

Journal #6170

from sdc

2.2.26

Punxsutawney Prophecy

Billie Eilish/Finneas make Grammy history, deliver powerful speech: 'No one is illegal on stolen land'

Judge calls Justice Department's statements on slavery exhibit display 'dangerous' and 'horrifying'

Texas A&M University to end women's studies due to new policy on race and gender topics

Earn MPH on-line at George Washington University

Tribal Consultation-Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program - De-Regulation

Presidential Actions

Environmental advocates and tribes call for equitable alternatives to voluntary agreements

California Tribes and Fishermen Speak Out Against California Voluntary Water Agreements

More Mark Trahan

We the Resilient

Scholarships A-G with Deadline March 1

History Bits

Earn Your MLS in American Indian Law

Jefferson Bancroft

Kathy



<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/54821/11-punxsutawney-phil-facts-groundhog-day>

Punxsutawney Prophecy

The nation's attention turns to western Pennsylvania this morning to watch the country's most famous groundhog, [Punxsutawney Phil](#), determine whether 2026 will bring an early spring or a longer winter. The prescient land-beaver will pick one of two scrolls (just past 7 am ET), each containing separate wintry prophecies.

As is tradition, the slumberous whistle-pig will join his top-hatted crew to see whether he'll spot his shadow (foretelling six more weeks of winter) or relax a bit with his admiring fans (predicting an early spring). Phil is right about 35% of the time ([see visualization](#))—or an impressive 65% if you flip the somewhat arbitrary rules.

The ceremony [was originally conceived](#) by a local newspaper editor in 1886, but has its roots in Eastern European celebrations of the midway between the winter solstice and spring equinox—and also falls on the lesser-known Christian holiday, Candlemas.

Historical accounts suggest farmers used the appearance of hibernating mammals to signal spring. In reality, [science suggests](#) the salacious marmot likely appears to check for mates.

Editor's note: Much like Phil, our preview has become a tradition at 1440—and after eight years, we've run out of ways to describe the critter. Know a different name for groundhogs? Let us know at editorial@join1440.com!

How about Indian Country flooding 1440 with tribal names for groundhogs! do copy me sdc

1. [Punxsutawney Phil has been around since 1887.](#)
2. [It's "Groundhog Punch" That Keeps Punxsutawney Phil So Young.](#)
3. [The Punxsutawney Groundhog Club's inner circle is responsible for Phil.](#)
4. [There are 15 members of the Inner Circle.](#)
5. [Punxsutawney Phil lives in the town library.](#)
6. [Punxsutawney Phil has a wife named Phyllis.](#)
7. [Punxsutawney Phil is a jetsetter.](#)
8. [Punxsutawney Phil Was Reportedly Named After "King Phillip."](#)
9. [Punxsutawney Phil speaks groundhogese.](#)
10. [Punxsutawney Phil was fiercely anti-Prohibition.](#)
11. [Punxsutawney Phil's predictions are always correct—just sometimes they're misinterpreted.](#)



[Live](#)



[YouTube • Associated Press](#)

[Groundhog Day 2026: Watch if Punxsutawney Phil sees his ...](#)

Billie Eilish and Finneas make Grammy history, deliver powerful speech: 'No one is illegal on stolen land' **1.31.26**

https://currently.att.yahoo.com/att/billie-eilish-finneas-grammy-history-032119516.html?.tsrc=daily_mail&uh_test=1_11&.tsrc=daily_mail&segment_id&ncid=crm_-1295960-20260202-661--A&bt_user_id=zZFhvUQpoM6zJv9O3sY9AIIIna0wRAoHkl4JPzI9jinK%2FEGSi2rMqxYVkbU5XU71u&bt_ts=1770028669574

Judge calls Justice Department's statements on slavery exhibit display 'dangerous' and 'horrifying'

Texas A&M University to end women's studies due to new policy on race and gender topics



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SUBJECT: Tribal Consultation on the Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee

Program - De-Regulation

Dear Tribal Leader:

A major priority of the Administration is to streamline burdensome regulations and cut unnecessary red tape to help bring economic growth to Tribal communities. Accordingly, we have been hard at work reviewing all program regulations to identify unnecessary and onerous requirements that hinder economic growth and homeownership. Consistent with that priority, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is seeking to revise the Section 184 Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Program (Section 184 Program) regulations located at 24 CFR Part 1005.

