

Journal #5660 from sdc 2.19.24

What America could look like today if Europeans had never discovered it

The mysterious origins of Peru's oldest indigenous people

Human migration: North America settled as early as 26,000 years ago

Why Navajo is the world's hardest language to learn

Vesuvius Challenge: Can AI decipher these mysterious ancient scrolls?

Colorado is now home to America's newest national park

America is a Factory Farming Nation: Key Takeaways from US Ag Census

Entertainment

Scholarships (M-Ta) with March 1 Deadline

Data science shown to expedite return of ancestral Indigenous remains

Interested in funding for ag producers/small business improvements/expand marketing opportunities?

New hope for return of Native American items

This Ancient Cave Art Passed Survival Information Across 130 Human Generations in Patagonia

Hawaii chain of islands slowly migrating toward extinction

YOUR CHALLENGE IS: Design a pet toy for a cat or a dog

The Word For Man Is Ishi

First State of the Union Address by John Taylor

USPS Hiring in Reno/Sparks



[Explore USA](#)

What America could look like today if Europeans had never discovered it.

More about this amazing map and how it was made: <http://tinyurl.com/ykfevrpk>

Image credit: liminalsoup

The mysterious origins of Peru's oldest indigenous people

The Uros of Lake Titicaca live on floating islands made from reeds. How did they get there?

- The Uros are an indigenous people living on floating reed islands on Lake Titicaca in Peru, whose origins and identity have been subject to doubt by neighboring communities and authorities.
- Genetic findings have helped to substantiate their unique lineage.
- The findings also helped the Uros achieve long-awaited recognition from the Peruvian government as Lake Titicaca's original and rightful inhabitants.

https://bigthink.com/the-past/uros-titicaca-dna/?utm_source=pocket-newtab-en-us

[Human migration: North America settled as early as 26,000 years ago](#)

Fossilized footprints found at an excavation site in southwest New Mexico prove humans colonized the continent much earlier than previously thought.

[Why Navajo is the world's hardest language to learn](#)

The tonal Native American language differentiates words based on pitch and makes Spanish conjugation look like child's play.

[Vesuvius Challenge: Can AI decipher these mysterious ancient scrolls?](#)

The volcano's historic eruption preserved an ancient library, but rendered its content illegible. A public competition aims to change that.

Colorado is now home to America's newest national park

The town of Granada donated land needed to turn Amache National Historic Site into a national park

<https://www.denverpost.com/2024/02/16/amache-national-park-historic-site-new-national-park-colorado/>

'America Is a Factory Farming Nation': Key Takeaways From US Agriculture Census

Nina Lakhani, Guardian UK

Lakhani writes: "Small farms and Black farmers are going out of business, while corporate-controlled farms are booming, raking in subsidies."

[READ MORE](#)

Entertainment:

<https://www.auroratheatre.org/Manahatta>

<https://yoshis.com/events/buy-tickets/mali-obomsawin/detail>

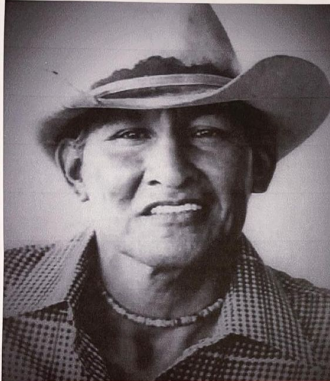
<https://www.sfjazz.org/tickets/seasons-series/summer-2024/?month=AUG> (look midway down page for "AUG 15-18 | Indigenous Songbook")

