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In Alaska, a Road to Metals Needed for Clean Energy Could Also Cause Harm

Should Federal Aid be Extended to Career Connected Learning?

Analyst in Agricultural Policy (Vacancy#:VAR002600)

Tis the season



Walker Lake in 2021. Bob Conrad / This Is Reno

Confronting climate change impacts, tribes prepare and persist

This story is the last in a series. Read part one on infrastructure issues [here](#), and part two on environmental consequences [here](#).

<https://thisisreno.com/2023/09/confronting-climate-change-impacts-tribes-prepare-and-persist/>

The **Presidential Preference Primary Election** will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. **Early Voting** begins on Saturday, January 27 and runs through Friday, February 2, 2024.

The Presidential Preference Primary is a closed election for the major parties in Nevada – Republican and Democratic. Voters who are not registered with either party will not be able to participate. The Secretary of State’s Office encourages Nevadans to check that their registration is up to date (including current address and party information) ahead of the 2024 Election Cycle. Additional information about the 2024 Election Cycle can be found [here](#).

Visit RegisterToVote.NV.gov to register or update your current registration. Other options to register to vote include:

- Fill out a mail-in registration form [HERE](#).
- Register to vote at any Nevada Department of Motor Vehicle office
- Register at your county clerk or registrar of voters’ office
- Register at various social service agencies
- Register on college campuses.

Same Day Registration is available up until the close of polls on Election Day for those who need to update their voter information.

All Nevadans who are active registered voters, unless they’ve opted out, will receive a ballot for the Presidential Preference Primary by mail. Nevada’s Effective Absentee System for Elections (EASE) will be available to members of the United States Armed Forces, their spouses and dependents, Nevada voters who reside outside of the country and Nevada residents with a disability. EASE will be available no later than Saturday, December 23, 2023. [Learn more here](#).

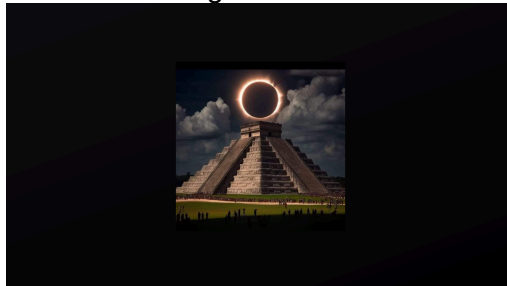
For more information about the upcoming elections, [visit NVSOS.gov](https://NVSOS.gov).

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**[Staving off a bass invasion](#)**

High Country News, 10/1/23. On July 1, 2022, a National Park Service biologist named Jeff Arnold was hauling nets through a slough off the Colorado River, several miles downstream from Glen Canyon Dam, when he captured three greenish fish lined with vertical black stripes. He texted photos of his catch to colleagues, who confirmed his fears: The fish were smallmouth bass, voracious predators that have invaded waters around the West. Worse, they were juveniles. Smallmouth weren’t just living below the dam — they’d likely begun to breed.

**[Can dam removal actually restore fish populations in U.S. rivers?](#)**

Global Seafood Alliance, 10/2/23. In January, the Klamath River will see seismic change. That’s when three dams on this Oregon and California waterway will be blasted and allow the river – and hopefully salmon and steelhead trout, which have been blocked by dams from reaching more than 400 miles of habitat – to run free again.



## Chief John Ross

John Ross, long-time leader of the Cherokee Nation, was born on October 3, 1790, in Cherokee territory now part of Alabama. He grew up near [Lookout Mountain](#) on the Tennessee-Georgia border. Ross served as president of the Cherokee's National Committee (their legislature) from 1819 to 1826, as delegate to the Cherokee constitutional convention in 1827, as principal chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1828 to 1839, and finally as principal chief of the United Cherokee Nation from 1839 until his death in 1866. In these roles, he successfully led the Cherokee people through some of their most difficult circumstances

