans were bought and sold—under the direct command of the Roman Catholic order. This new USJCP initiative is an attempt to foster racial reconciliation and atone for Catholic participation in the Transatlantic Slave Trade, [The New York Times](#) reports.

The priests co-established a foundation called the Descendants Truth & Reconciliation Foundation. This organization represents the descendants of both those who were enslaved, as well as those who had enslaved them and supported by JP Morgan Chase, [according to a statement released Monday](#).

To continue: [https://yourblackworld.net/2021/03/16/u-s-jesuit-conference-pledges-100-million-in-reparations-for-catholic-churchs-role-in-black-enslavement/?utm\\_source=Sites+News&utm\\_campaign=2b025d2b80-YBW\\_RSS\\_EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_e4ec70021d-2b025d2b80-176846005&goal=0\\_e4ec70021d-2b025d2b80-176846005&mc\\_cid=2b025d2b80&mc\\_eid=b9f28865c9](https://yourblackworld.net/2021/03/16/u-s-jesuit-conference-pledges-100-million-in-reparations-for-catholic-churchs-role-in-black-enslavement/?utm_source=Sites+News&utm_campaign=2b025d2b80-YBW_RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e4ec70021d-2b025d2b80-176846005&goal=0_e4ec70021d-2b025d2b80-176846005&mc_cid=2b025d2b80&mc_eid=b9f28865c9)

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*Seditionist and US Senator Josh Hawley graduated from Stanford and Yale, once again demonstrating that intelligence has nothing to do with wisdom. —Anon*

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### **Kevin Roose's 'Futureproof' Offers Rules To Thrive In The Age Of Automation (NPR)**

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### **From Amazon To FedEx, The Delivery Truck Is Going Electric (NPR)**

### **Kevin Roose's 'Futureproof' Offers Rules To Thrive In The Age Of Automation (NPR)**

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Please see: [White Earth's Shooting Star Casino raises its minimum wage to \\$16](#)

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### [Reno Food Systems](#)

Reno Food Systems' vision is a resilient, interconnected local food system that supports personal health, environmental sustainability, and economic viability. One Chip More

- First came addictive cigarettes. Then came addictive potato chips. Michael Moss has penned a revealing new book with a title nobody wants to think about. It's called Hooked: Food, Free Will and How Food Giants Exploit Our Addictions.
- This book is somewhat of a sequel to the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist's 2013 triumph: Salt Sugar Fat: How Food Giants Hooked Us. That book exposed how multinational food companies churn out processed foods that are both cheap and alluring; it won the James Beard Foundation Award for writing and literature.
- Here, Moss describes how flavor sensations -- derived from a combination of sugar and fat and other smells and tastes -- hit your brain, interact with memories, and release a flood of neurotransmitters that stimulate and perpetuate fundamental cravings.
- That's a fancy way of simply explaining [why we can't eat just one](#), even if we wanted to.
- Hooked explores how food manufacturers manipulate foods like potato chips, French fries, pizza, cheeseburgers, and Oreos to make us their addicts, and help make 40% of Americans obese. Never mind that there's no nutritional quality to these foods. Moss wants us to focus on the question of quantity and why we can't help but overeat certain foods.
- Without going into too much neuroscientific detail, Moss describes how foods can be engineered to trigger the brain's "on switch" (mostly the neurotransmitter dopamine) and inhibit the "off switch" (a region called the prefrontal cortex). The biology is complex and has deep evolutionary origins. Suffice it to say the hard-wired instincts to eat certain foods are powerful.
- Moss explains how Big Food innovates to manipulate and intensify these addition-inducing sensations, and lure us in with low prices, dazzling packaging, convenience, and fabricated varieties. Perhaps it will open eyes and convert some free market advocates.
- Because here's the Bottom Line: the processed food industry is no different from tobacco companies like Philip Morris that for decades lied about the harmful and addictive nature of cigarettes. In this case, in fact, they were the same company. Until recently Philip Morris owned Kraft and General Foods. NYT
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## **Interior withdraws Trump-era opinion that stripped tribal ownership in Missouri River** by Ivana Saric

The Interior Department under newly confirmed Secretary Deb Haaland has [withdrawn](#) an opinion by the Trump administration that concluded the portion of the Missouri River that flows through the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation belongs to the state of North Dakota.

**Why it matters:** Withdrawing the opinion could mean the return of this portion of the Missouri River to the jurisdiction of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation, the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation.

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- "The flooded uplands are held in trust for the benefit of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation," the memo concludes.