Scholarships (M-Ta) with March 1 deadline

M.R. Hellie Memorial Scholarship	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Mac Hyde Brownfield Scholarship Program	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
Mainely Character Scholarship	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Marian Othmer Schultz Scholarship	\$1,500	March 01, 2024
Marin County Bar Association Legal Scholarship	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation	\$40,000	March 01, 2024
Maryland Part-Time Grant Program	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
Maryland State Delegate Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
Master of Fine Arts Scholarship Competition and Exhibition	\$4,000	March 01, 2024
Matsuo Bridge Company Ltd. of Japan Scholarship	\$2,500	March 01, 2024
Meg Graham Scholarship	\$10,000	March 01, 2024
MidMichigan Health Bailey Scholarships	\$2,500	March 01, 2024
Missouri Bankers Foundation Scholarship Program	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
MMUF Travel & Research Grants	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Mosaic Ministries Scholarship	\$33,750	March 01, 2024
Mount Mercy University Freshmen Academic Scholarships	\$96,000	March 01, 2024
Mount Mercy University Holland Scholarship	\$8,000	March 01, 2024
Mount Mercy University Honors Scholarships	\$4,000	March 01, 2024
Nashville Athena Scholarships	Varies	March 01, 2024
National Association of the Church of God Scholarship	\$144,600	March 01, 2024
National Technical Honor Society Scholarship	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
Nebraska High School Senior Scholarship	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
New Jersey Survivor Tuition Benefits Program	Varies	March 01, 2024
New Mexico Tech Freshmen Copper Scholarship	\$8,000	March 01, 2024
New Mexico Tech Freshmen Presidential Scholarship	\$24,000	March 01, 2024
New Mexico Tech Freshmen Silver Scholarship	\$16,000	March 01, 2024
New York Farm Bureau AG Youth Scholarship	\$1,500	March 01, 2024
Northwest Farm Credit Services Land Grant Scholarship	\$2,500	March 01, 2024
Northwest Farm Credit Services Minority Scholarship	\$2,500	March 01, 2024
Obadiah Joel McCarthy Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
Oxbow Animal Health Scholarships	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
Oxbow Animal Health Veterinary Medicine Scholarship	\$2,000	March 01, 2024

Palo Alto Foundation Medical Group (PAFMG) Annual Pre-Med Scholarship Awards	\$30,000	March 01, 2024
Phi Kappa Tau Foundation Scholarships	\$4,500	March 01, 2024
Phi Kappa Tau Parents Fund Scholarships	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
Phil Jenkins Memorial Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
Philip A. Hart Memorial Scholarship	\$79,152	March 01, 2024
Prince George's Community Credit Union Scholarship	\$2,500	March 01, 2024
PSGC Statewide Undergraduate Scholarship	\$4,000	March 01, 2024
Purdue Club of Northwest Indiana Scholar Award	Varies	March 01, 2024
Ripon College Knop Science Scholars Program	\$201,600	March 01, 2024
Ripon College William J. Woolley History Scholarship	\$10,000	March 01, 2024
Robert D. Shapiro Memorial Scholarship	\$12,500	March 01, 2024
Robert Miller Scholarship	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Engineering/Geology Scholarship	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Technical School Scholarship	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
Rosa L. Parks Scholarship	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
Roswell Woman's Club Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
Roy Farms Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
Saint Therese Youth Volunteer Scholarship	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
Sander Cohen Scholarship Foundation, Inc	\$1,500	March 01, 2024
SEED Foundation Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
SEG Scholarships	\$10,000	March 01, 2024
Selby Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
SEMA Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
Sigma Alpha Epsilon Scholarships	\$5,000	March 01, 2024
SMUD Powering Futures Scholarship	\$4,000	March 01, 2024
Society of Actuaries Hickman Scholar Program	\$40,000	March 01, 2024
Spirit Square Center for Arts and Education Scholarship	Varies	March 01, 2024
Stephen K. Hall ACWA Water Law & Policy Scholarship	\$10,000	March 01, 2024
Student Scholarship Program	\$2,000	March 01, 2024
TACTYC Scholarships	\$1,000	March 01, 2024
TAIA Dick Laursen Memorial Scholarship	\$4,000	March 01, 2024
Tailhook Educational Foundation (TEF) Scholarships	\$15,000	March 01, 2024

**Biography of Famed Native American Actor
and Artist Will Sampson Released**



**Book
Signing**



**Saturday, March 16
1 to 3:30 p.m.**

River Spirit Casino Resort
8330 Riverside Parkway
Tulsa, OK

Beloved Brother

The Biography of Will "Sonny" Sampson

Norma Sampson Bible

After 13 years of writing through tears and heartache, Norma Sampson Bible penned a biography of her famous brother Native American actor and artist Will Sampson.

Bible's son, Norman Daniel, will be on hand to sign the books on behalf of his mother Norma.

"Beloved Brother" is published by Kast Publishing, LLC.

Data science shown to expedite return of ancestral Indigenous remains

Story by Science X staff

The return of the ancestral human remains of Australian and other Indigenous peoples held in anthropological collections could be sped up using machine-based deep learning according to a new study led by QUT computer scientists.

In [a paper](#) published in *Social Science Computer Review* titled "An Informed Neural Network for Discovering Historical Documentation Assisting the Repatriation of Indigenous Ancestral Human Remains," a research team including Dr. Md Abul Bashar and Professor Richi Nayak, both from QUT's School of Computer Science, outlines how.