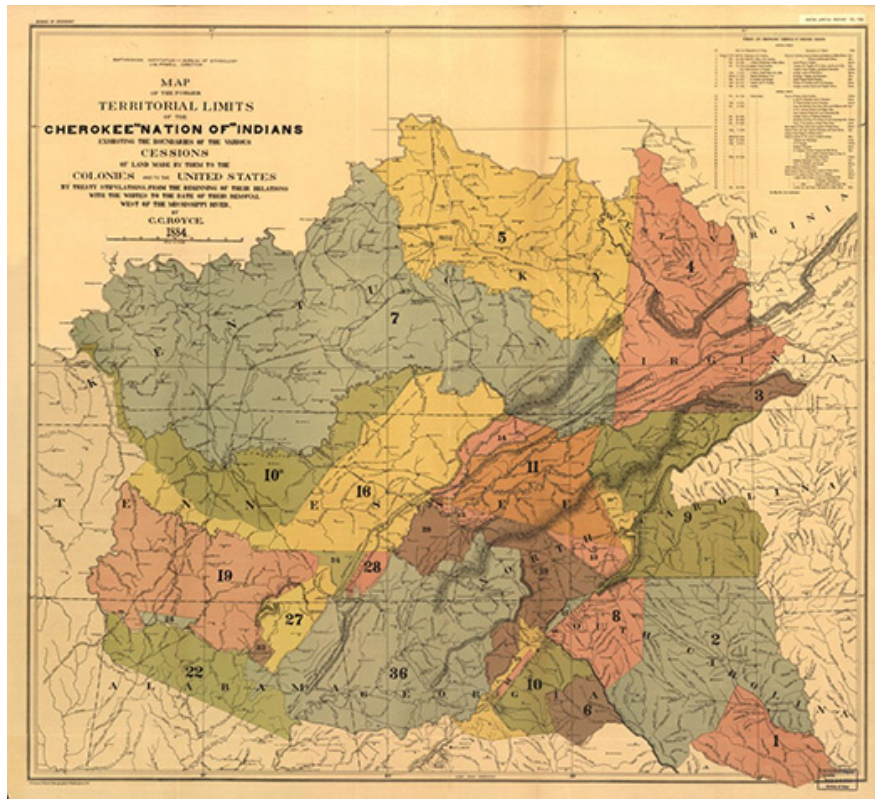


*John Ross, a Cherokee chief/ drawn, printed & coloured at the Lithographic & Print Colouring Establishment, 94 Walnut St. John T. Bowen, lithographer; Philadelphia: Daniel Rice & James G. Clark, 1843. <sup>1</sup> Popular Graphic Arts. Prints & Photographs Division*

Although his father was Scottish and his mother was of mixed descent, John Ross grew up as a full-fledged member of the Cherokee community. Known as Tsan Usdi (Little John) in his youth, he acquired the Cherokee name Kooweskoowe at adulthood. His parents also provided him with a European-based education, at first through a private tutor at home and later at an academy in South West Point (now Kingston), Tennessee. Thus Ross learned to function fully in white society while maintaining strong Cherokee ties. He later used his knowledge of both cultures to his peoples' advantage during repeated negotiations with the U.S. government.

By 1816 when he entered politics as a Cherokee delegate to Washington, D.C., John Ross was a successful merchant with a wife and several children. Having fought with Andrew Jackson in the [Creek War](#) of 1813-14, he went on to establish a ferry and warehouse for his trading firm at Ross' Landing, now [Chattanooga](#), on the Tennessee River. Ross also inherited a [family home at Rossville](#), now in Georgia, where he increasingly took on the role of a southern planter. By the time that he moved to Head of Coosa (now Rome, Georgia) in 1827, Ross owned nearly 200 acres of farmland worked by slaves and was one of the Cherokee Nation's wealthiest men.

