Journal #6074 from sdc 9.19.25

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE: Remaining Native Film Screening and Panel

E.P.A. keeps polluters on the hook to clean up 'forever chemicals'

A Trump administration playbook: No data, no problem

The Trump administration is dismantling climate policies

Top scientists find growing evidence that greenhouse gases are, in fact, a danger

Museum History - Museum of Northern California (You don't always need a building to start! sdc) Germaine Lazy Boy

Reflections

Ed Dept. Will Give Grants to Schools That Adopt 'Patriotic' Civics Curriculum From MAGA Orgs Now Beading Doctorate Caps!

Bob Fulkerson on Robert Redford

Guy Rocha



Love the colors on the hills when the sun is setting—facing East, leaving Hungry Valley. A.B.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE: Remaining Native Film Screening and Panel | RSVP Form UNLV honors and remembers through our first university-wide observation of the Native American Boarding Schools Day of Remembrance on September 30, 2025 - honoring the children who died during the Indian boarding school era, recognizing the resilience of survivors and their descendants, and raising awareness of the lasting intergenerational impacts. This day is commemorated nationally by wearing orange shirts on 9/30.

Our program will feature a **film screening of <u>Remaining Native</u>**, a powerful coming-of-age documentary following a 17-year-old Native American student-athlete as he reflects on his grandfather's escape from an Indian boarding school, bridging past, present, and future. A **panel discussion** including the film director and impacted family members will follow the film, moderated by a UNLV History graduate student. We invite you to take part in this important day of reflection, dialogue, and solidarity.

\*A limited number of exclusive UNLV orange t-shirts will be available to the first 200 RSVPs. Attendees must be present to receive a t-shirt. Sizes are first come, first served, while supplies last.

**Arrival**: Please plan to arrive 20–30 minutes before the screening for check-in and to pick up t-shirts. **Orange Shirt Day is on Tuesday, September 30th.** 

After the Screening: Enjoy light refreshments in the Green Room

Date: Monday, September 29, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM Location: SU Theatre

**Cost:** FREE - registration required to receive your ticket.

\*Parking not included. Parking meter spaces available outside of the Student Union, Lot M.

4505 Maryland Pkwy Las Vegas NV 89154.

If you have any general questions about the overall event please contact Tammi Tiger, Director of Tribal Education in the College of Hospitality at tammi.tiger@unlv.edu. If you have any questions or comment about the registration process please connect with Elaina Sidney, Senior Program Coordinator for Student Diversity Programs at elaina.sidney@unlv.edu.

Sign in to Google to save your progress. Learn more

## **National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools**

September 30, 2025 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monte Vista Room The Heard Museum **Buy Tickets** 

Join Elena Selestewa and Patty Talahongva as they discuss historical trauma stemming from boarding school experiences, and honor the resiliency of Indigenous Peoples.

Reflect on the American Indian Boarding School experience with guest speakers Elena Selestewa (Hopi), Visitors Center Specialist at the Phoenix Indian School Visitors Center, and boarding school survivor Patty Talahongva (Hopi), Chief Programming and Engagement Officer at the Heard Museum — who will share their personal histories and connections to Boarding Schools.

Throughout the program, guests will be invited to journal using provided materials, reflecting on prompts such as:

- How does the Boarding School experience connect to you?
- What is the hardest part of this history for you?
- How do you heal?
- What does it mean to be away from home?

While you're here, catch a special film screening of *REMAINING NATIVE* (2025), following the journey of 17-year-old Native American runner Kutoven "Ku" Stevens as he pursues his athletic dreams while confronting his family's boarding school history.

This program is presented in recognition of the Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools, also known as Orange Shirt Day—a time to honor and remember the children taken from their families and placed in residential schools. Guests are encouraged to wear orange as a visible act of solidarity and to help raise awareness.

Books from influential Indigenous authors about the Boarding School experience are available for purchase in Books & More. Heard Museum Members receive a 10% discount.