**What they're saying:** "The previous administration's M-Opinion overturned decades of existing precedent holding that the Missouri riverbed belonged to the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) Nation," an Interior spokesperson told Axios in a statement.

"Today's action will allow us to review the matter and ensure the Interior Department is upholding its trust and treaty obligations in accordance with the law," the statement concluded.

**The big picture:** The move comes just days after Haaland was [sworn in](#) as Interior Department secretary, becoming the first Native American to serve in any president's Cabinet.

- Native American groups [pushed hard](#) for Haaland to be nominated, arguing the former congresswoman would add a unique and necessary perspective to the Cabinet agency as a person from their community.

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## **White House yanks Interior nominee after Murkowski opposition** by

Ben Lefebvre

The White House has withdrawn its nomination of Elizabeth Klein to become the Interior Department's deputy secretary, as the Biden administration faced push back from Alaska Sen. [Lisa Murkowski](#), sources familiar with the situation said Monday.

**Details:** Klein is a former Obama administration official and deputy director of the State Energy and Environmental Impact Center at the New York University School of Law who focused on renewable energy and climate change issues. The Biden administration pulled her nomination after hearing of opposition coming from Murkowski, a moderate Republican whose vote is crucial to Biden's legislative agenda and who has sought to expand the oil and gas industry in her state, one of the sources familiar with the matter said.

The White House and a spokesperson for the Department of Interior did not immediately respond to questions. A spokesperson for Murkowski did not reply to a request for comment. A spokesperson for Sen. [Joe Manchin](#), the West Virginia Democrat who chairs the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee that would have considered Klein's nomination, did not immediately answer questions.

Tommy Beaudreau, a former Interior official under the Obama administration and Alaskan native, is being vetted for a possible nomination as deputy secretary, said two people familiar with the matter. Murkowski floated Beaudreau's name as a possible replacement for Klein, the people said.

Beaudreau is currently a lawyer at law firm Latham & Watkins' environment, land & resources department, and global co-chair of the firm's project siting & approvals practice. Beaudreau did not reply to a voice message.

**Context:** Murkowski earlier in March said she struggled in deciding to cast her vote to clear from committee Biden's nomination of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, citing concerns that the administration would hobble oil and gas production on public land. Klein, a progressive on energy matters, was considered a step too far to serve as second in charge at Interior with Haaland, who had faced heat from Republicans on her past comments criticizing the oil and gas sector, one of the sources said.

Klein wouldn't be the first setback for the Biden administration's raft of nominations. The White House recalled its nomination of Neera Tanden to lead the Office of Management and Budget earlier this month after Republicans complained about her posts on social media.

**What's Next:** The Biden administration will have to vet a new candidate to propose for Interior's deputy secretary position.



*The color of  
your skin is  
less important  
than  
the  
SPIRIT  
which  
moves  
it.*

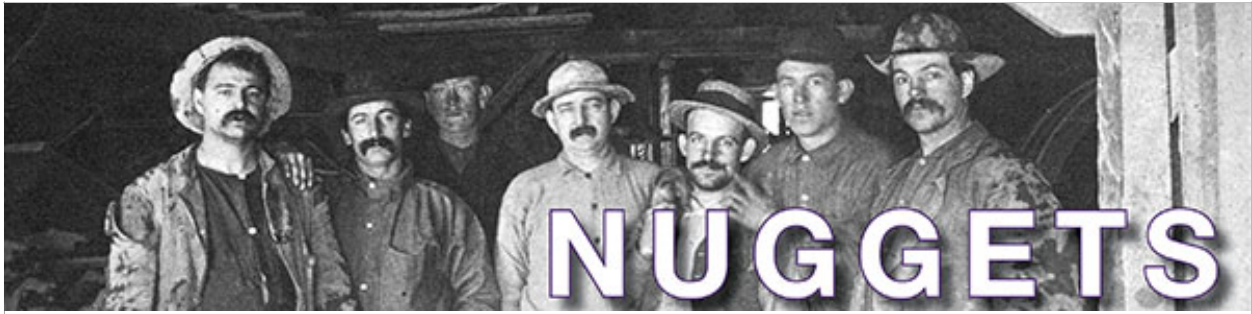
*Art & Design by Wayne William Snellgrove (not the photograph)*



