

**Journal #5540 from sdc 9.4.23**

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Numaga Pow Wow

Grace Petori

USA TODAY

**Celebrating America's workers: What to know about Labor Day, summer's last hurrah**

The federal holiday is much more than a long weekend amid the last gasps of summer. Here's what to know about the celebration of America's workers.

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**We need your input!**

In partnership with Nevada SBDC, NCET is conducting a confidential survey of Nevada-based small businesses and startups in an effort to better understand challenges your business is facing, obstacles to accessing capital for small businesses, and gaps in the business support ecosystem.

Please take 10 minutes to fill out this survey. Your anonymous responses will give our state's business resource centers and policymakers the information needed to better serve you and your Nevada small business.

**English Language Small Business Survey:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023NVSmallBizChall>



**Hawaii cultural figures lead community in 'healing' vigil following deadly Maui wildfires**

A statewide, one-day vigil will be held today (Friday, 9.1) in Hawaii to aid in emotional and spiritual healing following the deadly fires that have devastated Maui. As the sun rises over Maui, local cultural practitioners will guide the community in a chant to thank and recognize the sun for being a source of life. As the sun passes overhead at noon, they will chant to recognize the creation of the Hawaiian Islands

Good Morning America

**“Find ecstasy in life; the mere sense of living is joy enough.”**  
— Emily Dickinson

## Water We Gonna Do About This?

According to an investigation by the *New York Times*, [the U.S. is drinking up its groundwater reserves at an unsustainable rate](#). The *Times* projects that America's unquenchable thirst for groundwater will endanger both its position as a global food superpower and the drinking water supplies available for the average person.

The data for the investigation was collected from 80,000 wells nationwide through a mix of federal, state, and local agencies. The data shows that almost half of the sites surveyed saw significant declines in water levels over the past 40 years thanks to overpumping, which has drawn water out of the ground faster than nature can replenish it. Over the past decade, about 40% of sites examined hit all-time lows in terms of water levels.

The problem behind this crisis is simple: Americans are overpumping their aquifers. Farmers are overly invested in growing water-intensive crops like alfalfa and cotton in areas that they shouldn't, while fast-growing cities have also become too dependent on pumping groundwater to fuel their population growth. The *Times* says that the policy solution to these issues is also simple: setting limits on groundwater pumping, no matter how much farmers and property owners might protest.

The situation is only set to get worse with climate change. Rising global temperatures reduce snowpack, a key part of the water cycle that feeds rivers all year long. Warmer weather also increases crops' need for water, which will likely force farmers to use even more precious groundwater to ensure their short term survival. "From an objective standpoint, this is a crisis," said Warigia Bowman, a water expert at the University of Tulsa. "There will be parts of the U.S. that run out of drinking water."

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**Bixi Nibe** is at [Land Where the Condor Fly](#). · [New York, NY](#) ·

*When the People are separated from Creator and the laws of the origin of Life ALL else is destined to fail. The Science seems to be given the power to attempt to replace the Sacred. This is evil and brings only darkness. All international institutions, magnates, presidents, and so called leaders of the present human civilization lack the connection to Creator resulting in destruction and extinction. Bixi— —>>*

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*Reader note: Extremely poor rationalization of Christian entitlement based on indigenous genocide.*

How to devoted can you be to a religion that is forced on you? The worst non-principle of Christianity...

### **The Roots of Christian Nationalism Go Back Further Than You Think**

"To fully understand the deep roots of today's white Christian nationalism, we need to go back at least to 1493," writes Robert P. Jones.