Despite the encroachment of white settlers and extensive [cessions](#) of their territory, by the early nineteenth century the Cherokee people still held a sizeable tract of land spanning parts of southern Tennessee, northern Alabama, northern Georgia, and western North Carolina. Following the [acquisition of the Louisiana Territory](#) by the U.S. in 1803, many Americans—not the least of them [President Thomas Jefferson](#)—sought to move the Cherokees along with other eastern tribes to unincorporated land west of the Mississippi River. The Cherokees' adoption of agricultural practices, a [written alphabet](#)<sup>External</sup>, and a constitutional form of government all were intended to accommodate Europeans and forestall relocation. By 1830, however, discovery of gold on Cherokee land, paired with Georgia's attempts at legislative annexation and the U.S. [Indian Removal Act](#), made that relocation look increasingly inevitable.



[Map of the former territorial limits of the Cherokee “Nation of” Indians; Map showing the territory originally assigned Cherokee “Nation of” Indians.](#) C. C. Royce, 1884. [Mapping the National Parks.](#) Geography & Map Division

John Ross led a bold attempt to resist forced removal through legal proceedings in [Washington](#). In two Supreme Court cases, [Cherokee Nation v. Georgia](#) (1831) and [Worcester v. Georgia](#) (1832), the Cherokees challenged Georgia laws intended to expel them from their land. While the court first ruled that Indian tribes were “domestic dependent nations” over which it had no legal jurisdiction, it later reversed itself, writing that the Cherokee Nation “is a distinct community...in which the laws of Georgia can have no force...The whole intercourse between the United States and this nation is, by our Constitution and laws, vested in the government of the United States.” Yet, the Supreme Court had no way to enforce its stand and [President Andrew Jackson](#) was [sympathetic to the cause of removal](#).

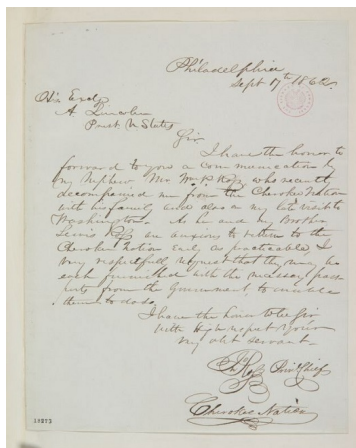
Factionalism within the Cherokee community also grew. Late in 1835, a small group of Cherokees, led by members of the Watie and Ridge families, [signed a treaty in Ross’ absence](#) ceding all tribal land to the U.S. government in exchange for money and territory further west. Though Ross protested these events in a [petition to Congress](#), the treaty was [ratified by the U.S. Senate](#) with a one-vote margin in May 1836. This gave the Cherokees just two years to get off their land.

By the summer of 1838, Ross found himself leading his people through the harrowing process of military eviction from their ancestral homes. U.S. government logistics were poor: there were three to five deaths a day from illness and drought among the first groups departing by boat. For the majority who waited until autumn, the journey, now organized by Ross, became a challenging thousand-mile march through freezing winter weather. An estimated 4,000

Cherokees died on the journey—more than one-fifth of the total population—including John Ross' wife Quatie, who succumbed to pneumonia at Little Rock. Now known as the [Trail of Tears](#), this Cherokee experience of removal is remembered as a tragic low point in U.S.-tribal relations.

While a small group of Cherokees remained in Georgia, the majority of the tribe, with Ross as their leader, began life anew in what is now Oklahoma. There, Ross helped craft the 1839 Constitution of the United Cherokee Nation, with its [capital established at Tahlequah](#) in 1841. Ross again was elected principal chief. He married Mary Brian Stapler, a young Quaker woman, in 1844. By the 1850s, the Oklahoma Cherokees had a national press, a free public school program, and a unified political system.

During the Civil War, Ross called for the Cherokee Nation to maintain neutrality, but reluctantly agreed to sign a treaty with the Confederacy due to pressure from bordering states. He soon traveled with his family to Washington, however, and remained there for the rest of the war. In September 1862, [John Ross met with President Lincoln](#) to explain that he was coerced into signing the treaty with the Confederates.



[John Ross to Abraham Lincoln, Sunday, September 7, 1862 \(Passports for his relatives\)](#). Series 1. General Correspondence. 1833-1916. [Abraham Lincoln Papers at the Library of Congress](#). Manuscript Division

The divisive sentiments of the Civil War again threatened to split the Cherokee tribe, but John Ross worked to reunite them and protect their land. Just days before his death he learned that the [Treaty of 1866](#) would secure permanent land rights for his people at last.