#### **Schedule**

### 10:05 a.m. | Entrance to A.J. Dickey Gallery

Gather outside of <u>Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories</u> for brief opening remarks

### 10:15 a.m. | A.J. Dickey Gallery

Explore Away from Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories

#### 11:15 a.m. | Monte Vista Room

Panel Discussion with Elena Selestewa (Hopi) and Patty Talahongva (Hopi), moderated by Ann Marshall, Heard Museum Director of Research

## **Special Film Screening**

10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. | Harnett Theater

Directed by Haudenosaunee filmmaker Paige Bethmann (Mohawk/Oneida), <u>REMAINING</u>

<u>NATIVE</u> is a coming-of-age documentary told from the perspective of Kutoven "Ku" Stevens, a 17-year-old Native American runner struggling to navigate his dream of becoming a collegiate athlete as the memory of his great grandfather's escape from an American Indian boarding school begins to connect past, present, and future.

Run Time: 87 Minutes

Guest Speakers: Elena Selestewa is an enrolled member of the Hopi Tribe from Polacca, Arizona. She also has Navajo, Laguna, and Zuni heritage and currently resides in Phoenix, Arizona. Elena works for Native American Connections as the Visitor Center Specialist at the Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center.

Patty Talahongva is the Chief Programming & Engagement Officer at the Heard Museum. As a journalist with 45+ years of experience, she was the first Native American anchor of a nationalnews program, and is currently writing a book about her family's experience at the Phoenix Indian School.

About the Phoenix Indian School Visitor Centermm

The Phoenix Indian
Industrial School, known as the Phoenix Indian School in later years, was established in 1891,
operating as a boarding school for American Indian children by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
Initially focused on forced assimilation of Native American children into mainstream American
culture, it later transitioned into a traditional high school, and its history is marked by both
trauma and resilience. The school served as a site of cultural suppression and, later, a place
where students began to reclaim their heritage. Located at the corner of Central Avenue and
Indian School Road, much of this site was transferred to the City of Phoenix from the Bureau of
Indian Affairs in 1990, which the city used to create Steele Indian School Park. Since its closing,
Phoenix has saved three historic buildings and placed them on the National Register of Historic
Places. One of those historic buildings, the former grammar school building, is the same building
Native American Connections and Phoenix Indian Center has renovated and transformed into the
Phoenix Indian School Visitor Center — which offers a historic gallery, individual and group
tours, educational programming, and conference and event spaces to the community.

### What is Orange Shirt Day?

Orange Shirt Day, observed on September 30, honors the Indigenous children taken from their families and placed in residential and boarding schools. The day began with the story of Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, whose new orange shirt—gifted by her grandmother—was taken from her on her first day at St. Joseph's Mission Residential School in British Columbia. Her experience reflects the broader history of Indigenous children across Turtle Island who were stripped of their identities, languages, and cultures. The orange shirt has become a powerful symbol that Every Child Matters—and a call to remember these histories, honor the resilience of survivors, and commit to truth-telling and reconciliation.

# Amid rise of RFK Jr., officials waver on drinking water fluoridation — even in the state where it started

"Drinking water fluoridation is widely heralded as a public health triumph, but it's had critics since it was pioneered 80 years ago in Grand Rapids, about 150 miles southwest of Grayling. While once largely on the fringes, fluoridation skeptics now hold sway in federal, state and local government, and their arguments have seeped into the mainstream. Even in the state where the treatment began, communities are backpedaling. And because customer notice requirements are patchy, people may not even know about it when their fluoridation stops. Robert F. Kennedy Jr., secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, has called fluoride "industrial waste" and supports an end to community water fluoridation. The head of the Food and Drug Administration said on a newscast that the CDC's online description of water fluoridation as one of the greatest public health achievements is "misinformation." ... " Read more from Pro Publica.

**E.P.A.** keeps polluters on the hook to clean up 'forever chemicals' The Environmental Protection Agency will keep polluters on the hook to clean up "forever chemicals" linked to serious health risks, upholding a major rule despite chemical industry opposition. The decision, which was announced late Wednesday, came despite an effort by a former industry lawyer, who now holds a top post at the agency, to reverse the regulation. But Lee Zeldin, the administrator of the E.P.A., elected to uphold the rule, a rare move at an agency that has pursued a broad deregulatory agenda. The agency must still defend the rule in court from industry lawsuits. "Holding polluters accountable" while protecting the public from the family of chemicals known as PFAS continued to be a challenge for the agency, Mr. Zeldin said in a statement. ... " Read more from the New York Times.