Pursuant to HUD’s Tribal consultation policy, HUD is seeking Tribal comments to revise certain regulations in 24 CFR Part 1005. Although the Section 184 Program regulations were extensively revised following thirteen Tribal consultations that occurred between 2022 and 2023, HUD is now seeking further Tribal feedback on the revised regulations that may be administratively burdensome to Tribes and lenders participating in the program. The Section 184 program is a critical program that brings mortgage capital to Tribal communities, and we are always interested in ways we can make the program work better for you and your Tribal members.

Specifically, HUD is interested in receiving feedback on the following questions:

1. What changes to the Section 184 Program could make the program more accessible to, and less burdensome for, borrowers, Tribes and Tribal housing authorities?
2. What steps could HUD take to make Section 184 policy coordination with other Tribal or federal programs or agencies easier? Other than BIA, what other federal agencies do Tribes recommend HUD partner with?
3. What loss mitigation policies impacting and/or involving Tribes should HUD consider adopting to facilitate home retention for Section 184 borrowers who are in default of their loans?
4. What policies can HUD adopt, or what actions can HUD take, to increase the number of participating Section 184 lenders and foster homeownership in your Tribal communities?
5. In what ways can HUD assist in improving communication between Tribes and lenders participating in the Section 184 Program?

Please submit all comments by March 28, 2026, to Section184consultation@hud.gov. Please include “Tribal Consultation on HUD Section 184 Program Rulemaking” in the subject line with your submission. HUD will consider all consultation comments received within sixty (60) days of the issuance of this letter. Our plan is to develop a proposed rule to further streamline program regulations and publish it for public comment in the near future. Input from Tribal leaders and participating Section 184 lenders is essential to developing the best possible regulations for the Section 184 Program. Thank you for your continued partnership and collaboration in the effective delivery of HUD’s programs.

Sincerely, Benjamin Hobbs, Assistant Secretary

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Bachelor of Science in Architecture

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[Request Information](#)

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Presidential Actions

Executive Orders

[Celebrating American Greatness with American Motor Racing](#) [January 30, 2026](#)

[Addressing Threats to the United States by the Government of Cuba](#) [January 29, 2026](#)

[Addressing Addiction through the Great American Recovery Initiative](#) [January 29, 2026](#)

[Addressing State and Local Failures to Rebuild Los Angeles After Wildfire Disasters](#)
[January 27, 2026](#)

[Continuance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Review Council](#)
[January 23, 2026](#)

[Stopping Wall Street from Competing with Main Street Homebuyers](#) [January 20, 2026](#)

Proclamations

[Year of Celebration and Rededication, 2026](#) [January 29, 2026](#)

[National School Choice Week, 2026](#) [January 28, 2026](#)

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### **[Environmental advocates and tribes call for equitable alternatives to voluntary agreements ahead of Bay-Delta Plan hearing](#)**

“Environmental advocates and Tribal leaders today spoke out against the inequitable and misleading Voluntary Agreements within the latest Bay-Delta Plan update – a critical policy governing water quality, river flows, and ecosystem protection for California’s largest and most fragile estuary – during a virtual press conference. A key component of the updated Bay-Delta Plan is the State’s proposed Voluntary Agreements (VAs), privately negotiated deals in which powerful water districts offer limited flow commitments and funding in exchange for exemptions

from stronger, enforceable regulatory requirements. Speakers criticized the VA approach as scientifically unsound and lacking adequate accountability and protections. Instead, these VAs or “deals” between the State Water Board and water agencies were developed without input from communities that rely on a healthy Bay-Delta ecosystem, such as tribes, environmental justice groups or fishing communities. With current water diversions, California is already facing a third straight year of commercial salmon season closure, the collapse of native fish populations with eight species on the endangered list and frequent toxic algae blooms. ... ” Read more from [Restore the Delta](#).

