

Journal #6125 from sdc 12.1.25

"America is not on stolen land. Your ancestors were conquered. Happy Thanksgiving."

Mystery foot suggests new early human relative

Ancient West Texas rock art influenced Mesoamerican cosmology

What's in a name?: A Reno bakery changes 'squaw bread' to 'prairie bread' after protest

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Presidential Actions

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Join If An Owl Calls Your Name Global Film Premiere

Yosemite National Park

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The billboard, captured by RMGNews journalist Brandy Carlos, is located along Interstate 10 in Yucaipa. (Brandy Carlos)

HIGHLAND, CA — A billboard belonging to the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation was vandalized with a message critical of Indigenous people in the days leading up to Thanksgiving.

A large-scale text and an American flag were draped over a billboard promoting Yaamava' Resort & Casino along Interstate 10, about a half mile past County Line Road. The message, scrawled in large yellow capital letters, reads: "America is not on stolen land. Your ancestors were conquered. Happy Thanksgiving."

Patch contacted the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department to determine whether deputies had responded to the incident or received a call for service. Public Information Officer Jenny Smith said she was not aware of the defaced billboard or any call for service. As for any potential charges, Smith said if there were damage to the property, vandalism charges could be applied if a suspect is discovered.

"Based on the investigation other charges could apply," she added.

In an emailed statement, the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation told Patch the vandalism stands in stark contrast to the values the Tribe has shared with the region for generations.

"Since time immemorial, Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation and other clans of Serrano Indians have called the sacred lands of Southern California home," the statement read. "We have endeavored to exist peacefully and cooperatively even while a young and growing country expanded westward. We believed then as we do now that we all have a right to exist with and through our unique cultures endowed by the Creator."

The Tribe called the graffiti "deeply disappointing," citing the "culturally offensive language used by those who choose not to reflect the values shared by most in our large Southern California community."

"Such actions stand in stark contrast to the values of respect and unity that have allowed not only the Yuhaaviatam, but local cities, counties, and communities of Americans, to grow and enjoy the blessings of America," the Tribe said.

The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation added that it welcomes dialogue about the region's shared and complex history.

"We are happy to engage in discussions about our shared history that has made our region a strong and forward-looking part of California," the statement continued. "We invite you to join us as neighbors to strengthen our unity and elevate an expanded awareness of our shared history. This should be our way forward."

Locals may remember the casino as San Manuel, but in 2021 the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians gave it a true Serrano-language name: Yaamava', meaning "spring." The new name was chosen to evoke rebirth and renewal, reflecting the property's extensive renovation. The Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation is a federally recognized Serrano tribe based in San Bernardino County.

In 2021, the Tribe's San Manuel Gaming and Hospitality Authority purchased the Palms Casino Resort in Las Vegas for about \$650 million, becoming the first tribal operation to fully own and operate a resort in the city's gaming industry. That history is why Yaamava' is often dubbed the region's "California to Vegas Connection."

[Mystery foot suggests new early human relative.](#)

Scientists conclude a roughly 3.4 million-year-old fossil found in Ethiopia belonged to a previously unknown ancient human relative. The foot has an opposable big toe, hinting the owner was a skilled climber who spent more time in trees than [Lucy](#), another human relative from the same time and place. The finding raises questions about humans' direct ancestors and suggests evolution may not have been linear.

[Ancient West Texas rock art influenced Mesoamerican cosmology.](#)

Researchers have found that Indigenous people along the US-Mexico border created Pecos River-style rock art—vast, multicolored murals—that date back 6,000 years and span roughly 175 generations. They also identified recurring symbols and motifs that point to a shared "cosmovision," reflecting beliefs about the universe.

What's in a name?: A Reno bakery changes 'squaw bread' to 'prairie bread' after protest ([renonr.com](#)) — A Reno bakery has changed the name of its 'squaw bread' to 'prairie bread' following a protest by Wishelle Banks, a local screenwriter and retired journalist. This change aligns with broader efforts to remove offensive terms from public use.

Nevada ranchers turn to virtual fencing to manage cattle and protect rangelands ([thisisreno.com](#)) — Nevada ranchers are collaborating with University of Nevada, Reno researchers to test virtual fencing technology. This innovative system allows for remote cattle management, offering ecological benefits and improved grazing efficiency across Nevada's rangelands.

Federal judge rules that Kalshi must stop offering prediction contracts in Nevada: "In [a 29-page ruling](#) issued Monday, U.S. District Judge Andrew Gordon sided with the Nevada Gaming Control Board and dissolved his 7-month-old preliminary injunction that allowed Kalshi to continue operations while it fights the state's cease and desist order. Gordon wrote that Kalshi's interpretation 'would require all sports betting across the country to come within the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)' rather than state and tribal gaming regulators." ([The Nevada Independent](#))

*"Someday I will stop being surprised at all the things Librarians read; they'll read anything."
— Marilyn Johnson*



Photo op at UNR in advance of the book launch next week. Thanks @Autumn Harry for the back drop!! photo by @Norm Cavanaugh

BOOK LAUNCH

Tammi' teteveni, "Ne Hakannai Kimmakkante?"
Little Brother asks, "Where Did I Come From?"

