# *Journal #4911 from sdc 3.30.21*

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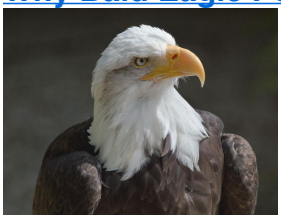
**This bizarre sandstone structure is known as the 'Alien Throne'.**
It stands in the Valley of Dreams, on Navajo Nation land in the northwestern New Mexico badlands. The 'Alien Throne' is found just outside the Ah-Shi-Sle-Pah Wildnerness Study Area, which is home to multicolored badlands, sandstone hoodoos, petrified wood and dinosaur bones.
This towering structure is a hoodoo, which is a tall, thin spire of rock that sticks out from the bottom of a badland. Usually hoodoos
are formed within sedimentary rock and volcanic rock formations. Minerals deposited within different rock types cause hoodoos to have different colors throughout their height.

danielbenjaminphoto | IG

## [Why Bald Eagle Populations Soared in the Last Decade]



## UNR Earthquake Lab - Wed, Apr 14

### Free Live Stream: 4:30 - 5:30 pm  Virtual Networking: 4:00 pm

Register in advance for this meeting by clicking "Register Now" below
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting (click on box)

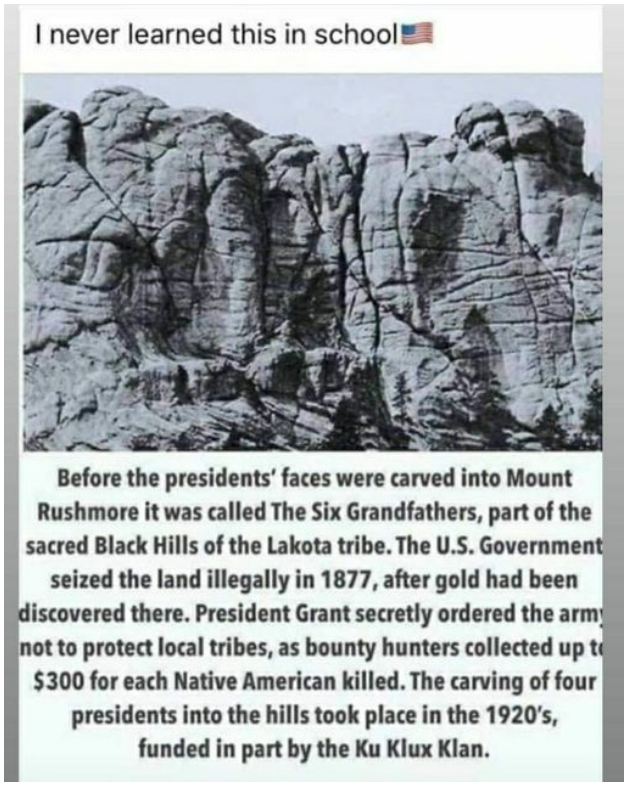
Reno is home to the nation's most versatile earthquake engineering facility, operated by the University of Nevada Reno's Center for Civil Engineering and Earthquake Research. Housing two high-bay labs containing five shake tables, these local facilities are leading the way in the way in earthquake and structural research.

Join us as we delve into the innerworkings of these fascinating and innovative facilities and learn about the ways in which these earthquake explorations play a vital role in keeping our buildings and bridges safe.

Professor David McCallen, Director of the Center for Civil Engineering Earthquake Research will teach us about:

- A 9,600 square-foot high-bay laboratory complete with tie-down strong floor and $15 million worth of shake tables relocated from the Large-Scale Structures Lab
- One of the world's largest laminar soil boxes and its dedicated shake table – with a capacity of more than 500 tons
- Advance earthquake computer simulations
- Intelligent infrastructure initiative

There is so much to learn about the unique facilities located at our very own University of Nevada, Reno. With over thirty years of experience coupled with world-class labs and equipment, The Center for Civil Engineering and Earthquake Research is revered at the intersection of engineering and technology earthquake research.




**GrantStation**

## National Opportunities

**[Support for Landscape Conservation Collaborations]**
The Landscape Conservation Catalyst Fund, an initiative of the Network for Landscape Conservation, is intended to help accelerate the pace of landscape conservation across the United States.

**[Innovative K-12 Projects Funded]**
The Voya Unsung Heroes program provides grants to K-12 educators nationwide with effective and innovative projects that improve student learning.