[On the Indian Reservation, Cherokee, N.C.](#) Herbert W. Pelton, 1909. [Panoramic Photographs](#). Prints & Photographs Division

1. Image appears in Thomas Loraine McKenney and James Hall, *History of the Indian Tribes of North America, with Biographical Sketches and Anecdotes of the Principal Chiefs. Embellished with One Hundred and Twenty Portraits, from the Indian Gallery in the Department of War, at Washington*. Philadelphia: F.W. Greenough [etc.], 1838-1844. ([Return to text](#))

## Learn More

- [Search across the collections](#) on *Indian* to find a remarkable variety of prints, photographs, and documents relating to Native-American peoples. Learn more about relations between the eastern Indian nations and the federal government during the earliest years of the republic.
- Search on *Cherokee* in the following collections:
  - [A Century of Lawmaking For a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875](#)
  - [Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774 to 1789](#)
  - [George Washington Papers](#)
  - [Thomas Jefferson Papers, 1606 to 1827](#)
  - [James Madison Papers, 1723 to 1859](#)
  - [Andrew Jackson Papers](#)
- For example, a letter from George Washington to the U.S. Senate outlines problems the Cherokees faced just prior to John Ross' birth:

By the papers which have been laid before the Senate it will appear that in the latter end of the year 1785 and the beginning of 1786 treaties were formed by the United States with the Cherokees, Chickasaws and Choctaws...It will also appear by the Papers that the States of North Carolina and Georgia protested against said Treaties as infringing upon their legislative rights and being contrary to the Confederation. It will further appear by the said papers that the treaty with the Cherokees has been entirely violated by the disorderly white people on the frontiers of North Carolina.

[George Washington to Senate, August 22, 1789, Negotiations with Southern Indians. Series 2, Letterbooks 1754-1799. Letterbook 25. George Washington Papers. Manuscript Division](#)
- Search on the term *Cherokee* [across all collections](#) to find additional documents and images associated with the tribe, such as [The President's Proclamation of Pardon and Amnesty in the Cherokee Language](#), issued by Abraham Lincoln in 1864.
- [A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875](#) contains the special presentation [Indian Land Cessions in the United States, 1784-1894](#). Select [Browse by Tribe](#) and choose *Cherokee* to learn about the Cherokee Nation's land, and then compare their situation to that of other tribes.
- View architectural surveys of mid-nineteenth-century Cherokee governmental buildings at Tahlequah, Oklahoma: the [Cherokee Supreme Court Building](#), the [Cherokee National Capitol Building](#), and the [Cherokee National Penitentiary](#), all found in [Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey](#).

## Reminder for NCAI

[Register for #NCAI80](#)

[View the Agenda At-a-Glance](#)  
[NCAI Resolutions Portal](#)  
[Become a Marketplace Exhibitor](#)  
[NCAI Youth Agenda](#)  
[Native Youth Travel Scholarships](#)

## 2000-2023 NEA National Heritage Fellows

(for pics and bios, click on names)

[Ed Eugene Carriere \(Suquamish\)](#)      [Suquamish Basketmaker](#)  
[Roen Kahalewai Hufford \(Hawaiian\)](#)      [Kapa Maker](#)  
[Elizabeth James-Perry \(Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Aquinnah\)](#)      [Wampum & Fiber Artist](#)

### 2022

[Elizabeth James-Perry \(Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Aquinnah\)](#)  
[Wampum & Fiber Artist](#)

[Francis P. Sinenci](#)      [Master Hawaiian Hale Builder](#)

### 2021

[Anita Fields \(Osage/Muscogee\)](#)      [Osage Ribbon Worker](#)

### 2020

[Karen Ann Hoffman \(Oneida Nation of Wisconsin\)](#)      [Haudenosaunee Raised Beadworker](#)  
[Wayne Valliere \(Lac du Flambeau Ojibwe\)](#)      [Birchbark Canoe Builder](#)