Tuesday, December 2nd, 2026

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Wells Fargo Auditorium, Mathewson - IGT Knowledge Center
 University of Nevada, Reno

Join us for the launch of *Tammi' teteveni, "Ne Hakannai Kimmakkante?"* by Antoinette Cavanaugh. Inspired by a University of Nevada class project for Human Development and Family Science, this bilingual edition book of Western Shoshoni and English explores Indigenous survivance, language, and storytelling through the lenses of ontology and epistemology.

Evening to include:

A discussion on the significance of the work

Moderated Q&A session

Reading from *Tammi' teteveni, "Ne Hakannai Kimmakkante?"*

Book signing - copies will be available for purchase

Register Here:



Antoinette is a PhD candidate in the Human Development and Family Science program in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Reno. She was born in Owyhee, Nevada and is a member of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. She holds a BA in Secondary Education from Boise State University, an MA in Educational Leadership & Higher Education and an MS in Human Development and Family Science from University of Nevada, Reno.



Parking available in the Whalen Parking Complex
 Register for event on Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/48aPqPZ>

What unfolded in the morning of November 29, 1864, on the banks of Colorado's Big Sandy Creek became one of the most chilling betrayals in the history of the American West —among “the most emotionally charged and controversial events in American history,” in the words of the National Park Service.

About 230 defenseless and peace-seeking Cheyenne and Arapaho were murdered in cold blood by the U.S. Army, most of them woman and children.

This is a story that started months before the killings itself, when fear-mongering, hate speech, and "us-versus-them" talk dominated American newspapers and was amplified by influential opinion-makers.

The Sand Creek Massacre is what can happen — what HAS happened — when American leaders, in this case a governor and military commander, gain power by turning struggling families into symbols of menace. When rhetoric becomes so charged that cruelty begins to feel like justified policy.

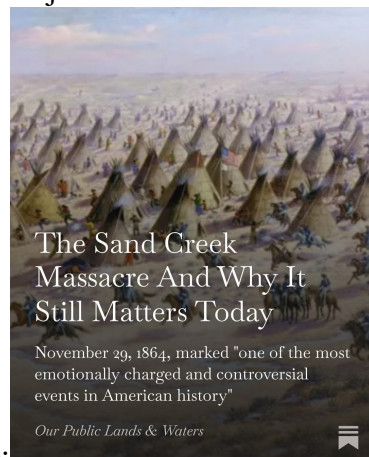
It began when a certain group of people was described as “less than human,” when fear eclipsed empathy, and when lies became the foundation for wanton violence.

But, there's another side to the story, too. A few lower-ranking Army officers ignored orders from Colonel Chivington and refused to participate in the slaughter of innocent people. They also refused to stay silent afterward and testified against their superiors.

Their courage — first refusing direct orders, then speaking up against politically powerful men — forced Congress and the Army to eventually confront the truth.

“Critically, the Sand Creek Massacre stands as a testament to a brutality that should be learned from and never repeated,” the National Park Service, which now manages the site as Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, says

“[It is] a lesson of what the rejection of conscience in the face of fear and hysteria can lead



to. Read the full story here:

Melanie Goodfellow

The Oscar-winning actress and director made the comment in an on-stage conversation on Sunday at the Marrakech Film Festival where she was feted with a tribute award this weekend.

“Streaming is able to do things that we’re not able to do in traditional mainstream movies anymore. Real narrative now in the United States is on streaming. Big franchise superhero movies are what you see in the movie theaters, but the real, real narrative is on streaming,” she said.

“Then there’s streaming. You’re able to tell eight-hour stories, or five-season stories, where you can explore every angle in a way that you could never in a feature. I love the freedom of that.”

“He wanted to explore the experience of Native America at that time and what we had was a very interesting movie about two guys who go back and forth and talk to each other,” she said, referring to the characters played by Leonardo DiCaprio and Robert De Niro.

America 250: Presidential Message on Mark Twain's 190th Birthday Proclamations 11.30

November 24, 2025

Executive Orders

November 24, 2025

Proclamations

November 21, 2025

Thanksgiving Day, 2025

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

In 1789, just years after America's triumph over tyranny in the Revolutionary War, President George Washington established the first National Day of Thanksgiving, declaring "the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor." Decades later, in the midst of the bloody Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln implored the Nation to join in unity for "a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens." In every generation since, this spirit of reverence, trust, and gratitude has preserved our way of life and made America the strongest, greatest, and most resilient Nation the world has ever known.