"The repatriation of the bodily remains of the ancestors of Australian and other First Nations peoples from mostly Western scientific institutions depends largely on locating information within scientific and other literature published between 1790 and 1970 documenting their theft, donation, sale, or exchange between institutions," Dr. Bashar said.

"Digital library initiatives by national and major research libraries since the mid-1990s have made it possible to systematically search large historical corpora of books, journals, and newspapers. However, finding relevant information within these corpora is difficult."

Supported by the Australian Research Council, Dr. Bashar and Professor Nayak worked with academics from the Australian National University and University of Tasmania. In collaboration

with data scientists and social science researchers from the Research, Reconcile, Renew Network (RRR), who have developed and applied text mining techniques, the team have created a machine learning-based solution to automate the process of finding and semantically analyzing relevant texts.

"The RRR researchers face a huge challenge as they work to assist First Nation communities in repatriating their ancestors' remains from Western scientific collections," Professor Nayak said.

"They endeavor to confirm the identity, current location, and other information necessary for a successful reburial. To do this, RRR researchers invest substantial time and intellectual energy in tracing the movement of the remains after they were stolen through an as yet only partially identified networks of collectors, donors, private sellers, commercial dealers, and scientists associated with museums and other institutions with anthropological collections.

"Current museum catalogues provide some data for analysis but relying purely on the sum of information within them runs the risk of making potentially devastating mistakes."

Dr. Bashar said text mining was a research field that has made significant progress in developing techniques for uncovering and extracting knowledge from large collections of documents.

Text mining has mostly been applied to pre-existing textual corpora. In the humanities and social sciences, though, there are many pressing research questions related to past human thought and behavior for which relevant collections of historical documents do not exist in machine-readable form," Dr. Bashar said.

"Instead, researchers must use search engines to locate, gather, and analyze documentary content about past people, places, and events. The challenge here is that search engine results can be biased by algorithms and indexing practices and may not accurately reflect all relevant content.

"For RRR researchers, the usefulness of keyword-based search services provided by the creators of corpora really depends on how queries are formed. If the search terms are too specific, few or no relevant documents will be returned. If terms are generic, large numbers of irrelevant documents will be returned."

Professor Nayak said classification models, particularly deep learning-based models, can have low accuracy when trained with small amounts of labeled (i.e., relevant/non-relevant) documents.

"To improve the accuracy of our detection model, we explored the use of an Informed Neural Network (INN) model that describes documentary content using expert-informed contextual knowledge," Professor Nayak said.

"A set of keywords was provided by RRR researchers, chosen for their highly probability of appearing in documents of interest.

"This provided the basis for a deep learning-based classification model trained with a small portion of labeled documents.

"The results of our search confirm the value of using an INN network model for accurately and quickly identifying relevant documents related to the investigation of the global commercial trade in Indigenous human remains."

It was developed in 2014 to raise awareness and understanding about repatriation and assist repatriation practitioners and researchers in their efforts to bring Old People home.

Dr. Bashar and Professor Nayak, along with co-authors Professor Cressida Fforde (ANU), Dr. Gareth Knapman (ANU) and Professor Paul Turnbull (University of Tasmania) are all members of projects team with the Research, Reconcile, Renew Network. It was launched in 2014 to raise awareness and understanding about repatriation and assist repatriation practitioners and researchers in their efforts to bring Old People home.

Dr. Knapman is a Research Fellow on the ARC Discovery Project "Profit and Loss, The commercial trade in Indigenous human remains" at the Center for Heritage and Museum Studies at the Australian National University.

Professor Fforde's primary area of research focus has been the history of the removal and subsequent study of Indigenous human remains by European institutions within the "race" paradigm in the nineteenth century and the campaigns to secure their return.

Professor Turnbull is a historian of anthropology and the biomedical sciences in colonial contexts. He is internationally known for his research on the theft and scientific uses of Australian and other Indigenous peoples' bodily remains.

More information: Md Abul Bashar et al, An Informed Neural Network for Discovering Historical Documentation Assisting the Repatriation of Indigenous Ancestral Human Remains, *Social Science Computer Review* (2023). [DOI: 10.1177/08944393231158788](https://doi.org/10.1177/08944393231158788)

Provided by Queensland University of Technology

This story was originally published on [Phys.org](https://phys.org). Subscribe to our [newsletter](#) for the latest sci-tech news updates.