### **California Tribes and Fishermen Speak Out Against California Voluntary Water Agreements**

Press release from Save Our Salmon: Today, Tribal members, fishing families, youth, and community allies are hosting a rally and public comment in opposition to the Bay-Delta Plan and proposed Voluntary Water Agreements (VAs) at the California State Water Board in Sacramento. The action takes place during the final day of State Water Board hearings, marking the last opportunity for public input on a plan that would impact rivers, salmon, and drinking water across California. It comes after two days of strong comments and panels opposing the plan by Tribes, Bay-Delta residents, environmental groups, and fishermen. Opposition to the Voluntary Agreements has grown as new federal actions threaten additional water exports from the Delta. Gary Mulcahy, Government Liaison of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe, warned, “The clueless SWRCB continues to advocate for an 8-year experiment that fails to meet water, environmental, and aquatic species needs on so many levels as the VAs currently stand.” ... ” [Continue reading this press release](#).



### **We the Resilient: Stories and Data from American Indians/Alaska Natives in California (2nd Edition)**

Our groundbreaking digital and print publication that uplifts the stories, strength, and sovereignty of Native peoples across California. Issue areas covered in the report include:

- Economic Opportunity
- Education
- Health
- Healthy Built Environment
- Housing
- Crime & Justice
- Democracy

### **About California Native Vote Project:**

Founded in 2016, CNVP has established itself as a trusted messenger, advocate, and organizer

championing social change, justice, and equity for Native peoples throughout the state. At the heart of CNVP's mission is a commitment to collective organizing and power-building for Native communities. Through deep relationship and trust building, CNVP has cultivated lasting partnerships with statewide organizations and community networks, ensuring Native peoples in California have a strong voice and direct involvement in shaping policies, strategies, and campaigns to safeguard the health and longevity of Native communities across the state.

<https://actionnetwork.org/forms/download-the-full-report/thankyou>

### **More Mark Trahant - A correction**

This is an odd correction — not for something I wrote, but something I said. I was reviewing ICE interactions with Indian Country for APTN and I talked about an encounter with a Shoshone-Bannock tribal member in Idaho Falls. Turns out I read the story wrong. A call last night from Shoshone-Bannock Chairwoman Donna Thompson said the tribe was only responding to rumors. From the tribes' release:

“The Fort Hall Business Council is aware of a recent social media post showing U.S. Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) officers in Idaho Falls. As HSI falls under the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), we understand that this report may cause concern among our Tribal members and families. With a Field Office in Idaho Falls responsible for immigration enforcement in the region, this citing should be expected.”

The tribes' release was basically a reminder to tribal members to carry ID.

There is an interesting twist. Most of the immigration and enforcement issues are in states led by Democrats. That it is not Idaho. (Although I should point out, it is a border state.) Idaho officials have gone out of their way to align themselves with the Trump immigration agenda, so there's no need for stepped up enforcement by ICE.

But this morning, I did read a heart-felt rural Red-state story. The Montana Free-Press reported about an immigration action in the small town of Froid.

“It didn't take long for word to spread in the small community of about 195 people that the federal immigration agents were watching 42-year-old Roberto Orozco-Ramirez. The father of four, who is technically a citizen of Mexico, has lived in Froid with his family for more than a decade, long enough that the local auto repair shop, Orozco Diesel, bears his name.”

This is the problem for most of the Trump voters (certainly that was Montana). There was support for closing the border, and even actions against criminals who are not U.S. citizens. But neighbors?