From the pilgrims who settled our continent and the patriots who won our independence on the battlefield to the pioneers who tamed the west and the warriors who have preserved our freedom in distant lands, the spirit of gratitude and grit embodied by those who celebrated the first Thanksgiving more than 400 years ago have stood at the very heart of what it means to be an American.

This year, God has bestowed abundant blessings all across our land and indeed the entire world. As we give thanks to Him, we continue to advance our Nation through strong leadership and commonsense policy. As a result, the American economy is roaring back, we are making progress on lowering the cost of living, a new era of peace is sweeping around the world, our sovereignty is being swiftly restored, and the American spirit is coming back greater and more powerful than ever before.

As we prepare to celebrate 250 glorious years of American independence, this Thanksgiving, we summon the faith, resolve, and unflinching fortitude of the giants of American history who came before us. We vow to build a future that echoes their sacrifice. Above all, we offer our endless gratitude to Almighty God for His love, grace, and infinite blessings.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 27, 2025, as a National Day of Thanksgiving. I encourage all Americans to gather, in homes and places of worship, to offer a prayer of thanks to God for our many blessings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fiftieth.

DONALD J. TRUMP

[Thanksgiving remarks also posted”](#)

President [Donald Trump](#) posted a series of anti-immigration messages on social media on Thanksgiving, and one of them contained a slur.

"A very Happy Thanksgiving salutation to all of our Great American Citizens and Patriots who have been so nice in allowing our Country to be divided, disrupted, carved up, murdered, beaten, mugged, and laughed at, along with certain other foolish countries throughout the World, for being 'Politically Correct,' and just plain STUPID, when it comes to Immigration," one of [Trump's Nov. 27 Truth Social](#) posts read.

It later mentioned Minnesota and called the governor the "[r-word](#)." The term was once used medically to describe people with mental disabilities, but over time, it was used as a bullying phrase. In recent decades, advocates have campaigned to end the use of the word, and it was becoming seemingly unacceptable to use.

But [over the last year or so](#), it's made a resurgence, appearing unapologetically in places like [Joe Rogan's podcast](#), [Elon Musk's social media posts](#), and now, the president's statements.

More: [Elon Musk keeps tweeting the 'r-word.' Disability advocates say he needs to stop.](#)

"Using the R-word is the same as using any slur against a minority group," the [Special Olympics website](#) reads. "Eliminating this word is a step toward respect for all."

In 2010, former President Barack Obama signed "[Rosa's Law](#)," which replaced "mental retardation" references to "intellectual disability" within existing federal laws.

“What you call people is how you treat them. If we change the words, maybe it will be the start of a new attitude towards people with disabilities," Obama quoted the brother of Rosa, whom the bill was named after, as saying while speaking about [Rosa's Law at a bill signing](#).

Step inside the lost Native American city that rivalled medieval London

Archaeology reveals that a millennium ago, North America was home to thriving urban centres as large and sophisticated as those of medieval Europe. But how and why did these rise, flourish and decline? November 29, 2025, 11:20 AM A thousand years ago, the land that is now the United States looked very different from the version many might imagine. Instead of a sparsely populated wilderness dotted with small villages, much of North America was home to dense agricultural regions and large urban

Read in BBC History Magazine: <https://apple.news/Ap8wPZkc5Q-ySlhVSr30liQ>

Libraries Always Remind Me there are good things in this world — Lauren Ward

Stuck for Xmas gift ideas: “Turtle Island: Foods and Traditions of the Indigenous Peoples of North America” by Sean Sherman, Kate Nelson, Kristin Donnelly

James Beard Award–winning Oglala Lakota chef Sean Sherman has put together a beautifully illustrated book that not only provides recipes but also insights into the history, regions and cultures of the Indigenous communities. I only just stumbled onto this book, so I’m excited to delve into it more deeply.

“Ultra Wild: An Audacious Plan for Rewilding Every City on Earth” by Steve Mushin

This oversized illustrated comic, which aims to “push creative thinking to the absolute limit of ridiculousness,” is stuffed with pictures, diagrams and ideas for fighting climate change, such as compost cannons and rewilding cities. It’s the kind of engaging, engrossing book a young person, or anyone, can get lost in.