### A Trump administration playbook: No data, no problem

"When the Trump administration said last week that it would stop requiring thousands of industrial facilities to report their planet-warming pollution, the move fit a growing pattern: If data points to a problem, stop collecting the data. At the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, experts are no longer tracking the most expensive extreme weather events, those that cause at least \$1 billion in damage. At NASA, Trump officials want to decommission two powerful satellites that provide precise measurements of the greenhouse gases that are driving climate change. And at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, layoffs have gutted a division that maintains statistics on car crashes, gun violence and homicides, among other things. The consequences of these moves could be far-reaching, experts said, since the government cannot address a problem if it cannot quantify the issue in the first place. ... "Read more from the New York Times.

## The Trump administration is dismantling climate policies

"There is stronger evidence than ever that greenhouse gases are bad for us, the nation's leading scientific advisory body said yesterday. Yet President Trump has proposed to cancel the government's 16-year-old finding that carbon dioxide emissions endanger public health. Doing so would mean the Environmental Protection Agency could no longer limit emissions from cars or power plants. The Trump administration once merely downplayed the threat of global warming. Now it "flatly denies the overwhelming scientific evidence of climate change," reports

my colleague Lisa Friedman, who covers climate policy. For today's newsletter, I spoke with Lisa about all the things that are shifting. ... " Read more from the New York Times.

## Top scientists find growing evidence that greenhouse gases are, in fact, a danger

"The nation's leading scientific advisory body issued a major report on Wednesday detailing the strongest evidence to date that carbon dioxide, methane and other planet-warming greenhouse gases are threatening human health. The report, published by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, is significant because it could complicate the Trump administration's efforts to revoke a landmark scientific determination, known as the endangerment finding, that underpins the federal government's legal authority to control the pollution that is driving climate change. ... "Read more from the New York Times.

**SEE ALSO**: National Academies backstops endangerment finding, risking feud with Trump, from E&E News



## **Museum History - Museum of Northern California**

## (You don't always need a building to start! sdc)

**monca** came into being as part of "envisioning workshops" initiated in 2009 when a group of residents gathered to ponder the possibility of repurposing the vacant Veterans Memorial Building at 900 Esplanade in Chico. A small group was allowed a restricted tour with Supervisors Jane Dolan and Maureen Kirk. The building itself seemed to say "museum."

More and more individuals joined the discussion and moved forward with the idea of forming a nonprofit museum organization. The Museum of Northern California Art was incorporated by the state in August of 2011 with a mission "to make art accessible and promote awareness of The

#### **Mobile Museum**

Even though there was no permanent museum home, the **monca** Board of Directors immediately decided to take the art to the community. Thus in the fall of 2011 the Mobile Museum/Driving Docent Program was created to take museum quality original art to the community. **monca** purchased and wrapped a mini school bus with its logo to transport art and supplies to various outreach activities. The vehicle has had most of the seating removed, perfect for customized compartments and portable displays. In addition to strengthening the Mobile Museum/Driving Docent Program the bus serves as a mobile billboard, representing **monca** at fundraising and community events.

As **monca** continued its long term planning and fundraising for renovation of the 900 Esplanade Building, it provided eight Pop Up Museums in the north state to inspire residents of all ages with exciting exhibitions of wonderful art created by artists of Northern California.

## **Opening The Doors**

In July of 2017, monca opened its doors to the North State Community and has since mounted numerous exhibitions, held artists conversations, architectural lectures, educational field trips, rentals for weddings, concerts, proms, and meetings plus held a Summer Camp for Art and Literacy.



#### Jimi Champ ·

The rodeo community is pretty tight knit...the Indian Rodeo community is even tighter. Today in my class, a couple Indian Cowboys and one Indian Cowgirl brought this old Blackfeet Teacher to tears!