**[Grants Promote Physical Activities for Native Youth in the U.S. and Canada]**
The N7 Fund, an initiative of Nike, is committed to creating early positive experiences in sports and physical activity for Native American and Indigenous youth in Canada and the United States.

**[Animal Shelter Improvements Supported]**
The Meacham Foundation Memorial Grant program, administered by American Humane, provides support to nonprofit organizations and public agencies throughout the U.S. for shelter expansion or improvement.

## Regional Opportunities

**Funds for Youth-Led Urban Greening Programs on the East Coast**
Rooted in Justice supports community-based organizations and groups in Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington, DC.

**Grants Enhance Environmental Protection Efforts in the Rocky Mountain Region**
The Maki Foundation provides support to nonprofit organizations that promote environmental protection in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

**Support for Grassroots Social Justice Initiatives in Central Appalachia**
The Appalachian Community Fund encourages grassroots social change in Central Appalachia (eastern Tennessee, eastern Kentucky, southwest Virginia, and all of West Virginia).

**Sponsorships for Social and Environmental Work on the West Coast**
The Beneficial State Foundation Sponsorship Program supports nonprofit organizations in the communities the bank serves in California, Oregon, and Washington.

## Federal Opportunities

**Program Supports Service Learning in Agriculture and the Food System**
The Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program seeks to increase the knowledge of agricultural science and improve the nutritional health of children.

**Funds Available to Modify Homes for Low-Income Seniors**
The Older Adult Home Modification Program supports comprehensive programs that make safety and functional home modifications and limited repairs to meet the needs of low-income elderly homeowners.

TRANSFORMATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FUND

**Transformational Partnerships Fund**
The Transformational Partnerships Fund provides grants to colleges and universities interested in exploring partnerships that could fundamentally improve how they operate and serve students—especially students of color, students from low-income families, and other underserved populations. Learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.

Google.org

**Google.org Impact Challenge for Women and Girls**
The Google.org Impact Challenge for Women and Girls funds organizations across the world who are empowering women and girls to advance in the economy. Support is provided to organizations helping women and girls turn their economic potential into power, from programs addressing systemic barriers to economic equality, to those cultivating entrepreneurship, developing financial independence, and more. Learn more about the funding guidelines and application process.


## Ramos introduces California Education Act to review California Native American social studies standards

SACRAMENTO CA — An Assembly constitutional amendment and bill to strengthen and assert current instructional California Native American social science standards and frameworks was introduced today by Assembly-Member James C. Ramos (D-Highland).

The language in ACA 6, the California Indian Education Act, is also in- cluded in AB 1554 which Ramos introduced earlier this year and has since amended.

“California’s Native Americans resided in our state long before explorers, missionaries and settlers, yet little is acknowledged or even studied about that past or even present. Native people have been made invisible,” Ra- mos said. “California history and social science standards were adopted in 1998. The framework which offers guidance on teaching those standards was adopted in 2016. It’s time to review whether those standards and frameworks still have merit and are sufficiently specific for developing what teachers teach in their classrooms.”

Ramos, a member of the Serrano/Cahuilla tribe is a lifelong resident of the San Manuel Indian reservation and is the first California Native Amer- ican elected to the legislature.

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians’ Chairman Ken Ramirez said, “We are sponsoring this measure because our Native and non-Native students should have the same opportunity to learn the factual history of Califor- nia's indigenous peoples," said Chairman Ken Ramirez, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. "Today, more than ever, we must make this invest- ment in education so all of the state's citizens may determine a future as voters and community decision makers."

“Native Americans suffer from the stereotypes, biases and lack of knowledge about our culture and history,” said James Siva, Chairman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association. “Part of the remedy is education and understanding how tribal governments developed and their historical interaction with local, state, and federal governments.”

Mary Levi, a Hopi tribal member and fourth grade teacher for more than 30 years, said, "Context is key to understanding. For too many of my fellow Californians, Native American history and atrocities against them stopped centuries ago. Yet, forced sterilization of Native American women occurred as late as the 1970s. Today, health professionals are battling Native American wariness about the COVID-19 vaccine, not knowing that past history have led many in my community to view the medical commu- nity with skepticism."

Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Chairman Kenneth Kahn said, "Many Native American organizations, tribes, and individuals have stepped up to offer educational and cultural classes and events for our young people, but students could also benefit from learning in our schools about the history of California's first people and the interactions between Native people and those groups that created our state's history—good and bad."