Read in TIME: <https://apple.news/AsHGMXJc6QeGzI4XFXqxZwA>

**This Is The Most Historic Building In Every State**  
**Photos in Gallery©Traveller70/Shutterstock**

Story by Jacqui Agate

<https://www.loveexploring.com/galleries/148762/the-most-historic-building-in-every-state?page=1>

**Alaska: Russian Bishop's House, Sitka**

Though Sitka, then New Archangel, was once the capital of Russian America, few vestiges of this period remain. Russia had Alaska in its grasp for more than a century, and [this faded-yellow building](#) is a rare surviving fragment of this era. The structure was finished in 1842 and was a hub for the Russian Orthodox Church. After being abandoned in 1969, the building fell into disrepair, but is now under the protection of the National Park Service and open to visitors. The ground floor is filled with exhibits and you can take free guided tours of the upper level.



Arizona: Montezuma Castle, Camp Verde

America might be a young country, but humans have inhabited the land here for many thousands of years – and [this cliff-hewn castle](#) is a fine example of that. It was built and inhabited by the Indigenous Sinagua people from AD 1100 and it's still remarkably intact. It comprises 20 rooms and the park has ranger-led tours that shed more light on the structure and its surrounds.



Colorado: Mesa Verde Cliff Palace, Montezuma County

Another example of the architectural ingenuity of America's Indigenous peoples, the [Mesa Verde cliff dwellings](#) were built by Ancestral Puebloan peoples from around the late 1190s. Incredibly, more than 4,000 structures are preserved across the park, but the glittering jewel is the Cliff

Palace (pictured). Built from mortar, sandstone and wooden beams, the sprawling site would have been home to around 100 residents and you can see it from the Cliff Palace Overlook, off the Cliff Palace Loop Road.



### **Hawaii: Iolani Palace, Honolulu**

[This sumptuous palace](#) is the only official royal residence in the USA, built from 1879 to 1882, and serving as the home of the Hawaiian monarchy. Their story is a tumultuous one: Queen Liliuokalani, who took to the throne in 1891, was actually overthrown and arrested after she attempted to bolster the power of the royal family. She was the Hawaiian Kingdom's last sovereign monarch. Now guided or independent tours whisk visitors through the state rooms and the royals' private quarters.



### **Idaho: Mission of the Sacred Heart, Coeur d'Alene**

Protected within a state park, this attractive mission is the oldest building in Idaho. Catholic missionaries and **Coeur d'Alene tribespeople** constructed the sacred jewel in the 1850s, and its Baroque-style pediment and Greek Revival portico make it one of the most photographic churches around. Its bucolic surroundings are crisscrossed with biking and hiking trails too.



### **Minnesota: Fort Snelling, Minneapolis**

[The fort](#) is just a small fragment of the story at this historic site, which holds some 10,000 years of human history. Among other tribes, the Dakota and the Ojibwe called this their home many millennia ago, while construction on the fort began in 1819 and was completed in 1825. Recruits were trained here throughout the Civil War, and the 3rd United States Infantry was garrisoned at

Snell during the Spanish-American War too. The Plank Museum and Visitor Center is a great place to kick off your discoveries.



**New Mexico: Taos Pueblo, Taos**

There are fascinating vestiges of Indigenous cultures all over the United States, but [Taos Pueblo](#) is a place of living history. The site is often labeled as the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America, with people having lived in sun-baked adobe buildings, built by the Anasazi, for more than 1,000 years. Indigenous peoples still live here today and it's possible to visit – you can take tours with residents and buy crafts made by local people.



**North Dakota: Fort Union Trading Post, Williston**

This site preserves the [Fort Union Trading Post](#), considered the "most important fur trade post on the Upper Missouri River". Here, between 1828 and 1867, Indigenous tribes, including the Assiniboine, traded animal furs for a variety of other goods, and now it's been partially reconstructed. Set aside two hours to explore the fort on a self-guided walking tour and learn about 19th-century life here.



**Oklahoma: Hunter's Home, Park Hill**

This pre-war plantation home – the only one of its kind still standing in the state – is part of the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. It was owned by George Michael Murrell, a business owner married to a wealthy Cherokee woman. During the Trail of Tears in the 1830s, the Cherokee peoples were exiled from their homeland – Murrell, his wife and her wider family moved to Park Hill in Oklahoma and he built this Greek Revival-style house. It's possible to tour the property which is host to living history interpreters.