Interested in funding for agricultural producers and small businesses to make improvements or expand marketing opportunities?

Discuss USDA Rural Development's Rural Energy for America (REAP) program and the Value-Added Producer Program (VAPG) with State Coordinator Laura Chavez and Business Programs Loan Specialist Michelle Kelly.

The REAP program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing.

The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter value-added activities to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities, and increase producer income with priority given to beginning or disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.

For more information, please visit the links below:

<http://tinyurl.com/5n9xxpus> and <https://tinyurl.com/yjytptsb>

For more information or questions contact teja.dusanapudi@usda.gov.

Register here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

~~~~~

### **New hope for return of Native American items**

[https://enewspaper.eastbaytimes.com/infinity/article\\_popover\\_share.aspx?guid=e2ad55db-f20d-458a-82ee-e2d2d9a55f4c&share=true](https://enewspaper.eastbaytimes.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=e2ad55db-f20d-458a-82ee-e2d2d9a55f4c&share=true)



## **This Ancient Cave Art Passed Survival Information Across 130 Human Generations in Patagonia, Study Suggests**

Dating to as early as 8,200 years ago, the paintings may have maintained collective memories during an extremely dry period in history

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/this-ancient-cave-art-passed-survival-information-across-130-human-generations-in-patagonia-study-suggests-180983802/?spMailingID=49447823&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=264185529&spReportId=MjY0MTg1NTUyOQS2>



# Hawaii chain of islands slowly migrating toward extinction

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/hawaii-chain-of-islands-slowly-migrating-toward-extinction/ar-BB1piq9?ocid=socialshare&cvid=1f3f079422be4c16a9ea9066776696a3&ei=17>

Parts of this tournament may be rescheduled and added online as a promotion of the Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel / Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

**HONORING OUR ELDERS**

**\$39,000**

**2024 STICKGAME**

t o u r n a m e n t

April 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

**MAIN TOURNAMENT PAYOUTS**

|                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>ST</sup> ... \$15,000     | 3 <sup>RD</sup> ..... \$5,000 |
| 2 <sup>ND</sup> ... \$10,000     | 4 <sup>TH</sup> ..... \$2,500 |
| CONSOLATION TOURNEY..... \$1,500 |                               |



**NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL**



**NO FIGHTING**

**FRI**

**OPEN GAMES ONLY**

**VENDOR CHECK-IN**

**SAT**

**BREAKFAST**  
EVENT CENTER • 10 – NOON  
OR UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT

**TRADITIONAL MATERIAL GAME**  
SHADY SPOTTED BLANKET VS  
SAMUEL LAWHON

START TIME 1 PM

**MAIN TOURNAMENT**

**\$32,500 PAYOUT**

3-5 MAN TEAMS  
DOUBLE ELIMINATION

REGISTRATION: 10 AM – 2 PM  
START TIME: FOLLOWING  
MATERIAL GAME  
ENTRY FEE: \$100 PER TEAM

**CONSOLATION**

**\$1,500 WINNER TAKES ALL**

SINGLE ELIMINATION

GAMES START AFTER THE  
FIRST FEW ROUNDS OF MAIN  
TOURNEY IS VERIFIED

**SUN**

**JACKPOT 3 ON 3**

**\$5,000 PLUS**

**3 ON 3 ENTRY FEES**

REGISTRATION: 10 AM – 1 PM  
START TIME: 2 PM

ENTRY FEE: \$25 / PERSON  
\$75 / TEAM

SINGLE ELIMINATION

**KIDS' TOURNEY**

DUE TO UNDERAGE  
INCIDENTS AROUND  
THE CASINO AREAS,  
WE WILL NO LONGER  
HOST A YOUTH TOURNAMENT  
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

**NO THUMB POINTING IN  
OPEN GAMES OR TOURNEYS**

ALL GAMES IN EVENT CENTER  
**BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR**  
ALL START TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE

**PLEASE, MONITOR YOUR KIDS AT ALL TIMES**

MAIN TOURNAMENT ENTRANCE FEE  
**\$100 PER TEAM**

VENDORS FEE  
**\$100**

PER SLOT FOR WEEKEND  
OR \$50 PER DAY

Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone or any team!



Worley, Idaho | 1 800 523-2464 | [CDACASINO.COM](http://CDACASINO.COM)



**YOUR CHALLENGE IS: Design a pet toy for a cat or a dog**  
**ENTRIES DUE: March 19, 2024 | 8:59 PM PT**

**STUDENT & TEACHER SIGNUP LOGIN TO SUBMIT VOLUNTEER TO JUDGE (18+)**

Get ready to join the first Future Engineers Invention Challenge. This year theme - Toys For Pets! Put your inventor's hat on and stretch your imagination to design a new pet toy for a cat or dog. The winner will receive \$5000, and the winning design could even be manufactured to benefit STEM Education. Of course, it depends on the final design, and we can't wait to see what you invent!