A bipartisan group of more than 20 lawmakers have signed on to ACA 6 and AB 1554 as co-authors.

Sponsors of the bill are the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. Supporters include the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, Barona Band of Mission Indians, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, Jamul Indian Village of California, Pala Band of Mission Indians, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Wilton Ranche- ria, Yurok Tribe, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, California Na- tions Indian Gaming Association, California Tribal Business Alliance and Tribal Alliance of Sovereign Indian Nations.

Assembly-Member James Ramos proudly represents the 40th Assembly district which includes Highland, Loma Linda, Mentone, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, and San Bernardino. He is the first and only California Native American serving in the state's legislature. (from American Indian Reporter, April 1 edition)

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## Meet 3 little-known Utah women who've changed our state for good

***These women used their power to make changes on behalf of theNorthwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation***

By Brenda Beyal and Heather Sundahl, Contributor Mar 28, 2021 9:00am MDT

Tribal historian Patty Timbimboo-Madsen, right, waves burning sage around Gwen Davis as Shosone Indian remains are laid to rest at the Washakie Cemetery near Plymouth, Utah, Saturday, May 25, 2013. The remains were returned from the Smithsonian and the state of Utah. *Jeffrey D. Allred, Deseret News*

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Laurel Thatcher Ulrich famously wrote: "Well-behaved women seldom make history." As March is Women's History Month, it provides an opportunity to reflect on why some women are willing to push boundaries and advocate for change, even if it means making waves.

Three local women come to mind who used their power to make changes on behalf of the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation, changes that have brought reconciliation through truth-telling, perseverance and bravery.

**Mae Timbimboo Parry** was the granddaughter of Sagwitch, a Shoshone chief who narrowly escaped death during the Bear River Massacre in 1863. When she was 13, she attended a ceremony in Cache Valley that unveiled a memorial to that event which had been erroneously labeled "The Battle of Bear River," ignoring the almost 500 Natives who were brutally slaughtered. The monument and plaques were jarring to young Mae as they contradicted all the stories she had heard growing up about the tragic event. She committed to researching the story and figuring out what was fact and what was fiction, and then she would make sure that narrative was heard.

**Mae Parry was a living legend**

Parry went to college, trained herself in writing and research, and began to interview all the survivors and the documents surrounding the massacre. Eventually she had enough evidence to persuade the National Park Service to change the name from Battle to Massacre. Mae Timbimboo Parry's advocacy took her all the way to Washington, D.C., where she was a part of the White House Council of Indian Tribal Affairs.

Her great niece, **Patty Timbimboo-Madsen**, currently serves as the history and culture specialist of her tribe and feels the legacy of her maternal line. Timbimboo-Madsen's mother impressed upon her the need to tell their people's story. Timbimboo-Madsen has worked to spread the truth-telling.

As part of the Native American Curriculum Initiative at BYU, we met with her a few years ago and asked "What would you like the children of Utah to know about your tribe?" She wanted us to share the true history of the Bear River Massacre and other important truths of her tribe. We have coordinated with Timbimboo-Madsen on lesson plans about her tribe (NWBSN). This January, we made good on that original ask and documented the commemoration ceremony and now are creating lesson plans based on what we learned about the Bear River Massacre. She went out on a limb by entrusting us with teaching her people's history, but knew it was time to share her culture. Through Timbimboo-Madsen's perseverance, her mother's dreams to accurately share their history and culture are coming true. She believes that "being part of the history of Utah, we do have a story to tell. ... And I think it's time."

**Alexis Beckstead** never planned to make historic changes as a chapter president of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. But when she realized that the Shoshone felt the monument misrepresented their history, she did research and discovered how inaccurate the existing plaque was and felt it her duty to push for change, even if it meant taking down part of a monument that had stood for almost a century. She bravely went to the DUP board in Salt Lake, who supported the change. This January a new plaque was created that centers the Native people and what they experienced. We documented this ceremony too as a testament to the power of reconciliation.

These three women are examples of commitment to truth telling and advocating for what they believed was right. Each challenged the status quo in advocating for the greater good and as a result, created a more accurate history. We are grateful for their willingness to speak up, make waves, and push for change. That's behavior we should all emulate.