A couple weeks ago, I put a post on FB looking to buy a bronc saddle for one of the most deserving kids I've ever met. A kid that shows up for every rodeo club event we have. The first one there and the last one to leave. He is my right hand man and does everything with a smile. So I get a call from our brother Terry Doka. After hearing my story about how great of a kid **Germaine Lazy Boy** is, he came up with a plan. He gathered up some money from his (our) family and friends. Enough to not only buy our boy Junior a saddle but enough money for him to enter 5 high school rodeos. Did they stop there? Oh heck no! Terry, Justine and Derick Begay called him during his 5th period Ag class and presented him with his bronc saddle and gave him a little pep talk! I'm so proud of Germaine and happy that the Doka/Nez/Begay family had seen what Ray and I see in him! The future is looking bright for this young Blackfeet Bronc rider.

As I grow older and my memory begins to fade, I find myself strangely happier.

Maybe having a bad memory is not a curse, but a quiet blessing. The good and the bad, from the past, no longer fight for shelf space in my mind.

Only the highlights in the form of old photos and random musings I am used to penning down, reminding me of how I once felt.

What remains is the distilled essence of a life I once lived, without feeling the exhausting burden of overthinking.

It also makes it easier to welcome what's new, because I'm not chained to any old narrative, nor loyal to outdated versions of myself.

And maybe that's the secret!

Maybe life was never meant to be remembered in detail. It was only meant to be experienced and re-experienced in new manners.

Every new day is a blank page waiting to be written on.

-S.R.

#### Frank Paul Green

When I was 13, I carried a secret shame. We were so poor that I often went to school with no food. At recess, while my classmates opened their lunches—apples, cookies, sandwiches—I sat pretending I wasn't hungry. I buried my face in a book, hiding the sound of my empty stomach. Inside, it hurt more than I can explain.

Then, one day, a girl noticed. Quietly, without making a fuss, she offered me half her lunch. I was embarrassed, but I accepted. The next day, she did it again. And again. Sometimes it was a roll, sometimes an apple, sometimes a piece of cake her mother baked. To me, it was a miracle. For the first time in a long time, I felt seen.

Then one day, she was gone. Her family moved, and she never came back. Every day at recess, I'd glance at the door, hoping she would walk in and sit beside me with her smile and her sandwich. But she never did.

Still, I carried her kindness with me. It became part of who I was.

Years passed. I grew up. I thought of her often, but life went on.

Then, just yesterday, something happened that froze me in place. My young daughter came home from school and said:

"Dad, can you pack me two snacks tomorrow?"

"Two?" I asked. "You never finish one."

She looked at me with the seriousness only a child can have:

"It's for a boy in my class. He didn't eat today. I gave him half of mine."

I just stood there, goosebumps rising, time standing still. In her small act, I saw that girl from my childhood. The one who fed me when no one else noticed. Her kindness hadn't disappeared—it had traveled through me, and now, through my daughter.

I stepped onto the balcony and looked at the sky, my eyes full of tears. All at once I felt my hunger, my shame, my gratitude, and my joy.

That girl may never remember me. She may not even know the difference she made. But I will never forget her. Because she taught me that even the smallest act of kindness can change a life. And now, I know: as long as my daughter shares her bread with another child, kindness will live on.

READ ALSO: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1QJHb9DJeV/ Follow

Follow Us: LaZylife Inc

## Ed Dept. Will Give Grants to Schools That Adopt 'Patriotic' Civics Curriculum From MAGA Orgs

One civics education advocate said the program, which will push schools to teach history content written by PragerU, Hillsdale College, and Turning Point USA, "smacks of authoritarianism." Stephen Prager Sep 18, 2025 (note irony in author)

President Donald Trump's Department of Education has announced that it will partner with right-wing think tanks and organizations to develop a new curriculum for "patriotic education" in American classrooms.

Earlier this week, the Trump administration <u>redirected</u> \$137 million initially meant for programs aimed at minority students toward what it described as "American history and civics education."

Education Secretary Linda McMahon <u>announced</u> Wednesday that the money will be directed toward discretionary grants aimed at K-12 schools that adopt a new curriculum being drawn up by the 250 Civics Education Coalition—a consortium of more than 40 right-wing groups that launched on same day. The goal, McMahon said, was to advance education that "emphasizes a unifying and uplifting portrayal of the nation's founding ideals" in advance of the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026.