**Second through 8th-grade students are invited to enter.** Please submit a name for your pet toy, up to two images of your design (e.g., sketch, 3D model, or a photo of a hand-built prototype), and a written summary limited to 200 words or less that explains your toy.

Consider the following when making your design:

- **Cat/Dog:** Is your toy for a cat or dog?
- **\$20 Price Point:** When designing your pet toy, keep in mind that it should sell for \$20 (or less) to consumers.
- **Pet Toy Category:** There are many different types of pet toys. Will you design a squeaky? A plush, chew, or rope toy? A combination of ideas or something totally new?
- **Safety:** Safety for pets is essential! There should be nothing in your toy that could injure a cat or a dog. No electronics, wires, or batteries
- **Purpose:** What is the purpose of your toy? What makes it stand out? Why do you think this will be every pet owner's new favorite pet toy? For more ideas, explore the BRAINSTORMING section below.

Please do not include faces or names in your entry - unless, of course, they are the faces of your furry pet friends! Remember to review the CONTEST RULES for all challenge details. Get designing, and good luck!

More: <https://www.futureengineers.org/inventionchallenge>

## **Prologue to Ursula K. le Guin**

Imaginary Worlds

In the 1960s, Ursula K. le Guin represented a changing of the guard in science fiction literature. She was part of a generation of novelists who questioned the colonist mindset which had influenced American sci-fi for most of the 20th century. Le Guin came to this understanding not just as a moral stance or an intellectual exercise. Issues of racism and colonialism were personal to her. This episode, originally titled “**The Word For Man Is Ishi**,” comes from the podcast The Last Archive from Pushkin Industries hosted by Jill Lepore and Ben Naddaff-Hafrey. Learn more about your ad choices. Visit [megaphone.fm/adchoices](https://megaphone.fm/adchoices)

Listen on Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/imaginary-worlds/id916273527?i=1000640474641>

**First State of the Union Address by John Taylor                      7 December 1841**

‘The war with the Indian tribes on the peninsula of Florida has during the last summer and fall been prosecuted with untiring activity and zeal. A summer campaign was resolved upon as the best mode of bringing it to a close. Our brave officers and men who have been engaged in that service have suffered toils and privations and exhibited an energy which in any other war would have won for them unfading laurels. In despite of the sickness incident to the climate, they have penetrated the fastnesses of the Indians, broken up their encampments, and harassed them unceasingly. Numbers have been captured, and still greater numbers have surrendered and have been transported to join their brethren on the lands elsewhere allotted to them by the Government, and a strong hope is entertained that under the conduct of the gallant officer at the head of the troops in Florida that troublesome and expensive war is destined to a speedy termination. With all the other Indian tribes we are enjoying the blessings of peace. Our duty as well as our best interests prompts us to observe in all our intercourse with them fidelity in fulfilling our engagements, the practice of strict justice, as well as the constant exercise of acts of benevolence and kindness. These are the great instruments of civilization, and through the use of them alone can the untutored child of the forest be induced to listen to its teachings.’

\* \* \*

“I recommend particularly to your consideration that portion of the Secretary's report which proposes the establishment of a chain of military posts from Council Bluffs to some point on the Pacific Ocean within our limits. The benefit thereby destined to accrue to our citizens engaged in the fur trade over that wilderness region, added to the importance of cultivating friendly relations with savage tribes inhabiting it, and at the same time of giving protection to our frontier settlements and of establishing the means of safe intercourse between the American settlements at the mouth of the Columbia River and those on this side of the Rocky Mountains, would seem to suggest the importance of carrying into effect the recommendations upon this head with as little delay as may be practicable. “



**USPS Hiring in Reno/Sparks**

The United States Postal Service has announced a hiring event to fill positions for full and part time postal carriers in Reno, Sparks and surrounding areas. The positions they’re offering pay \$19.33 to \$20.38 per hour.

Location: EmployNV Business Hub at 4001 S. Virginia Street in Reno

When: Feb. 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. [#reno](#) [#sparks](#) [#nevada](#) [#usps](#)

