

Journal #5953 from sdc 4.3.25

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Data farm proposed near Salton Sea could be first major development in Lithium Valley

Meet the world's ugliest animal: Blobfish! 01:07

Dwindling water supply, legal questions push Colorado River into 'wildly uncharted territory

How much water flows down the Colorado River? The right answer is more important than ever

"Richie" (Kenrich Puga-Nup Welch)



[Symposium](#)

[April 25, 2025 9 am – 6:30 pm](#)

[**Threads of Tradition: Tribal Member Day**](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 1, 2025
CONTACT: smontooth@dnaa.nv.gov

Washoe Woman, State Employee Joins Nevada Department of Native American Affairs

Carson City, Nev. – Lawanda Jones, a citizen of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, who has worked for the State of Nevada for 14 years, has transferred to the Nevada Department of Native American Affairs (DNAA) as a Tribal health program specialist. Jones' role, created through the Fund for a Resilient Nevada (FRN), focuses on the opioid epidemic in Indian Country.

"There is so much work to be done to stop the horrible plague addiction, specifically opioids, has brought to our Tribal communities and people," Jones said. "By listening to our elected leaders, elders, health professionals, and youth, I will be establishing relationships and expanding bridges between the State, Tribes, and other stakeholders."

Jones' previous work experience includes time with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) specializing in Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health, Drug Endangered Children, and with the Substance Abuse Treatment Agency.

"Lawanda will represent our department with integrity and transparency," said Stacey Montooth, executive director of the DNAA. "As a Native American woman, a public servant, coupled with Lawanda's insight from working for Tribal governments in Nevada, California and Oregon, she has outstanding qualifications and proven skills to take on this challenging, brand-new job."

Jones grew up and resided in the Hung-a-lel-ti Community in Woodfords, Calif. Jones earned multiple degrees including a bachelor's degree in sociology from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. She graduated from Douglas High.

The Fund for a Resilient Nevada was established in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 433.712 and is specific to the state's portion of opioid litigation recoveries. It is administered by the DHHS, though Jones will work from the former Stewart Indian Boarding School, from which the DNAA operates.

According to the Nevada Opioid Center of Excellence, a part of the School of Public Health at the University of Nevada, Reno, Native American communities in Nevada have experienced significant opioid-related harms, including increased overdose rates and limited access to treatment services. Factors such as historical trauma, socioeconomic disparities, and geographic isolation exacerbate these challenges, making tailored approaches essential for effective intervention.

Beginning in 2021, DHHS developed a statewide needs assessment and a statewide plan which identifies seven priorities related to addressing opioid-related risk, harms and impacts using a data-driven and evidence-based approach and solicited innovative applications for the FRN programs.

The state plan prioritizes overdose prevention strategies, youth substance use prevention and focuses on health equity and identifying disparities across geographic regions and special populations.

American Indians and Alaska Natives had the second-highest rate of opioid overdose out of all U.S. racial and ethnic groups in 2017, and the second and third highest overdose death rates from heroin and synthetic opioids, respectively, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

A stand-alone agency since July of 2024, the Nevada Department of Native American Affairs is a state agency charged with improving the quality of life for the 28 Tribal governments, Colonies, and Bands, plus 62,000 urban Indians within the State of Nevada. The DNAA works to develop and improve cooperation and communications between Tribal Nations, state and local governments, and related municipalities with the purpose of improving education, employment, health, well-being and socio-economic status of Nevada's Native American citizens as well as enhancing Tribal sovereignty, economic opportunities, and community development. The Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum which uses a multi-media approach to preserve the history of Indian Boarding Schools in America, provides a platform for the DNAA for outreach and education about the first people of this land.



[Is repatriation the answer to looted museum objects?](#)

For many, the return of stolen art and artifacts to their places of origin is a simple solution. But, as Patricia Marroquin Norby, the Met's curator of Native American Art, writes in this article, there are sometimes other approaches and factors to consider. Speaking specifically about the collection she oversees, Norby discusses other solutions like co-stewardship, in which collaborative relationships are built with the tribes from whom the objects were taken. Read on hyperallergic.com

[The bloody history of American archaeology](#)

This episode of the Women in Archaeology podcast features Rachel Morgan, author of *Sins of the Shovel: Looting, Murder, and the Evolution of American Archaeology*. Rachel and the hosts discuss the complicated legacy of American archaeological expeditions, from the early looting of Native American cultural sites and artifacts to contemporary efforts to reckon with past exploitation. Listen on womeninarchaeology.com

[Hand Talk: the age-old Native American sign language](#)

Open link on youtube.com

This 10-minute video explores Plains Indian Sign Language, a type of Hand Talk, which is another term for North American Indian Sign Language. Hand Talk as a whole dates back to at least the 1500s, according to literary sources, though rock writing suggests it goes back even further. Hand Talk has tribe and region-specific variations, including Arctic Sign Language and Mesoamerican Sign Language. The prevalence of Hand Talk was undermined by Native American residential schools, which sought to force the assimilation of Indigenous peoples.