It is not Trump's first crack at instilling the nation's youth with a "patriotic education." In the waning days of his first term in office, Trump <u>unveiled</u> the <u>1776 Report</u>, which, education columnist Jennifer Berkshire recently <u>noted in The Baffler</u>, "was widely panned by actual historians for its worshipful treatment of the Founding Fathers, its downplaying of slavery, and its portrayal of a century-old 'administrative state' controlled by leftist radicals."

While little has been publicized yet about what McMahon's new endeavor will look like, it is known who will be crafting it. The initiative is being led by the America First Policy Institute, a MAGA-aligned think tank that has been responsible for <u>staffing</u> Trump's second administration and has <u>received</u> over \$1 million from his political action committee, the Save America PAC. Until 2023, McMahon herself served on the board of AFPI.

In 2022, the group <u>presented</u> a piece of model legislation for a "Civics Course Act" to be introduced in states. It included requirements for students to spend ample time studying the nation's founding documents and figures while banning the teaching of what it called the "defamatory history of America's founding," which suggests that slavery or inequality are in any way inherent to the nation's institutions.

It also banned the concepts of "systemic racism" and "gender fluidity" and forbade teachers from giving students course credit for engaging with "social or public policy advocacy."

Also included in the coalition is Hillsdale College, a private Christian liberal arts school in Michigan that has proposed its own K-12 curriculum, which <u>Vanity Fair</u> notes "has been criticized for revisionist history, including whitewashed accounts of US slavery and depictions of Jamestown as a failed communist colony."

Another participant is PragerU, the overtly partisan and often <u>factually loose</u> YouTube channel that has been tasked with creating children's educational content in <u>nearly</u> a dozen red states.

The group has produced content venerating figures notorious for practicing slavery, like colonist <u>Christopher Columbus</u> and Confederate Gen. <u>Robert E. Lee</u>. Its videos have argued, among other things, that <u>climate change is a myth</u>, that European <u>fascism</u> was <u>a "far-left"</u> ideology, and that <u>Israel has</u> "the world's most moral army."

The pro-Trump youth group Turning Point USA will also be involved in crafting the curriculum. Its longtime leader, <u>Charlie Kirk</u>, who was <u>assassinated</u> in Utah last week, went on a <u>crusade</u> last year to, in his words, "tell the truth" about <u>Martin Luther King Jr</u>., whom he described as "an awful person," while claiming his signature achievement, the 1964 Civil Rights Act, was a "huge mistake."

An offshoot of Kirk's group, Turning Point Education, <u>said</u> Kirk's assassination has increased its resolve to promote a "God-centered, virtuous education" in US public schools.

The 250 Civics Education Coalition has not yet published a curriculum. But according to the Department of Education, it will be rolling out "a robust programming agenda" over the next 12 months.

During Trump's second term, he has undertaken an effort to purge federal museums and national parks of what one executive order called "improper ideology," which has resulted in the <u>erasure</u> of exhibits and monuments to Black and Native American history. Last month, he <u>lamented</u> that the Smithsonian Museum focuses too much on "how bad slavery was" and ordered a review of the museum's content.

Federal websites, meanwhile, have systematically <u>eliminated</u> many pages that acknowledged the accomplishments of nonwhite historical figures or important events in women's and LGBTQ+ history.

Critics in the education world view Trump's effort to use grants to induce them to adopt his preferred curriculum as an illegal effort to propagandize children.

"The law is clear," said education historian Diane Ravitch in a <u>blog post</u>. "Federal officials are prohibited from seeking to influence or direct curriculum in any way."

Since 1970, the federal government has been barred by law from "any direction, supervision, or control over the curriculum" of public schools.

"Civic education is and must be non-partisan," <u>said</u> Ted McConnell, the executive director of the Campaign for the Civic Mission of Schools. "While the funding is long sought, this is the wrong approach and smacks of authoritarianism."



#### **Kathy Bowen**

My first try at creating a design and beading on a loom for my son's doctorate graduation cap. The eagle feather with beading was created by his aunt Janice and given to him by his aunt Jennifer. We are so proud of him.

Robert Redford used his privilege and celebrity to raise public awareness Bob Fulkerson about nuclear waste dumping and Indigenous treaty rights in the Great Basin.

