

Journal #5199 from sdc 5.13.22

Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer - "Braiding Sweetgrass."

The Recast has named the 40 power players of 2021 - Deb Haaland

Major internet providers to slash cost of broadband service for low-income Americans

Deadline for applications - Leadership Las Vegas due May 19, 2022.

Climate change is leaving its mark on Indigenous-owned food businesses

Celebrating the Power of Native Women and Native Mothers/Legend of White Buffalo Woman

Turning Seawater into Drinking Water with Less Power Than a Cell Phone Charger

Nisenan Mural Community Celebration on May 22

National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call: May 17, 2022

As of 5.10, there has been no public comment by Tribal Nations; need change/voices heard

Railroads in Native America Gathering May 19-21

Investigation finds burial sites at 53 federal Indian boarding schools

16 week Internship opportunities with National Park Service for folks ages 18 to 30

Pony Express Riders Wanted





Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST)

POST and the Muwekma Ohlone Tribe of the San Francisco Bay Area are honored to host Indigenous leader, author and scientist Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer on Sunday, May 15 at 7 p.m. for a talk centered around the themes of her best-selling book, "Braiding Sweetgrass."

Register to join us either in-person at the California Theatre in San Jose (tickets are \$10-\$20), or watch an online broadcast for free!

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**POLITICO's The Recast has named the 40 power players of 2021. From strategists to politicians, activists to influencers, they undeniably impacted the intersection of race, politics and policy. [Learn more about how we chose them here.](#)**

[https://www.politico.com/interactives/2022/influential-people-on-race-and-politics-list?utm\\_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm\\_campaign=d3eb507658-WHATMATTERS&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_faa7be558d-d3eb507658-151295760&mc\\_cid=d3eb507658&mc\\_eid=9d368516de](https://www.politico.com/interactives/2022/influential-people-on-race-and-politics-list?utm_source=CalMatters+Newsletters&utm_campaign=d3eb507658-WHATMATTERS&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_faa7be558d-d3eb507658-151295760&mc_cid=d3eb507658&mc_eid=9d368516de)

**Deb Haaland**

For taking charge of the very governmental agency that oppressed her people

Deb Haaland's confirmation was undeniably historic: A member of New Mexico's Laguna Pueblo was tapped to lead a department with a history of oppressing Native Americans.

When Haaland assumed the Interior secretary role, she became responsible for the country's public lands, the natural resources and the government's relationship with 574 federally recognized tribes. On the first day of the Tribal Nations Summit, she [proudly wore her moccasins](#) to the White House.

"I felt the responsibility to say 'yes' when President Biden asked me to serve at the Interior Department, because representation matters," Haaland told The Recast.

A year into the job, progressives have criticized the Biden administration for sticking too closely to the status quo on climate policy. Republican lawmakers have criticized the administration for exploring how to curb oil and gas leasing on public lands. Haaland has sometimes been caught in the crossfire.

But amid this hyperpolarized push-and-pull, the Interior Department got some key wins, many of which will benefit tribes and other marginalized communities.

The department is working toward a goal of protecting 30 percent of the country’s lands and waters by 2030. Haaland also launched a Missing and Murdered Unit dedicated to solving cases involving Indigenous people, and a national investigation into American Indian boarding schools. She’s also trying to make it easier for tribes to [put land in trust](#), which means expanding their land base to help improve economic development.

**Q&A. Responses have been condensed and edited for clarity.**

**When did you realize you could impact politics? Was it something you always planned for?**

I had never been politically active in my early life and never really saw myself running for office. There was an election in which the Native American precincts flipped a local election in South Dakota, and that sparked a desire in me to get more Indigenous voters to the polls.

After a few years organizing, I joined Emerge New Mexico, an organization that helps women prepare to run for office. When I decided to run for Congress, many people said I couldn’t win — I guess because it had never been done before. I felt the responsibility to say yes when President Biden asked me to serve at the Interior Department, because representation matters.