Archaeologists Identify Famed Fort Where Indigenous Tlingits Fought Russian Forces

The new discovery builds upon the knowledge passed down by generations of Indigenous communities about the clash from two centuries ago

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/archaeologists-identify-famed-fort-where-indigenous-tlingits-fought-russian-forces-180976818/>



Do you have what it takes to operate a nuclear plant? This simulator, developed by the University of Manchester's Dalton Nuclear Institute, takes you on a tour of a virtual plant before handing you the keys to the control room. Challenge yourself to produce enough energy to meet demand while avoiding a nuclear meltdown. [Play here](#).

Museum-Healthcare Partnerships: A Growing Initiative

By Terrie Nolinske

In the past few years, partnerships between museums and healthcare organizations have gone from a gradual movement to a rapidly growing trend. Find out what form these partnerships are taking, from health-themed programming to medical training, and what benefits they're reaping for participants.

[Read more »](#)

Exclusive: White House weighs executive order to fast-track deep-sea mining, sources say

The White House is weighing an executive order that would fast-track permitting for deep-sea mining in international waters and let mining companies bypass a United Nations-backed review process, according to two sources with direct knowledge of the deliberations.

Read in Reuters: <https://apple.news/AWPArDf52SaqLa4Zm2IPm8Q>

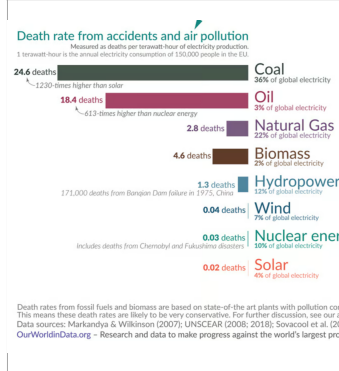
Scholarships M-W with April 30 Deadline

Massport Memorial & Diversity STEM Scholarships	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Mica Hammond Fund Education Reimbursement For Special Needs Families	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
Montford Point Marine Association Washington, DC 6 Chapter Scholarship	\$2,000	April 30, 2025
Mount Laurel Garden Club Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
National Aviation Explorer Scholarships	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
National Federation of the Blind Merit Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
NLBHA Josie Torralba Romero Scholarship Fund	Varies	April 30, 2025
Ofield Dukes Multicultural Student Award	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
Oklahoma Christian University Bible Scholarship	\$4,000	April 30, 2025
oxyGEN with AT&T National Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Partner Colorado Foundation Scholarships	\$6,000	April 30, 2025
PRSA Diversity Multicultural Scholarship	\$1,500	April 30, 2025
PRSA Houston Scholarships	\$3,000	April 30, 2025
Public Relations Scholarship	\$2,000	April 30, 2025
Regional Airline Association Scholarship	\$4,000	April 30, 2025
Retired Enlisted Association Scholarship Program	Varies	April 30, 2025
ROB Foundation Scholarship	\$2,500	April 30, 2025
Robert J. Meyer Organic Farming Scholarship	Varies	April 30, 2025
RPW Political Studies Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
Sara Scholarship	\$2,500	April 30, 2025
Scott Richards Memorial Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Shawn Carter Scholarship Foundation	\$15,000	April 30, 2025
Society of Professional Journalists Buffalo Chapter Scholarship	Varies	April 30, 2025
South Carolina Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarships	\$3,000	April 30, 2025
Southeast Desalting Association Scholarship	\$2,500	April 30, 2025
Spingarn Alumni Association Scholarship Program	\$1,500	April 30, 2025

Steven R. Smith Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
Support for Maine Students Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
SWR Foundation Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Synod of the Trinity Presbyterian Scholarship Fund	\$1,200	April 30, 2025
Team See Possibilities Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
The American Indian Science and Engineering Society Scholarships	\$10,000	April 30, 2025
The Häring Scholarship	Varies	April 30, 2025
The Joseph Cesare Memorial Scholarship	\$2,500	April 30, 2025
The Pat McAfee Foundation Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
The Prochnow Foundation Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
The Restoration of Sight & Health Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
The Royal Brougham Foundation Scholarship	Varies	April 30, 2025
The Whetstone Family Foundation Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
Thermo Fisher Scientific Antibody Scholarship	\$10,000	April 30, 2025
Think For Yourself	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Unitil Scholarship Fund	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
UVI Free Tuition Plus	Full-Tuition	April 30, 2025
Veterans United Foundation Scholarships	\$20,000	April 30, 2025
VFW Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Walman Optometry Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
Waukegan Park District Scholarship	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
WCADC Visual Arts Scholarship	\$5,000	April 30, 2025
WCU Sustainability and Badge of Honor Scholarships	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
WMCCAI Scholarship Program	\$1,000	April 30, 2025
WPS Technical College Scholarship	\$750	April 30, 2025

It reminds you of a fascist state': Smithsonian Institution braces for Trump rewrite of US history (Guardian)

Which energy sources are the safest and cleanest?