Join *If An Owl Calls Your Name* Global Film Premiere PLUS A 5-Day Online

Gathering with Indigenous Elders, Healers & Activists

December 9-13, 2025

to see trailer: [https://theeternalsong.org/owl-register/?utm_source=meta&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=MB+](https://theeternalsong.org/owl-register/?utm_source=meta&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=MB+%7C+TES%3A+If+an+Owl+Calls+Your+Name+Premiere+Phase+%7C+Primary+Locations+%7C+Imgs+%7C+Lead-Combined+Stack%3A+Psychology%2FTrauma&utm_content=Img9%3A+OWL_Premiere-Ad-VITTORIA-Freddie1&utm_id=120239049937650131&utm_term=120239049937900131&fbclid=IwY2xjawOaTXtleHRuA2FlbQEwAGFkaWQBqyzHmyr903NydGMGYXBwX2lkEDIyMjAzOTE3ODgyMDA4OTIAAR7mFgHjpZ7QZ0LVhFhYS9huhj24api4USt6Li6mWuy9qFlu-YLP9BxBDPbtbw_aem_0hSTPcSZiR_7JRf4ttLvzA)

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"It's the land, air and water. That is your therapy." — Dini' Ze' Na'Moks

Patricia June Vickers, her brother Roy Henry Vickers, and other Indigenous Elders, healers, and activists from the **Esk’etemc, Gitxsan, and Wet’suwet’en territories** open their hearts and histories in this deeply human story of healing.

Register to view the FULL film and gain access to the 5-Day Live Online Event with Indigenous Elders, Healers & Activists. You’ll be invited to make a donation of any amount (even \$0), with the option to upgrade to the 12-film journey and talk series.

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***Lankundôâô yushéenta Xkwithakamía - Peace here on this earth  
(Lenape)***

## Yosemite National Park



Yosemite is home to seven Traditionally Associated American Indian tribes: the Southern Sierra Miwuk Nation, the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Bridgeport Indian Colony, the Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a Tribe, the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California, the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians.

The ancestors of these tribes have lived in the Yosemite region for at least 8,000 years, traveling from the eastern Sierra to areas known today as Tuolumne Meadows, Yosemite Valley, Hetch Hetchy, Wawona, the western foothills, and beyond. They hunted and gathered, visited family and friends, and served as the original stewards of the land by taking care of the places that sustained them.

But the tribes' role as caretakers of the land is not just historic. Today's tribal members continue the stewardship traditions of their ancestors by sharing a diverse variety of languages, stories, and cultural practices with the public.

While in Yosemite Valley, stop by the Yosemite Museum to see cultural demonstrators practicing traditional and modern crafts, including stone tool-making, basket-weaving, and beadwork. Take a tour through the Indian Village of Ahwahnee to learn about the plants used by native people and interact with historic recreations of native structures, such as the umacha (a Miwok and Paiute cedar bark house). Inside the museum, observe art and displays that interpret the cultural history of the park's original, continuing, and future stewards.

NPS Photos

## Scholarships with January 1-7, 2026 Deadlines

|                                                                                 |              |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| <a href="#">\$25,000 Be Bold No-Essay Scholarship</a>                           | \$25,000     | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarships</a>          | \$2,000      | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">NDSGC American Indian Scholarship</a>                               | \$10,000     | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Smith Scholarship Foundation</a>                                    | \$20,000     | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Study Abroad Scholarship in BiH for American Minority Students</a>  | \$2,000      | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">The Ernst Scholarship</a>                                           | \$1,500      | January 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Farm Credit Foundation for Agricultural Advancement Scholarship</a> | \$40,000     | January 02, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Paul Tsongas Scholarship</a>                                        | Full-Tuition | January 02, 2026 |
| <a href="#">BIA Cares Scholarships</a>                                          | \$500        | January 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#">APHA Kaiser Permanente Community Health Fellowship</a>              | \$15,000     | January 04, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Distinguished Young Women Scholarships</a>                          | \$160,000    | January 04, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Acacia Leadership Scholarship</a>                                   | \$3,000      | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship Program</a>                        | \$40,000     | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Guy M. Wilson Scholarship</a>                                       | \$1,000      | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Microsoft Imagine Cup</a>                                           | \$100,000    | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Nevada Womens Fund Scholarships</a>                                 | \$5,000      | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">THEA Foundation Scholarships</a>                                    | \$10,000     | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Walter Byers Postgraduate Scholarship Program</a>                   | \$24,000     | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">William D. and Jewell Brewer Scholarship</a>                        | \$500        | January 05, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Northern Star Scouting Eagle Scholarship</a>                        | \$1,000      | January 06, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Taco Bell Live Más Scholarship</a>                                  | \$25,000     | January 06, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship</a>                        | \$55,000     | January 07, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship</a>                          | \$35,000     | January 07, 2026 |
| <a href="#">NJCPA College Scholarships</a>                                      | \$6,500      | January 07, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Virginia Arts Festival Model NATO Challenge</a>                     | \$2,500      | January 07, 2026 |
| <a href="#">VSA International Young Soloists Competition</a>                    | \$3,000      | January 07, 2026 |
| <a href="#">VSA Playwright Discovery Competition</a>                            | \$3,000      | January 07, 2026 |