**What will have the biggest impact on U.S. race relations (over the next year, five years)?**

We must recognize that a history of systemic racism has had a lasting impact on our communities and continues to surface in the disparities that were put in the spotlight during this pandemic.

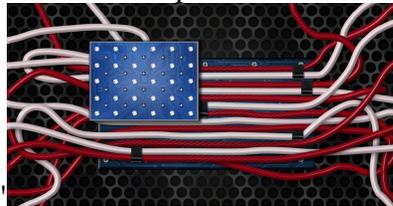
**What’s your advice for people who want to shake up “politics as usual”?**

Be fierce. If I waited for someone to ask me to run for office, I would probably still be waiting.

**What song gets you amped up or through tough days?**

After I won my primary election in June 2018, we had a gathering at my house and, of course, we played “We Are the Champions.” I love Queen and their songs will always get me through any tough day!

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"Millions of low-income Americans will be able to get high-speed internet service for no more than \$30 a month under an agreement the Biden administration has reached with major internet providers. Twenty internet providers, including AT&T, Comcast and Verizon, have agreed to increase their internet speeds or cut the price of their services for eligible households as



part of Biden's infrastructure. push."

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**Deadline for applications to Leadership Las Vegas are due May 19, 2022.**

[https://www.leadership.vegas/leadership-las-vegas?  
utm\\_source=rj&utm\\_medium=eblasts&utm\\_campaign=business+press](https://www.leadership.vegas/leadership-las-vegas?utm_source=rj&utm_medium=eblasts&utm_campaign=business+press)

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Climate change is leaving its mark on Indigenous-owned food businesses

<https://www.dailykos.com/story/2022/5/8/2096326/-Climate-change-is-leaving-its-mark-on-Indigenous-owned-food-businesses>

Celebrating the Power of Native Women and Native Mothers

By Native Hope

The Native American way of life understands the whole world as sacred. Family, *tiyospaye*, is sacred, the earth is sacred, and all of life has meaning in the interconnected, *cangleska wakan*, the sacred hoop.

In this circle of unity, women are revered as beautiful and powerful because they are the givers of sacred life. They are grounded in Mother Earth and connected to Father Sky, bringing children into the world through the power of their life-giving love.

Like Mother Earth, who provides everything we need to live and to thrive, the woman is able to give everything a human child needs. She nourishes, she loves, and she protects.

The Legend of the White Buffalo Woman

One summer a long time ago, the seven sacred council fires of the Lakota Sioux came together and camped. The sun was strong, and the people were starving, for there was no game. Two young men went out to hunt.

Along the way, the two men met a beautiful, young woman dressed in white; she floated as she walked. One man had bad desires for the woman and tried to touch her. But, as he did this, the man was consumed by a huge cloud and turned into a pile of bones.

The woman spoke to the second young man and told him, "Return to your people, and tell them I am coming."

This holy *wakan*, woman, brought a wrapped bundle to the people. She unwrapped the bundle, giving the people a sacred pipe and teaching them how to use it for prayer. "With this holy pipe, you will walk like a living prayer," she said. She taught the people of the plains their sacred ceremonies.

The woman told the Lakota about the value of the buffalo, the women, and the children.

"You are from Mother Earth," she told the women. "What you are doing is as great as what the warriors do."

Before she left, she told the people she would return. As she walked away, she rolled over four times. Then, she turned into a white female buffalo calf. Hence, she is known as the White Buffalo Woman or White Buffalo Calf Woman.

Mothers connect us all to the sacred

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In this circle of unity, women are revered as beautiful and powerful because they are the givers of sacred life. They are grounded in Mother Earth and connected to Father Sky, bringing children into the world through the power of their life giving love.

Like Mother Earth, who provides everything we need to live and to thrive, the woman is able to give everything a human child needs. She nourishes, she loves, and she protects.

Without women, there is no hope, no future, no carrying on of tradition and culture. This is why Native American cultures have always honored and respected women, elevating them to positions of reverence and honor in the tribe. Mothers and grandmothers raise the children, teaching them how to live life honorably, with respect for elders and for tradition.