There are many different power sources out there: coal, natural gas, solar, wind and, of course, nuclear. What is the best for human health and the environment? This article asks a few tough and uncommon questions to figure it out. How many deaths are caused per unit of electricity produced, for example? [Explore the answers in these charts.](#)

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<https://time.com/7260055/green-energy-andrew-forrest-fortescue>

### [Andrew Forrest on Fortescue, Decarbonization and 'Real Zero' | TIME](#)

Feb 25, 2025 It does not take long at lunch with **Andrew Forrest** for him to start seeming less like an Australian mining billionaire and more like a climate activist-meets-zealous prosecutor. His rugged ...

#### **Browse 250+ sessions at AAM 2025!**

The full program for the 2025 AAM Annual Meeting & MuseumExpo is now available. The largest program in a decade, sessions dive deep into this year's theme, Museums & Trust. From conversations that explore the ethics of AI to breaking new data, there are sessions for everyone.

**[Browse the program »](#)**

Almost half of the experiential workshops are already sold out. **Register today** to save your spot at these experiences and networking parties.

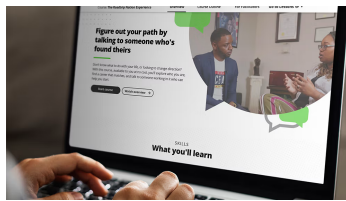
**Community Storytelling: Authentic Narratives in Western Tribal Museums (11:30 - 12:00)**  
**Primary Speaker: Christiana Moss, Principal, Studio M**

*A very intriguing email brought this.....let me know what you think!*

## **Everyone has a story—and every story holds lessons to learn from**

That's why Roadtrip Nation has created an advice platform where professionals who've been through life's twists and turns can pass down their insights to others who are just starting out on their career journey. Share the steps you've taken to get where you are today, and help others find their way. <https://roadtripnation.shareyourroad.com/>

Roadtrip Nation is a part of [Strada Collaborative](#), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to empower all learners—and those who serve them—by providing the critical resources, educational support, and career experiences that lead to equitable education and employment pathways.



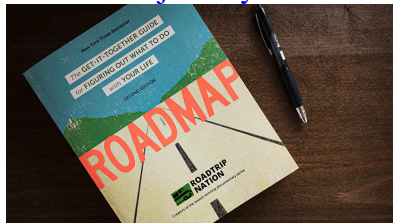
### **The Roadtrip Nation Experience**

[An online course that guides you through our interest-based approach to careers and puts you in conversation with someone you admire.](#)



### **Live and digital events**

With videos and career stories, our interactive events empower students to take the first step of their career journeys.



### **Roadmap book**

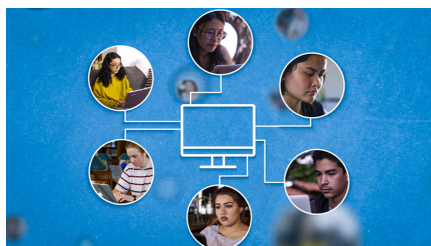
[Filled with examples and insights from 20 years of stories, our career guide gives you the blueprint to start your self-discovery process.](#)



### **Roadmap podcast**

[Our podcast highlights our favorite interviews and stories to show you why it's OK to feel lost, and helps you figure out where t](#)





### **Share Your Road**

A storytelling platform for sharing and discovering career stories and advice about different careers and industries.

**Featuring Nevaa's own: <https://roadtripnation.com/leader/fawn-douglas>**

### **From the Archives: Five Native Stories to Share**

**In honor of Native American Heritage Month, we're spotlighting five stories from Native people whose advice has made an impact on us!**

Nov 29, 2021

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-career-education-nonprofits-american-student-assistance-and-roadtrip-nation-launch-new-initiative-to-scale-access-to-future-ready-opportunities-for-middle-and-high-school-students-302372421.html>

**Join us for an online webinar to learn more about the new law, Senate Bill 310 (Dodd 2024), granting authority to the California Natural Resources Agency and local air districts to enter into cultural fire agreements with federally recognized tribes to honor tribal sovereignty, to heal from the historical wrong of criminalizing tribal cultural burning practices, and to expand the use of beneficial fire to strengthen California's resilience to wildfire and climate change.**

### **Tahoe awaits details following California state of emergency proclamation to expedite fuels reduction projects**

"The Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team is awaiting details from California Gov. Gavin Newsom's office and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) after the governor issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency at the start of March in response to the Los Angeles fires in January. The March 1 proclamation states immediate action is needed to prevent similar events with millions of housing units in high or very high fire hazard severity zones within wildland urban interfaces throughout California. The proclamation suspends statutory and administrative requirements to the extent necessary for expediting critical fuels reduction projects. This applies to the [California Environmental Quality Act](#). "The partners welcome any new policies," Milan Yeates said with the multi-partner Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team, "that will accelerate the pace and scale of forest health and community protection projects in the basin and see this proclamation as a potential new tool in the toolbox." ... " [Read more from the Tahoe Daily Tribune](#).