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**Founding father Gen. Anthony Wayne's legacy is getting a second look at Ohio's Wayne National Forest**

Some 40 Native American tribes have ancestral ties to Wayne National Forest, a quarter-million acres spread across portions of Appalachian southeastern Ohio. Now, a vigorous debate is underway over a Forest Service proposal to replace the name of Gen. Anthony Wayne, a founding father who Americans of an earlier era celebrated as an “Indian fighter,” with something more neutral: Buckeye National Forest, after the state tree. Forest Manager Lee Stewart said tribes had been asking for a name change for

decades, but their request was formalized last year as part of a sweeping review of derogatory place names undertaken by the Biden administration.

### Ray Winbush

"I's bo'n on Christmas day, in Victoria [Texas]. Got here jus' in time for de eggnog! Dat 'bout 1859, 'cause I's six year ole de Christmas 'fore freedom. My mudder was a free bo'n Injun women. Jus' like any ole, dammed Choctaw down in de woods. She was stole and sol' by a spec'lator's gang.

Us move to Tyler when I one mont' ole."We lib on a big farm and my mudder suckle her thirteen chillun and ole mistus seven. Bob , my brudder, he go to Mansfiel' and we never hear of him no more. He wen' with young marster, Wesley Heard . I 'member de mornin' day lef', dey had to wait for him, 'cause he'd been out seein' his gal."De marster had a big log house close to de road. De quarters was 'cordin' to de family what live dere. De stage line through Woodvilk pass close by.

I 'member sittin' on de rail fence to see de stage go by. Dat was a fine sight! De stage was big, rough carriage and dey was four or five hosses on de line. De bugle blow when dey go by, with de dus' behin' dem. Dey was comin' from Jasper, in Louisian', and everywhere. "When us little dey hab to keep us in de house 'cause de bald eagle pick up chillen jus' like de hawk pick up chicken. Dey was lots of catamoun' and bears and deer in de woods. Us never 'llowed play 'lone in de woods."I didn' do nothin' 'cep' eat and sleep and foller ole mistus 'round. She give me good clothes 'cause my mudder was de weaver. De clothes jus' cut out straight down and dyed with all kinds of bark. I hab to keep de head comb and grease with lard.

De lil' white chillun play with no but not de udder nigger chilluns much. Us pull de long, leaf grass and pleat it and us make rag doll and playhouse and grapevine swing. Dere's plenty grapes, scudlong, sour blue grapes and sweet, white grape. Dey make jelly and wine outta dem. Dey squeeze de grapes and put de juice in a jimmijohn(demijohn) to fo'men'.

"My mudder name was Keyia . Dat Injun. Daddy's name was Reuben . I 'member when I's lil' us goes visit my uncle, Major Scott . He lib in Polk County and he wore earring in he ears and beads and everyt'ing. He's a Injun. He dead now. many year. "My daddy work in de fiel'. He sow de rice and raise t'baccy.



Dey have fiel's of it. Dey put it in de crack of de fence to press, den dey dry it on de barn roof. Dat was smokin' t'baccy! For de chewin' t'baccy. dey soak it in sugar and honey. Us never see snuff den. "On Sunday us didn' work. We has chu'ch meetin'. But dey has to have it in de ya'd, so de white folks could see de kin' of religion 'spounded. "I seed some had sight in slavery, but ain' never been 'bused myself.