[The story is here.](#)

## Scholarships (A-G) with March 1 Deadline

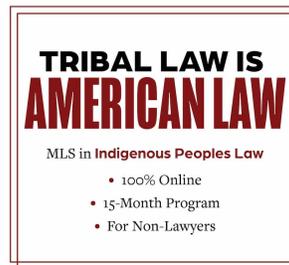
|                                                                                           |          |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| <a href="#"><u>AFSA National High School Essay Contest</u></a>                            | \$2,500  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AgWest Championing Agriculture Scholarship</u></a>                         | \$2,500  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AgWest Customer Scholarships</u></a>                                       | \$5,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA Christopher J. Hoy/ERT Scholarship</u></a>                             | \$5,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA David H. Clift Scholarship</u></a>                                     | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA LITA/Christian Larew Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                      | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA Mary V. Gaver Scholarship</u></a>                                      | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA Miriam L. Hornback Scholarship</u></a>                                 | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA Tom &amp; Roberta Drewes Scholarship</u></a>                           | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALA Tony B. Leisner Scholarship</u></a>                                    | \$3,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Alaska Bar Association Law School Scholarships</u></a>                     | \$3,700  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ALSC Frederic G. Melcher Scholarship</u></a>                               | \$8,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Ambassador of Aloha Scholarships</u></a>                                   | \$4,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>American Board of Funeral Service Education - National Scholarship</u></a> | \$2,500  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>American Legion Auxiliary Spirit of Youth Scholarship</u></a>              | \$5,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>American Library Association Spectrum Scholarship</u></a>                  | \$5,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Anchor Endowed and Administered Scholarships</u></a>                       | \$20,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Anchor Scholarship Foundation</u></a>                                      | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Andrew Q. Peschard Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                            | \$1,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Association of California Water Agencies Scholarship</u></a>               | \$5,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Aubrey Lee Brooks Scholarships</u></a>                                     | \$48,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Airgas Jerry Baker Scholarship</u></a>                                 | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Airgas Terry Jarvis Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                       | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Arsham Amirikian Welding Scholarship</u></a>                           | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Barbara and Richard Couch Hypertherm Scholarship</u></a>               | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Donald F Hastings Scholarship</u></a>                                  | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Edward J. Brady Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                           | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS Howard E. and Wilma J. Adkins Memorial Scholarship</u></a>             | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS James A Turner Jr Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                         | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS John C. Lincoln Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                           | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>AWS William B. Howell Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                         | \$10,000 | March 01, 2026 |

|                                                                           |           |                |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| <a href="#">Barry L. Carey M.D. Scholarship</a>                           | \$1,600   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Bill &amp; Shireen Kirk Scholarship</a>                       | \$5,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Bound to Stay Bound Books Scholarship</a>                     | \$8,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">BPW Illinois Educational Foundation Scholarships</a>          | \$2,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">BPWI Educational Foundation Incoming Freshman Scholarship</a> | \$2,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">BPWI Educational Foundation Returning Student Scholarship</a> | \$2,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Brian Kershaw Memorial Scholarship</a>                        | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Brown Hudner Navy Scholarship</a>                             | \$3,860   | March 01, 2026 |
|                                                                           |           |                |
| <a href="#">CFNCW Scholarships</a>                                        | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">CFNEA Harland Jones Scholarship Fund</a>                      | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Christian James Mazzariello Memorial Scholarship Fund</a>     | \$100,000 | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Clair A. Hill Scholarship</a>                                 | \$5,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Colonial Agricultural Educational Foundation Scholarships</a> | \$6,500   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Connecticut Building Congress Scholarships</a>                | \$20,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Corporate Relocation Council Scholarship</a>                  | \$2,500   | March 01, 2026 |
|                                                                           |           |                |
| <a href="#">Daughters of the Cincinnati Scholarship</a>                   | \$20,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Delmar Smith Memorial Scholarship</a>                         | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Don E. Neuburger Memorial Scholarship</a>                     | \$5,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Don't Drive Drowsy</a>                                        | \$2,000   | March 01, 2026 |
|                                                                           |           |                |
| <a href="#">E. Ralph &amp; Ida Strausz Memorial Scholarship</a>           | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Eagle Scout of the Year Scholarship</a>                       | \$10,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Edward C. Bryant Scholarship</a>                              | \$2,500   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Engebretson Foundation Scholarship</a>                        | \$20,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Explore America Travel Scholarship</a>                        | \$1,500   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">FFC Scholarship</a>                                           | \$5,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Freeman-ASIA Award Program</a>                                | \$7,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Fruit Packers Supply Scholarship</a>                          | Varies    | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship</a>                               | \$1,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">GFWC Massachusetts Catherine E. Philbin Scholarship</a>       | \$1,000   | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Grossman Scholarship Program</a>                              | \$10,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Grow the Dream Foundation Scholarship</a>                     | \$10,000  | March 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Guardian Scholars Foundation Scholarship</a>                  | \$32,000  | March 01, 2026 |