## Commentary: Tahoe agency seeks state funds to advance development agenda couched as



### environmentalism

Pamela Mahoney Tsigdinos, a Washoe County resident and advocate working to protect Lake Tahoe, writes, “A sobering Lake Tahoe investigative journalism series by CalMatters arrived at an inopportune time for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). The deep dive into how public monies are used at Lake Tahoe landed as the agency comes before Nevada and California legislatures seeking millions of dollars for its operating budget. TRPA will be in Carson City on April 2. As explained in an NPR CapRadio interview, a team of reporters spent months requesting and analyzing documents from the agency and submitting public records requests to federal, state and county sources. What came to light is that the Tahoe agency and a “myriad” of funders from both states and the five counties in the Tahoe basin along with deep-pocketed private interests (which include resort executives and developers on non-profit boards) have established a closed loop system for advancing pet projects. Items include: a consultant-generated rebranding of tourism as ‘sustainable’; photo opp summits; trail construction into once pristine shorelines and forests; and, despite a court order to cease and desist: poisoning water in the Tahoe Keys to ease boat access. ... ” [Read more from the Nevada Current.](#)

## Data farm proposed near Salton Sea could be first major development in Lithium Valley

“The first major development in Imperial County’s vaunted but stalled Lithium Valley may have nothing to do with lithium. Instead, a massive data server farm could replace hay fields on a 315-acre patch along Highway 111 at West Sinclair Road, the “gateway” to the proposed industrial zone in the Southern California desert. CalETHOS president and chief operating officer Joel Stone told The Desert Sun that the publicly traded start-up aims to break ground on a 200,000-square-foot data center by 2026, part of a \$5.5 billion, million-square-foot “first phase” campus. Eventually the company wants to build a whopping 3 to 4 million square feet of buildings — the equivalent of 60 football fields worth — in Lithium Valley’s boundaries. What’s drawing the Tustin-based company to this blazing hot, impoverished county? “We could care less about the lithium ... We care about the power,” Stone said, referring to a vast, boiling brine reserve tucked deep underground that can be used to extract reliable steam power. ... ” [Read more from the Desert Sun.](#)



**Meet the world’s ugliest animal: Blobfish! 01:07**

## Dwindling water supply, legal questions push Colorado River into ‘wildly uncharted



**territory’** Lake Powell at Wahweap Marina as seen in December 2021. Dwindling streamflows and falling reservoir levels have made it more likely that what some experts call a Colorado River Compact “tripwire” will be hit in 2027. Credit: Heather Sackett/Aspen Journalism

“Time is ticking for states that share the shrinking Colorado River to negotiate a new set of governing rules. One major sticking point, which has the potential to thrust the parties into a protracted legal battle, hinges on differing interpretations of a few sentences in a century-old agreement. In a recent letter, the river’s Lower Basin states – California, Nevada and Arizona – asked federal officials to analyze the effects of a hypothetical legal concept known as a “compact call.” The problem? The 1922 Colorado River Compact says nothing about a compact call. And although the phrase often looms like a threat over Colorado River discussions, there is no agreed-upon definition of the term, what would trigger a compact call nor how one would play out. In fact, the Upper Basin states – Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming – don’t believe the laws governing the river even contemplate it. ... ” [Continue reading from Aspen Journalism.](#)

## **How much water flows down the Colorado River? The right answer is more important than ever**

“With their funding source under review by the Trump administration, states and the federal government are continuing a mission to better understand how much water flows in the Colorado River, and how much of that water gets used before it reaches Arizona. As the possibility of legal battles on the Colorado River grows, competing states could use water data to back up their arguments, including claims that Arizona should bear the most water cuts in future shortages. The Upper Colorado River Commission — a body that represents the four states in the upper Colorado River basin — is in its third year beefing up the measurement of stream flows, water consumption by crops, and water diversions that its states use to regulate their water use. Though the Trump administration is reviewing the federal funding designated for the projects, the commission says it has continued its work. ... ” [Read more from the Arizona Republic.](#)

# Kenrich Puga-Nup Welch

Sunday, April 6, 2025

Smith Family Funeral Home, Fallon NV

Viewing 10:00 am , Service 11:00 am



## "Richie"



Burial at Stillwater Indian Cemetery  
Potluck at Stillwater Tribal Gym to follow  
For information please call 775.427.5020