I seed chillun too lil' to walk from dey mommies sol' right off de block in Woodville. Dey was sol' jus' like calfs. I seed niggers in han' locks. "After freedom dey wuk a whole year and den Major Sangers , he finally come and make de white folks tu'n us loose. I stay on for years, 'till ole mistus die, She larn me to knit and spin and sich like." -----

*Josie Brown was born about 1859, in Victoria, Texas. She belonged to George Heard. Her mother was born free, a member of the Choctaw Nation, but she was stolen and sold as a slave. The interview was done in Woodville, Texas, around 1937.*

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**September, 2023 issue #181**

### **Native Americans & Donner Summit**

Everywhere you go on Donner Summit you run into evidence of its rich history, making Donner Summit the most historically significant square mile in California and maybe the entire Western United States. This is, of course, incontrovertible but as a reminder there is the physical evidence, the result of the coming of European Americans: wagon train trails, the first transcontinental railroad, the first transcontinental highway, the first transcontinental air route, the first transcontinental telephone line, the interstate highway, old ski areas, historic buildings, cabin ruins, sheep and ice industry artifacts, and of course more. Those are the big events; each has a story and each has a place in the development of California and California's place in the world. Then there are many more really good stories not directly attached to those events like the first person to cross the Sierra by bicycle and who then bicycled across the country and around the world.

More evidence of Donner Summit's unique history goes back to the Native Americans who occupied Donner Summit in the summers before and after the arrival of the European Americans.

Their presence left behind artifacts that go back thousands of years but they are not so obvious; you have to look hard. One can be right on top of metates, for example (page 10), and not see them. It takes a close look and a good touch. Then there are basalt flakes from knapping tools that almost everyone would pass by unless they knew what they were seeing.

The DSHS has published book reviews, developed exhibits, printed a brochure, and done some small articles about the Native Americans on Donner Summit. In this edition of the Heirloom we bring all of that together as an authoritative source for those interested in the local Native Americans. To get there we used a variety of sources (see later in this issue) with primary focus on two books by Willis Gortner (out of print but available in the Truckee library), *Ancient Rock Carvings of the Central Sierra: The North Fork Indian Petroglyphs*, and *Martis Indians: Ancient Tribe of the Sierra Nevada*.

Mr. Gortner was lucky enough to have a cabin at the Cedars on Donner Summit where there is a plethora of ancient Native American artifacts and sites. It's all private property, however, so you can't visit and will have to be satisfied with this Heirloom edition. Another big source of information for this Heirloom issue was on-site visits to perhaps a dozen petroglyph sites, visits to mortar and cupule sites, basalt flake detritus, and other evidence of occupation. In those visits we followed in the wake of archeologists <http://www.donnersummithistoricalociety.org/PDFs/newsletters/news23/September23.pdf> affirming their discoveries, and then we made some of our own.

We hope the text and the many pictures and drawings will be interesting.

***(Ed note: worth your time!)***



<http://www.donnersonsummithistoricalociety.org/PDFs/newsletters/news23/September23.pdf>

## Welcome the World Into Your Home

Dear friends of the International Center,

NNIC is scheduled to host a variety of delegations through the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) as well as an Open World delegation from Papua New Guinea. We are looking for dinner hosts for the following delegations. Please contact Dominique Stedham at [dstedham@nnic.org](mailto:dstedham@nnic.org) if you are interested.

A delegation from Turkmenistan (five participants plus two interpreters) will visit Reno to study public health with a focus on early childhood intervention for children with developmental disabilities. They would like to be hosted for dinner on September 16 or 17.

Fifteen visitors from Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland Türkiye, Spain and the United Kingdom learning about current social, political and economic issues in the US would like to be hosted for dinner on Sunday, October 1.

A delegation of five Egyptians studying Agricultural Modeling and Climate Change Impacts will visit Reno and would like to be hosted for dinner on October 7 or 8.

Six visitors from Belgium, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Greenland, Paraguay and Portugal learning about disaster preparedness and emergency management with a focus on fire protection will visit Reno and would like to be hosted for dinner on October 25 or 26.

The delegation from Papua New Guinea will visit October 20-26 and will be looking for overnight stays. Please contact Sara Jones at [sjones@nnic.org](mailto:sjones@nnic.org) if you have a room in your house.