The force of a mother's love

Many challenges face Native women and Native mothers today. Cycles of addiction, disrupted families, lack of educational opportunities, unemployment, abuse and trauma, lack of proper medical care. Native women face these challenges on a daily basis.

But many women are persevering. These Native American mothers are examples of faith, perseverance, and life-giving love. Read their full stories for inspiration and hope.

Trista, Hunkpati, says being a mother is one of the greatest honors in the universe. *“I thank my kids every day for choosing me to be their mother and tell them how honored I am...to guide them in this world.”* As a Native American mother, Trista celebrates her children as “wakan” (sacred). *“It’s the greatest privilege to spend any second I can with them, they’re good medicine”* (positive feelings/healing). Additionally, Trista gives much credit to her children’s unciis (grandmothers) for having a major impact everyone in the family—*“they influence our lives and the way we do things as a family.”*



Nikki Lowe, Chickasaw, is a BIA officer, a former MMA fighter, and a mother. "To me being a Mother is knowing that I am the world to my son and my daughter. It's unconditional love and being the biggest role model to them. It's being their biggest and loudest fan in the stands, cheering them on when it comes to sports activities, staying on them about education, so that they can have the privilege of playing sports. [It's] cooking their favorite meals or getting their favorite snacks from the store, watching movies with them and talking about it afterwards, and going to the park and playing basketball together or going for hikes."

Nikki also knows that "talking to them about the importance to be kind to people and to carry themselves well and telling them every single day that I love them" is key! "My kids are my

world and my whole heart. Motherhood is the most amazing thing that could have ever happened to me. I love being a Mama."



Jaime, a Hunkpapa Lakota, has her own story of struggle with drug abuse. But her love for her children gave her the strength and motivation she needed to make changes in her life. *"I always struggled with how my mother lost her kids due to her addiction, and here I was losing mine for the same reason. Wanting to keep my kids was my main motivation to get sober...I finally became the mother I always knew I could be, and I broke the cycle."* Now Jaime works as a substance abuse counselor in Indian country, helping others break their cycles.



Brandi: after a struggle with addiction, one by one, she regained custody of her children. Brandi shared, *"My daughter was 4 when I left. When I finally had her 'home' again, she said, 'Mommy, I couldn't remember your face. It is so beautiful.'" The love of her children and new husband motivates her; she works daily and diligently to live a life with a clear mind and an open heart.* Now, Brandi runs a support group in Sisseton and opens the door to everyone: using addicts, recovering addicts, children, extended family, and friends. No one is turned away. They share a meal. They share their stories. They share encouragement. They share acceptance. They share hope.

The force of motherly love inspires strong Native women to conquer their own struggles for the sake of their children. Strong grandmothers and mothers care for and love more children than just their own. They nurture young people in youth centers, in schools, in broken homes, in their larger community because of their love and in their reverence for life's beauty and sacredness.

Native Hope is proud to celebrate and tell the stories of the beautiful lives of Native women and Native mothers across the centuries.

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**EPA invites Environmental Justice (EJ) advocates to participate in the next [National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Call](#) taking place on **May 17, 2022** from **2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time)**. These calls are free and open to the public.**

**Registration Link:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/epa-natl-environmental-justice-community-engagement-call-may-17-2022-registration-325114615567>

**Agenda:**

- Leadership Updates
- [Focus Topic: Drinking Water System Infrastructure Resilience & Sustainability Grants](#)
- Focus Topic: Dialogue on Proposed Regional Equity and Capacity Hubs (please check [our website](#) soon for a fact sheet)
- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities
- Engagement Session and Dialogue: Q&A about ongoing EJ initiatives

The purpose of these calls is to inform the community and other stakeholders about EPA's EJ work and enhance opportunities to maintain an open dialogue with EJ advocates.

Please email [Motilall.Christina@epa.gov](mailto:Motilall.Christina@epa.gov) by May 13, 2022 to request reasonable accommodation for a disability or interpreter services in a language other than English, so that you can participate in the call and/or to request a translation of any of the event documents into a language other than English.