### 2019

[Grant Bulltail](#)      [Crow Storyteller](#)

### 2018

[Kelly Church](#)      [Anishinabe \(Gun Lake Band\) Black Ash Basketmaker](#)

### 2017

[Anna Brown Ehlers](#)      [Chilkat Weaver](#)

### 2016

[Bryan Akipa](#)      [Dakota Flute Mak](#)  
[Clarissa Rizal](#)      [Tlingit Ceremonial Regalia Maker](#)  
[Theresa Secord](#)      [Penobscot Nation Ash/Sweetgrass Basketmaker](#)

### 2014

[Henry Arquette](#)      [Mohawk basketmaker](#)  
[Yvonne Walker Keshick](#)      [Odawa quillworker](#)

### 2013

[Ralph Burns](#)      [Storyteller, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe](#)  
*(cannot believe its been a decade!)*

[Pauline Hillaire](#)

[Tradition Bearer, Lummi Tribe](#)

**2012**

[Molly Neptune Parker](#)

[Passamaquoddy Basketmaker](#)

**2011**

[Ledward Kaapana](#)

[Ukulele and slack key guitarist](#)

**2010**

[Gladys Kukana Grace](#)

[Lauhala \(palm leaf\) weaver](#)

**2009**

[Teri Rofkar](#)

[Tlingit Weaver and Basketmaker](#)

**2008**

[Horace P. Axtell](#)

[Nez Perce drum maker, singer, tradition-bearer](#)

[Oneida hymn singers](#)

[Oneida Hymn Singers of Wisconsin](#)

**2007**

[Pat Courtney Gold](#)

[Wasco sally bag weaver](#)

[Eddie Kamae](#)

[Hawaiian musician, composer, filmmaker](#)

[Julia Parker](#)

[Kashia Pomo basketmaker](#)

**2006**

[Delores Elizabeth Churchill](#)

[Haida cedar bark weaver](#)

[Esther Martinez](#)

[Native American storyteller](#)

[George Na'ope](#)

[Kumu Hula \(Hula Master\)](#)

**2005**

[Grace Henderson Nez](#)

[Navajo weaver](#)

[James Ka'upena Wong](#)

[Hawaiian chanter](#)

**2004**

[Gerald "Subiyay" Miller  
basket maker](#)

[Skokomish tradition bearer, carver,](#)

**2003**

[Agnes "Oshanee" Kenmille](#)

[Salish beadworker and regalia maker](#)

**2002**

[Loren Bommelyn](#)

[Tolowa tradition bearer](#)

[Rose and Francis Cree](#)

[Ojibwe basketmakers/storytellers](#)

[Clara Neptune Keezer](#)

[Passamaquoddy basketmaker](#)

**2001**

[Evalena Henry](#)

[Apache basketweaver](#)

[Fred Tsoodle](#)

[Kiowa sacred song leader](#)

**2000**

[Nettie Jackson](#)

[Klickitat Basketmaker](#)

[Genoa Keawe](#)

[Native Hawaiian Singer/Ukulele](#)

[play=https://www.afscfo.org/honors/heritage/list?page=15](https://www.afscfo.org/honors/heritage/list?page=15)



**On October 15 1977, the Wells Colony was created (PL 95-133) 48 Stat984.**

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**What is the Future of Local Farming?**



A look at the challenges and triumphs of growing food in Reno-Tahoe. Farmers and ranchers face abundant challenges within their industry. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2022 Census [...]

**<https://ediblerenotahoe.com/magazine/what-is-the-future-of-local-farming-fall23/>**

**Peruvian Heritage, Cherokee Connection:  
My Great Grandmother's Hidden Life Unveiled**

My family story is my great grandmother was Cherokee. She married a non-Cherokee man and hid in the hills of Tennessee from the trail of tears. Her picture definitely was not Caucasian.

The normal DNA tests showed no Native American in our DNA.

CRI genetics provided an answer that made the story mind blowing.