Thanks as always for supporting citizen diplomacy and a more connected world!

Yesterday's Poll:

Should countries give their indigenous people a permanent voice in government?

Yes: 77%

No: 23%

<https://thecurrent.rocanews.com/p/whats-clearance-clarence>

## What's the most sustainable way to mine the largest known lithium deposit in the world?

The McDermitt Caldera in Nevada and Oregon could hold up to 100 megatons of lithium. Now companies are proposing a new method for mining it.

By [Rahul Rao](#) | Published Aug 30, 2023 4:30 PM EDT

- [https://www.popsci.com/environment/lithium-mining-mcdermitt-caldera/?utm\\_source=pocket-newtab-en-us](https://www.popsci.com/environment/lithium-mining-mcdermitt-caldera/?utm_source=pocket-newtab-en-us)

## [The world's largest dam demolition has begun. Can the dammed Klamath River finally find salvation?](#)

Cal Matters, 8/31/23 - Oshun O'Rourke waded into the dark green water, splashing toward a net that her colleagues gently closed around a cluster of finger-length fish.

The Klamath River is wide and still here, making its final turn north to the coast as it winds through the Yurok reservation in Humboldt County. About 150 baby chinook salmon, on their long journey to the Pacific, were resting in cool waters that poured down from the forest.

## Radically Imagining Indigenous Futures

July-August 2023 Newsletter



*Tawny Wilson, NDN Fund Director of Lending, Stan Meader, Passamaquoddy Tribe at Indian Township, and Charles Walsh, American Unagi, pose with smoked eel products. Photo by Weldon Grover, Tactical Media Associate for NDN Collective.*

At NDN Collective, we are dedicated to strategizing, mobilizing, and investing into Indigenous solutions. We build power alongside hundreds of Indigenous communities across Turtle Island and surrounding island nations as they defend their lands and people, develop sustainable solutions, and decolonize everyday practices and systems.

In our latest newsletter, we are proud to lift up some of that work. Read more to see, feel, and experience the brilliance of Indigenous-led community organizing and radical art that inspires. **Take action**, by supporting local Indigenous re-building and mobilizing in Maui, and by signing a petition to free our relative, the longest-held Indigenous political prisoner, Leonard Peltier.

We remain honored and humbled to this work in community with all of you.

[View the Web Version of the Newsletter Here](#)

[Read the Full Q&A Blog with Jackie Fawn Here](#)

[Read the Full Q&A Blog with Ilgevak Williams & Amadeo Cool May Here](#)

[Read the Full Q&A Blog with Nora Naranjo Morse & Nivia Toro Lopez Here](#)

[Read the Full Q&A Blog with Marx, Dakota, and Mic Jordan Here](#)

[Read the Full Press Release Here](#)

[Watch the Full Livestream of the Radical Imagination Experience & Concert Here](#)

## **NDN Collective Releases Statement on Maui**

### **Wildfire Tragedy Urges Native Hawaiian-led Solutions**

As the death toll from the Maui wildfires continues to rise and communities come together to offer support, the Native Hawaiian community is already grappling with the threat of a new wave of colonialism on their ancestral homelands. Thousands of acres, and hundreds of homes and businesses have been destroyed, displacing thousands and leaving many separated from and still searching for their loved ones.

During a time when people are confused, scared, hurt, and displaced, there is already a fear and real danger that corporations and wealthy outsiders will swoop in to grab land from local residents.

“Right now, we are on the verge of being erased. My fear is what happened after Hurricane ‘Iniki on Kaua‘i will happen here. Hundreds of outsiders arrived and reaped the benefits of the relief, and the population exploded and local people were displaced. We are doing everything we can to ensure that does not happen in Lāhaina” – Ke‘eaumoku Kapu, Community Leader, Director, Na ‘Aikane o Maui

\* \* \*

**[Then and now: how city skylines have changed over time](#)**