## History Bits

- 1825 Feb 27** Congress approves Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma), clearing the way for forced relocation of the Eastern Indians on the “Trail of Tears”.
- 1848 Feb 2** The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends the Mexican-American War; present day lands known as California, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Nevada, become US “possessions”.
- 1863 Jan 27** Col. Patrick Connor, promising no prisoners, complied with a request from Utah officials, led an attack on a Shoshone Village at the intersection of Beaver Creek and Bear River, killing 250. (Connor was promoted to general for the action.)
- 1863 Jan 28** The Battle of Bear River of Cache Valley, Idaho, between Shoshone and California volunteer militia under Patrick E. Connor; defeat broke Shoshone power in northern Nevada.
- 1876 Jan 31** The deadline for Native Americans who were off their reservations (by the order of US Indian Affairs Commissioner Edward Smith) to return or a “military force would be sent to compel them” passed at midnight.
- 1879 Feb 3** *NSJ* editorializes that proposed legislation in Congress to establish reservation for African Americans “lacks practicability”.
- 1883 Jan 30** Seminole Chief **Osceola** died in jail.
- 1883 Jan 30** Indian Agent John Mayhugh reported (in the *Elko Free Press*) that 300 Shoshone on “his” reservation (DV) were all in excellent health, with plenty to eat, good shelter and warm clothing, but members reporting trouble brewing amongst the Bannocks.
- 1887 Jan 31** The Nevada Indian Commission (Jewell, S.L. Lee and Henry Yerington) sent the BIA a copy of the measure enacted by the Nevada Legislature. (1887 Statutes of Nevada, Pages 13-141 <https://www.leg.state.nv.us> › 13th1887 Stats188701 Adams and S. L. Lee are hereby appointed a *commission* for the purposes hereinafter named, to be known as “The *Indian School Commission*.” Sec. 2. For the ...

- 1887 Feb 8** Congress enacted the Dawes Severalty Act to strip tribes of their land held in common, resulting in massive land loss for Native Americans.
- 1910 Jan 29** The eastern business people declared their intention to acquire 200,000 acres of land in the Pahrump Valley under the Desert Land Act of 1894.
- 1933 Jan 30** WXYX in Detroit and some other Michigan radio stations began broadcasting the Lone Ranger, starring Bruce Beemer as the ranger and John Todd as Tonto.
- 1945 Jan 30** Former husband of Modoc novelist, **Louise Erdrich**, and founder of Dartmouth's Native American studies program, Michael Dorris was born in Louisville.
- 1954 Jan 27** A very naiive, newly elected US Congressman (NV) Cliff Young, introduced HR 7552, the Indian Termination Act. (He once told me it was stupidest thing he'd ever done.)(Acutally, he said dumbest.)
- 1966 Feb 4** The federal "War on Poverty" grants to aid the elderly poor were provided to the Washoe and Clark County Economic Opportunity Boards and the Intertribal Council of Nevada.
- 1970 Feb 1** The Pyrami Lake Tribe dedicated new buildings in Wadsworth and Nixon.
- 1972 Jan 27** The 8th Annual ITCN Convention was held in Fallon, Raymond Yowell presiding.
- 



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IN HONOR OF  
KATHY JEFFERSON BANCROFT  
AUGUST 27, 1954-JANUARY 25, 2026



CRY DANCE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14/SUNSET/LPPSR WELLNESS CENTER  
E-SHA LANE & TEYA ROAD, LONE PINE



BURIAL FOLLOWING CRY DANCE SUNDAY MORNING AT THE INDIAN CEMETERY  
ACCESS VIA TUTTLE CREEK ROAD



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15/11:00 AM/LPPSR TRIBAL GYM  
1145 E-SHA LANE, LONE PINE