## Scholarships with April 16-30 Deadlines

<a href="#">Sammy Lee Byrd Life Enrichment Scholarship</a>	\$750	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Samvid Scholars</a>	\$50,000	04/20/2021
<a href="#">Seattle Co-Arts/Nelda Hanson Memorial Award</a>	\$2,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Shawn Carter Scholarship Foundation</a>	\$2,500	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Southeast Desalting Association Scholarship</a>	\$2,500	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Starlite Group Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	04/20/2021
<a href="#">Steps For Change Scholarship</a>	\$2,000	04/26/2021
<a href="#">Synod of the Trinity Presbyterian Scholarship Fund</a>	\$1,200	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Team See Possibilities (TSP) Scholarship Program</a>	\$5,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Texas Resident with Autism</a>	\$500	04/16/2021
<a href="#">The Brown Medical and Educational (MAE) Foundation Healthcare Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Brown Medical and Educational (MAE) Foundation Teaching Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Ebell/Flint Scholarship Program</a>	\$5,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Edmund F. Maxwell Foundation</a>	\$20,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Elaine Chapin Memorial Scholarship</a>	\$1,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Institute for Humane Studies Summer Fellow Program</a>	\$5,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Olivia Noel Rotondo Memorial Cheerleading Scholarship</a>	\$2,500	04/25/2021
<a href="#">The Olivia Noel Rotondo Memorial Dance Scholarship</a>	\$2,500	04/25/2021
<a href="#">The Rose Bowl Game Keith Jackson Postgraduate Scholarship</a>	\$10,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Royal Brougham Foundation Scholarship</a>	Varies	04/25/2021
<a href="#">The Sagebrush Circuit - Lew &amp; Jo Eklund Educational Scholarship</a>	\$2,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Sara Scholarship</a>	\$8,000	04/30/2021
<a href="#">The Tang Scholarship</a>	\$60,000	04/20/2021
<a href="#">The Virginia W. Smith Scholarship</a>	\$2,500	04/30/2021
<a href="#">Trampoline &amp; Tumbling Scholarship Program</a>	Varies	04/30/2021
<a href="#">TSGC Columbia Crew Memorial Undergraduate Scholarships</a>	\$1,000	04/24/2021
<a href="#">Two Ten Higher Education Scholarship</a>	\$16,000	04/19/2021

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**Please Join Us For A Virtual Talk & Tour    March 25, 2021    7pm**

The University Libraries is currently hosting an exhibit entitled Nuggets: Short Stories About Nevada Mining, made possible through the generosity and support of IGT. Although we're not currently able to host in-person group events, we will be sharing portions of the exhibit virtually until we are able to gather in person.

**Join Us Virtually**

Please join us for our first in a series of virtual Talk & Tours as Special Collections and University Archives Manuscripts & Archives Librarian Jacque Sundstrand presents a short talk about the Western Shoshone Defense Project and the Dann sisters. Jacque curated a portion of the exhibit that features materials from the Western Shoshone Defense Project collection and she will share key images from the exhibit to help illustrate the WSDP story.

The event is free but registration is required and can be completed on [Eventbrite](#). Attendees are invited to read a little more about the [Western Shoshone Defense Project](#) and how the collection came to reside at the University Libraries Special Collections and University Archives. For questions about the event, please email Robin Monteith at [robinmonteith@unr.edu](mailto:robinmonteith@unr.edu). We hope you'll join us.

***From the Nevada Current:***

**Petroscum update.** Remember all that nonsensical speculative acquisition of oil and gas leases in Nevada even though it would never pencil out to tap what tiny amounts of oil and gas reserves there are around here unless the price of oil hit I dunno maybe like \$400 a barrel? Catherine Cortez Masto wrote a bill saying hey stop the speculative leasing this is dumb and wasteful and also locks up public lands so geesh, or words to that effect.

Meanwhile, in Western states that *do* have economically recoverable petroleum products under the ground, Biden's pause on oil & gas leasing encompasses a broader set of issues, observes States Newsroom correspondent Jacob Fischler. [4 questions about the feds' scrutiny of oil and gas leasing on public lands](#)

Btw, Jacob mentions the proposal co-sponsored by Jacky Rosen and ... Chuck Grassley! ... to raise the mineral royalty rates on oil and gas produced from public lands. As I [noted](#) when Rosen announced it: Wait'll she finds out what the federal mineral royalty rate is on *gold* produced from public lands. Which is funny, you see, because there is no federal mineral royalty on gold. The rate is zero. Harry Reid may not have been powerful enough to retain technical administrative control of the Nevada Democratic Party. But he never, ever failed to successfully safeguard the profits of transnational gold mining conglomerates.