In 1975, he narrated the groundbreaking documentary about the Treaty of Ruby Valley, "Broken Treaty at Battle Mountain," and in 1989 he narrated "To Protect Mother Earth," which featured how Mary and Carrie Dann and other Western Shoshone leaders used the Treaty in their fight against the US government and mining corporations.

I remember in 1984, barely six months into my job at Citizen Alert, being deeply moved by his words at a Congressional hearing on nuclear waste, printed in the attached SLT Tribune article: "I know these lands are far from worthless, far from warranting the ruthless, highly speculative imposition of radioactive nuclear waste. I believe it is time that the government reassess its approach to Western lands. In its neglect, ignorance, and short-sightedness, it will sacrifice something wholly irreplaceable-the American West."

# Matheson Says DOE Work on N-Dumps 'Tainted'

By Jim Woolf

Tribune Envir ...mental Writer

The question, joked Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz.. is whether Utah will have the "honor of glowing in the dark for the next 200,000 years."

It was asked Friday at a Salt Lake City hearing where some 30 people appeared to complain about and praise the U.S. Department of Energy's on-going studies of two possible nuclear aste disposal sites near Canyonlands National

Rep. Udall, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment, wrote the law establishing the method DOE is sup-posed to be using to find a disposal site. He scheduled the Utah hearing to see how the pro-

cess is working.
"It's a colossal failure," Gov. Scott M. Matheson told Mr. Udall

The governor submitted a 135-page document detailing what he claims are numerous examples of DOE's failure to comply with federal law. The DOE's work is "so tainted" that Congress might want to ask DOE to start the process over again, said Gov. Matheson.

Christopher J. Warner, DOE's deputy assistant secretary for congressional, intergover-mental and public affairs, said his agency is following the process established by Congress and attempting to work with the six states with possible disposal sites.

"There's bound to be disagreements," he said, "but the records will show that in every case where we've been asked for more information and cooperation we've attempted in good faith to respond openly, fully and completely to the

state."

Mary Lou Grier, deputy director of the National Park Service, read a carefully worded statement indicating her agency has "serious concerns" that the nuclear waste dump 'may have adverse impacts on park resources and, perhaps, on some archaeology sites located outside the park on lands under jurisdiction of the Sureau of Land Management."

#### To Early to Tell

But she said it's too early to determine whether these impacts are serious.

Rep. Dan Marriott, R-Utah, who joined Rep. Udall on the stand for part of the hearing, said

the environmental impacts of the disposal facility may have been overstated.

"I don't think anyone can make much of a case for a decline in tourism from the repository. The same is probably true for impacts on the park," he said.

Salt Lake City Mayor Ted L. Wilson said building a large industrial facility near Canyon-lands National Park "is akin to misguiding our youth or denying someone their religion." It could also damage the state's image and interfer with economic growth, he said.

Calvin Black, chairman of the San Juan County Commission, described Friday's nuclear waste hearing as a "partisan political charade designed as a cheap political campaign forum" for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Wayne Owens.

#### Wasting Money

"I am disappointed in you for wasting the taxpayers money in what you apparently believe will benefit Mr. Owens," Commissioner Black told Rep. Udall.

Rep. Udall denied the accusation

Mr. Owens said it would be "foolish" to con-

sider a site near Canyonlands "except as the last alternative." He also called for a change in federal law allowing the states to have the final say over whether a disposal facility is built within its borders. The law now allows a state to veto a siting decision but give Congress the right to override a state's objections

Rep. Howard Nielson, R-Utah, asked whether Mr. Owens' opposition to the dump "is a continu-ation of your policy of no development in this state?"

Mr. Owens said he favors growth when it im proves the "quality of life" in Utah.

Actor Robert Redford decried the repeated attempts of the federal government to use Utah and Nevada as a "dumping ground" for the nation's waste.

I know these lands are far from worthless far from warranting the ruthless, highly specu-lative imposition of radioactive nuclear waste. I believe it is time that the government reassess its approach to Western lands. In its neglect, ignorance and short-sightedness, it will sacri fice something wholly irreplaced American West," said Mr. Redford. irreplaceable

# **GuyRocha** 1951-2025