*Brenda Beyal, a Navajo/Diné, leads the Native American Curriculum Initiative for BYU ARTS Partnership. In 2016, Brenda was honored by the Utah Education Network as an American Graduate Champion. Heather Sundahl is a freelance writer and editor for the Native American Curriculum for the BYU ARTS Partnership, the Utah Women & Leadership Project, and Mormon Women for Ethical Government.*

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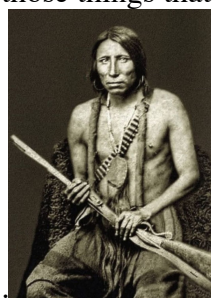
## Our Generation BlackHills- He Sapa Wicouncage Okolakiciye

Long ago our culture had ozuye, young men who went out searching for the opportunity to do worthy deeds, to make their name known! Little bit older men would have societies, also inductions were based on act of bravery or dreams! Some of these societies survived, some are lost forever! But this mentality of ozuye remains! We have thousands of young men, searching for identity, belonging, and that opportunity to show bravery! Times are totally different today, we don't have the same opportunities as long ago! Yet, we are no different, we have the same bloodlines as warriors of old, same in many ways! When I was younger, our generation created gangs! This was in itself looked down on, maybe all the drinking, drugging, violence! None of which were new to our communities, but nevertheless, gangs were targeted. Later on I seen native gangs organizing on their own as an example how we are still related, still family, still together, still native! If we still had our culture 100% these young men in gangs today would been ozuye and in societies, not labeled! I have lots of good brothers, and kola that are struggling and suffering! Alcohol, drugs, loss of culture and identity, language, social structure. These have weakened our people! In the midst of all this we are trying. We never give up on our youth or families or Lakota life ways! I encourage and support my relatives! Iyuha tecihila! Stand in solidarity with our beliefs not those things that are meant to tear us apart. Wak'an ki blihiciyapo eyap ca hecunwo. Blihiciyapo.



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## Pinyon-Juniper Removal Aids In Fire Risk But Could Harm Forest Ecosystems Mar 27, 2021 07:00 am

Pinyon-juniper woodlands stretch across much of the high desert in the American West. While quiet on the outside, this forest is at the heart of contentious debate between environmentalists, tribes and the federal government. While these woodlands cover millions of desert acres, they are still among the least studied forest types in North America, according to the National Park Service. Click here to read more

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# The Truckee's blighted banks

## Indians lead effort to clean river's edge before high water flushes waste to lake

**March 29, 2021 Frank X. Mullen News 0**


PHOTO/PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE: Tribal Chairwoman Janet Davis at Pyramid Lake March 27. The lake is the terminus of the Truckee River and the destination of pollution that flows downstream.



A woman's birthday wish to provide food to unsheltered people along the Truckee River last month evolved into an ongoing effort to remove mountains of trash from the river's edge before the rushing waters of spring can sweep the effluent downstream to Pyramid Lake.

Beverly Harry and 16 friends and family members, including many members of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, brought 150 burritos to people living in tents along the Truckee in Sparks on Feb. 4. All along the waterway, they saw campsites — along with mounds of garbage, including human waste. Homeless people have found refuge along the river for decades, but during the pandemic their numbers increased exponentially.

Much of the refuse from the camps, once swept downstream, will wind up at Pyramid Lake, the terminus of the Truckee. The mission to provide food morphed into a cleanup effort.

**Volunteers assemble**

Since then, Avory Wyatt, a member of the Washoe Tribe, inspired the original group to team up with other indigenous people and community volunteers to make the cleanups a longer-term campaign. So far, the River Justice volunteers have collected and hauled away more than 200 cubic yards of refuse scattered along the river banks. The next cleanup day is scheduled for April 3 and a larger effort to cleanse the river banks is being planned for April 24, the week of Earth Day.

"It was very surprising, shocking, to see first-hand what has happened to the river," said Pyramid Lake Tribal Chairwoman Janet Davis. "There is so much trash along the banks, a lot right at the edge of the water. There are a lot of syringes… The people are living in terrible conditions; there are no restrooms."

The trash problem isn't limited to the many camping spots in the Truckee Meadows, she said. "What happens upstream affects everything downstream," Davis said. "It all ends up in our lake, which has no outlet." The tribe's people, the lake's fish, crops and livestock all depend on the health of the river that has fed the desert lake for millions of years.