19 generations ago I had an ancestor from Iberia (Spain) who had a child with a Mexican. The time period is when the conquistadors conquered the Aztecs. Their child was involved in the invasion of Peru and the family line goes 3 generations in Peru until traveling other parts of South America.

My great grandmother looks like a picture of a native Peruvian.

We believe she was brought to live with the Cherokee as a young child and never knew anything else.

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Stories like Robert's are among my favorites because they can show us new ways to think about ourselves and where we come from.

Stories like this don't need to shatter our identity or take away from it. Instead, they have the power to add layer and depth to our already fascinating tale.

How much do you understand about your past and where you come from,

**After more than a decade, [the federal government's portal for FOIA requests has shut down](#).** FOIAonline is no longer live and a notice directs visitors to FOIA.gov to submit new requests. So how do you navigate FOIA.gov, and what does the future look like for the federal government's hub for FOIA requests?

MuckRock spoke with Bobak "Bobby" Talebian, director of the Office of Information Policy at the Department of Justice, to ask about how FOIA.gov works and the department's FOIA future plans. Talebian spoke about the government's development of a "FOIA Wizard," solutions to the mounting backlog of FOIA requests and how the Justice Department attempts to hold agencies accountable for potential lack of compliance with federal regulations..

[www.muckrock.com/news/archives/2023/oct/04/qa-justice-department-foia-talebian/](http://www.muckrock.com/news/archives/2023/oct/04/qa-justice-department-foia-talebian/)

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Located in the South Pacific Ocean northeast of New Zealand, the remote island nation of Niue thrives on a culture deeply connected to the ocean. But as **Niue grapples with rising sea levels and increasingly severe weather** — events that have even led to the destruction of the country's museum — the climate crisis is exacting a toll of immeasurable significance: the erosion of Niue's traditions, language, and culture. As Niue risks losing its history, it also wrestles with uncertainties about its future.

[Click here to watch our new short film about the impact of the climate crisis on Niue.](#)

Acknowledging the unequal impact and cost the climate crisis levies on small islands and developed nations, the international community announced a new fund last year to cover loss and damage. This mechanism provides a channel for developed countries to support the most impacted and vulnerable communities, but many of the key details are still being negotiated this year.

[Sign the petition and urge world leaders to support the Loss and Damage Fund.](#)

Stay tuned for more important stories from communities in small island states over the next few weeks.

With gratitude for your support,

The Only One and AOSIS Teams

In Alaska, a Road to Metals Needed for Clean Energy Could Also Cause Harm

<https://news.yahoo.com/alaska-road-metals-needed-clean-140944468.html>

BA and CommonSense American are co-hosting a workshop on the topic, *Should Federal Aid be Extended to Career Connected Learning?* More specifically, the question surrounds whether Congress should extend Pell Grants to short-term skills based technical training. The issue is scheduled to be debated in Congress this Fall, and the output of the workshop will be shared directly with Congress persons and their staff, and potentially impact their decision making. This is an opportunity for Braver Angels to have a direct impact on how legislators think about an issue. More information about the workshop, including the policies Congress is considering, can be found in the [Detailed Pre-Read](#) and in the Eventbrite descriptions at the links below.

Two workshops are scheduled, one on **Oct 22** and one on **Oct 29**. Both will start at **1p Pacific/4p Eastern**. Registration links can be found below:

[October 22 Workshop](#)

Hope to see you there!

[October 29 Workshop](#)

Best, Barbara Farmer

[Analyst in Agricultural Policy \(Vacancy#: VAR002600\)](#)

The Library of Congress is accepting applications for an Analyst in Agricultural Policy, GS-11, until November 13, 2023.

This position is located in the Congressional Research Service (CRS), Resources, Science and Industry Division (RSI). The primary purpose of this position is to serve the United States Congress as a public policy analyst by locating and interpreting factual information; conducting research; preparing objective, non-partisan descriptive, background, and analytical reports; and participating in team research projects and seminars. The employee is also expected to develop over time the skills necessary to provide public policy and legislative analysis and consultation to congressional committees, Members, and staff at increasingly sophisticated levels.

[Click here for more information.](#)



Tis the season