For more information about the National Environmental Justice Community Engagement Calls, please email [Robinson.Victoria@epa.gov](mailto:Robinson.Victoria@epa.gov) or [Motilall.Christina@epa.gov](mailto:Motilall.Christina@epa.gov).

Recordings and meeting materials for all calls are posted here: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/national-environmental-justice-community-engagement-calls>.

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Dear Tribal Leaders and Members,

To ensure that Biden's new initiative, The Justice 40 Initiative is effectively and equitably reaching and supporting Tribes and Native communities, we need your input!

On **May 16th, 2022 at 3pm MST**, NDN Collective in partnership with Native Advisory will host a webinar to break down what the Justice 40 initiative is and why Tribes must provide public comment to strengthen the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

[RSVP for the Webinar Here](#)

More About the Webinar:

In order to tackle the Climate Crisis, President Biden launched the Justice 40 Initiative which is a directive toward "securing environmental justice and spurring economic opportunity for disadvantaged communities that have been historically marginalized and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment in housing, transportation, water, and wastewater infrastructure, and health care."

The intent of the Justice40 Initiative is to direct certain Federal investments to ensure that 40% of the overall benefit of such investments flows to "disadvantaged communities" such as Tribes.

As of May 10th, 2022 there have NO public comments given by Tribal Nations and we must change this and make our voices heard.

That is why NDN Collective has been working in partnership with Native Advisory to understand the impacts of this initiative on Tribes. In February the White House Council on Environmental Quality released a beta version of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, which is meant to help Federal agencies identify disadvantaged communities for the purposes of the Justice40 Initiative.

Since the launch of the beta version, we have found key issues that will negatively impact Tribes and create unequal access to grants within Justice 40. It is critical that Tribes across Indian Country participate in the current public comment process to name these issues before the tool becomes finalized.

Our webinar will walk Tribes through understanding Justice 40 and also through submitting comments.

[Register for the Webinar Here](#)

In Solidarity,

NDN Collective, Climate Justice Team
Jade Begay + Kailea Frederick





Railroads in Native America Gathering

**May 19-21, 2022
Ogden Union Station
2501 Wall Ave, Ogden, UT**

For more info go to:
indian.utah.gov/events/railroads-in-native-america

*Sponsored by the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, Utah's
Tribes and numerous organizational sponsors.*



Bringing together Native and non-Native scholars, students, artists, musicians, tribal citizens, tribal government representatives and the general public, this 2nd gathering and symposium invites conversation about the fraught and dynamic relationships between Native peoples and railroads. The program committee encourages submissions across a wide range of mediums and diverse formats including: roundtable presentations, research paper sessions, oral histories and storytelling, dance, artwork, multimedia offerings including film, and small poster exhibits.

Designed to be inclusive, intergovernmental and interdisciplinary, the symposium is hosted by the Utah Division of Indian Affairs in cooperation with the Intermountain tribal nations of the Goshute, Paiute, Dine', Shoshone, and Ute peoples. The gathering's geographical reach includes the United States and Canada.

This gathering invites conversation about the fraught and dynamic relationships between Native peoples and railroads.

For the latest information, please visit [our website](https://indian.utah.gov/events/railroads-in-native-america/). Or visit <https://indian.utah.gov/events/railroads-in-native-america/>

For program information and registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/railroads-in-native-america-symposium-registration-227897727237>

Investigation finds burial sites at 53 federal Indian boarding schools

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2022/05/12/federal-indian-boarding-schools-remains/>