 *SCREEN GRAB/RIVER JUSTICE VIDEO: Volunteers from the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and other indigenous people at a Truckee River cleanup east of Sparks.*
**DONATIONS TO RIVER JUSTICE: USPS:** River Justice c/o Autumn Harry, PO Box 76, Nixon, NV 89424; through **VenMo:** @autumnharry; or at **Zelle:** autumnharry24@gmail.com

**The sacred lake**
"It's our obligation to monitor the river and remind the people upstream that we need to keep it safe, we need to keep the ecosystem clean, not just for us, but for everyone," Davis said. "We need to be mindful of what we do to the water; water is life for everybody and we can't take it for granted."

The tribe, which has left nearly all of Pyramid Lake's shoreline undeveloped, considers the lake a sacred place whose health is its ancient responsibility, she said.

Beverly Harry's late husband, Norman Harry, was a former tribal chairman who was at the forefront of water quality and environmental issues for decades. He was a key negotiator during years of legal battles that ultimately led to a regional water pact and the restoration of the tribe's water rights.

**'A holistic approach'**
Beverly Harry said the effort to clean up the upstream river corridor is a continuation of that legacy. "Norm always said 'what's good for the fish is good for the people.' We need to take a holistic approach to taking care of the water."

Everything that happens along the river affects everything else along the course of the waterway, she said.

In addition to the trash generated by the camp sites, the cleanup teams noted that the route from the Waste Management transfer station, located at Kirman Street and the river, follows the Truckee's route to the landfill at Lockwood. Garbage blows off the trucks, creating a trail of litter on the way to the dump.

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*PHOTOS/RIVER JUSTICE: A shelter near the Truckee Meadows wastewater treatment facility, left. An abandoned camp near the Truckee River east of Vista Boulevard in Sparks.*

**Pollution into the river**

Runoff from new developments in the Truckee Meadows also increases what environmentalists call non-source-point pollution. Rain sweeps trash and other pollutants, including pesticides from lawns and gardens, into storm drains, then into the river.

**"Anything that flows into the river ultimately comes down to our lake. That's always a concern. Development upstream has an effect downstream… This is looking like it's going to be a dry year, with decreased water flow. Anything coming down the river is going to be even more of a detriment to the lake." *– Chairwoman Janet Davis, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.***

"It's a real big mess," said Beverly Harry, who is a member of the Navajo Tribe. "The counties and the cities need to step up to the plate. Approving all these new developments not only increases that pollution, but when these industrial parks and luxury housing developments get approved, rents go up even more and that contributes to homelessness. Renters get pushed out.

"We'll be seeing an increasing amount of water pollution and we're not getting the environmental justice for the river that we'd like to see," she said. "The local governments, the state and the developers need to be taking care of the river."

*PHOTO/FRANK X. MULLEN: Beverly Harry on the Truckee River bank near the Kuenzli Street overpass March 24. Her birthday wish to bring food to unsheltered people led to an ongoing cleanup effort along the river.*

**Food, water and respect**

So far, the volunteers have made six trips to the encampments. They bring food, water, trash bags, sharps containers and other equipment. Josh Myers, of Myers Brothers Tree Care, brings a dump truck. Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful supplied a 20-yard waste container.

The group raised $1,723 in donations on social media, including $450 from the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada. Members of the effort are trying to raise $450 for each future cleanup to cover the costs of equipment.

Autumn Harry, Norm and Beverly's daughter, is among the volunteers who contributed the elbow grease during the six river cleanups to date. The camps along the river are the most recent and visible effect of what has been happening upriver, she said.

"It's a concern when we see all these large industries coming in along USA Parkway (in Storey County east of Reno)," she said. The people who work at Tesla and the other large employers there increase the traffic along the Interstate-80 river corridor. In Reno, massive housing projects for high-end homes have been approved, often in flood plains, she said.

**Fast growth; limited resources**

"We have to think about where the water is coming from to support that growth and where the runoff from all that developed land will go," Autumn Harry said. "In (Reno's) North Valleys, the growth will have an effect on the ground water at Pyramid Lake."

Politicians often rubber-stamp approvals for large projects against wide opposition from communities, she noted.

"That connects back to the houseless issue we see along the river," she said. Increased demand for housing and high property values raise the costs of rent beyond many people's ability to pay. "In addition to the pandemic, a lot of people just can't afford to rent a place in Reno anymore."

Much of the recent cleanup effort has been focused on the river banks on the eastern edge of Reno and in Sparks. Camps are scattered at intervals and in small tent villages at or near parks or street overpasses. The people who live there have few options for their sanitation needs, Beverly Harry said.

"Between trail marker 51.5 and mile 59 we counted just eight trashcans and 2 bathrooms," she said. "I know where they are going to relieve themselves."

**The river's edge**

The volunteers bring food and water to the campers. They supply bundles of firewood at camps where residents are stripping branches from trees and bushes that line the river banks and are essential to prevent erosion. On their cleanup missions, volunteers start conversations with unsheltered people about the river and where the water goes.

They hand out trash bags and return later with a dump truck to pick them up. People whose shelters are close to the river's edge are encouraged to move their camps to higher ground so that they are not washed out when the water rises.

The cleanup crew members treat campers with respect, but it's often hard to make connections. "They are focused on day-to-day survival," Beverly Harry said. "It's difficult to think about anything past that immediate need."

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*PHOTOS/FRANK X. MULLEN: Tents on both sides of the Truckee River on Feb. 19 near the Kirman Street Bridge, left. A shelter built on the river's edge, on right, is shown across the river from John Champion Park on March 24.*

**'Embarrassing to be out here'**

On a recent walk along the bike trail along the river just east of downtown Reno, Beverly Harry visited the camp of a married couple who have been using the trash bags and are moving their tent higher on the Truckee's banks. Jane, whose husband was not in camp, explained that they received one of their two pandemic stimulus checks and are moving to a weekly-rental motel. The windfall will buy them at least two months of a roof over their heads.

Jane, 19, who said she has lived on the streets on and off since she was 15, was asked how she and her husband are treated by people who have homes.

**"I wish people would be more empathetic than sympathetic. I know what motivates me to do better is someone who has been there; they have wisdom. It's embarrassing being out here. It sucks. People are always judging. It's not my fault I was raised in a shitty home. I don't want people to put me down. That doesn't give me the motivation to get better. Being out here is not really a choice; it's not for most people out here. People don't really see us. I would ask people not to be such dicks to us, to be understanding about it. Then it would be a lot better."**

***– Jane, 19, who lived along the banks of the Truckee River this winter.***

*PHOTOS/FRANK X. MULLEN: On left, an encampment alongside the Truckee River near Gateway Park in Sparks in February. Police swept the campers from the area Feb. 17 and crews cleaned up the site; some of the people who left relocated to other spots along the river. An encampment, right, along the river bank near the Kuenzli Street Bridge shown on Jan. 20. Reno officials are reexamining ordinances pertaining to camping within city limits. A court decision limits what enforcement actions are allowed when local governments do not provide adequate resources to help unsheltered people.*

**Causes and effects**

The volunteers said that cleaning up the river banks is a start, but the problems the squatters' camps bring into focus go far beyond the pandemic. Like the river system, all is connected; causes and effects are intertwined.

A lack of affordable housing, social services and mental health care; runaway development; fractured planning processes; political indifference; the overriding influence of wealthy corporations on decision makers; and many other factors affect the health of the river, they said.

"It comes back to the cities and the counties being accountable," Beverly Harry said. "(Jane) gets a motel for two months, that's what $1,400 in stimulus is going to do for them. It's not a solution. The cities build more houses for elite people and more people are left without homes, or they have to rent without ever being afforded the opportunity to buy a home."

**"People have to realize that what's happening along the river is connected to what happens with development… They have to realize there needs to be justice for the river."**

***– Beverly Harry, River Justice volunteer.***

Autumn Harry said the unsheltered people should not be demonized. Their camps merely underline a greater threat to the area's most vital resource – the fragile watershed that half a million people depend upon to survive. When people in Reno turn on their taps and water flows, then flush impure water away, they take that resource for granted, she said.

*PHOTO/PYRAMID LAKE.US: Anglers at Pyramid Lake are shown in this undated photo.*

**A matter of privilege**

"I don't really see a difference between the tent camps and the beautiful houses along the river on California Street," she said. "We have people coming to our houses and picking up our trash, whereas the people on the river aren't afforded those same luxuries. We're not exempt from creating waste ourselves."

Just like the campers at the river's edge, Autumn Harry said, comfortable people in houses have a hard time seeing the effect of their actions on the environment – and the people – downstream. "It's a really complex issue, there are a lot of parts to it," she said. "But a lot of the responsibility falls back on the local governments."

Education and awareness are keys to solving problems, she said.

"It's a whole different thing when you are down at the river and see all the trash and what's happening there," Autumn Harry said. "When you're aware of where that water is going afterward, of course you want to clean it up; of course you want to help. It's not just a cosmetic thing. It's a bigger issue that affects everyone."