16 week Native American Internship opportunities for folks ages 18 to 30

National Park Service Paid Internship



This Native American Internship program offers unique environmental and cultural opportunities for Native American youth to work, learn, and grow in some of the most distinctive landscapes in the Southwest. Young people will engage in meaningful work experiences in the national parks while developing an ethic of environmental stewardship and civic responsibility.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- A U.S. National or U.S. Citizen
- A High School Diploma or GED
- Some college preferred
- Young adults between the ages of 18-30 years old
- Willingness for a Federal background check as required by NPS and CBI
- Willingness for a drug and alcohol test at hiring and random testing during employment as required by CBI
- Clean driving record, driving record check, as required by NPS and CBI
- Cannot be a Civil Service Federal employee in the application process or during Seasonal Internship
- Must have reliable transportation to travel to work sites and other designated areas
- **NO HOUSING AVAILABLE**
- Native American Preference applies. Enrolled members of tribal communities are strongly encouraged to apply



Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, Arizona



Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Arizona



Navajo National Monument, Arizona



Aztec Ruins National Monument, New Mexico



Chaco Culture National Historical Park, New Mexico

 **Apply here**

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HR Manager, Sheri Tharp
(505) 278-7789



Looking to bring on 3 interns as soon as we can to join our team of Interpretation and Visitor Services. Interns will be stationed at one of the 3 parks: Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Hubbell Trading Post NHS, and Navajo National Monument.

We are looking for folks who have skills, or an interest in gaining or enhancing skills in public speaking, social media, research, photography, videography, Navajo history, Navajo culture, Navajo Language, and more.

If you're interested, or have further questions, feel free to reach out to me. If you'd like to apply right away, here's the link to the site:

<https://recruiting.paylocity.com/Rec.../Jobs/Details/1025302>

We're also seeking folks to join our 6 week trail crew here at Canyon de Chelly. This opportunity is also for Native Youth ages 18 to 27. If you're interested in this opportunity, let me know and I'll send more information your way.

Ahxéhee'



2022 Pony Express Re-Ride June 6—16, 2022—WestBound



Arthur Johnson (775)427-4061 - Diane Ponciano (775)225-9755 - Sam DiMuzio (775)622-5372
nevadaponyexpress@gmail.com

RIDERS WANTED

Help us Recreate History!

Each June, members of the National Pony Express Association (NPEA) recreate the Pony Express in a commemorative Re-Ride over a 10-day period. Letters are carried in a mochila over the original trail from St Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California.

The 1,966-mile, eight state event is conducted 24 hours a day until the mail is delivered to its destination. Over 750 riders participate from all walks of life. All are members of NPEA Divisions in one or more of the eight states of the trail. We invite you to join us in this exciting event. The Nevada portion of the re-ride will take place June 13th -15th. Riders are needed for all sections across Nevada in all types of terrain, day and night.

Rider Requirements

- Must be fourteen years of age or over. Riders 14 – 18 years of age must have parent or guardian consent.
- NPEA membership is required prior to the ride. Cost for riders is \$40 annually if paid/post-marked before March 1st (\$50 if paid after).
- Each rider must have on file a signed waiver/release of liability before riding.
- Have a horse you are responsible for and capable of riding at a trot and canter for a distance of 2-3 miles on open trails. It is acceptable to have a "Shadow Rider" ride with you on your section of the trail if you don't want to ride alone. Both riders must be members.
- Must be at designated location two hours prior to ride time and attempt to complete ride in allotted time.
- Must wear Pony Express Rider uniform: Blue jeans, long sleeve red western shirt, chocolate brown vest, yellow scarf, boots and western hat.
- HAVE FUN RECREATING HISTORY!
- We do more than just the annual re-ride, you can also have fun riding in parades, demonstrations, and other community and educational events. You can also be a non-riding member.

If you are interested in riding, please contact one of us at the phone number or email above. You can go to the NPEA website www.nevadaponyexpress.org (or scan code below) print out the application, complete it along with the waiver and your check made payable to: **NPEA Nevada Division**

Please contact one of us for more information or any questions and to submit your application. ***If you need help training, let's talk!!***

Scan Code to go to
Pony Express Nevada
Web Page



Additional applications and more information about the re-ride are available on line at:

<http://nationalponyexpress.org/the-states/nevada/> - Or scan the QR code

If no contact is noted above, or for general information on the Re-Ride in Nevada please contact us using our general email box at nevadaponyexpress@gmail.com