



INDIAN VOICES

OUR 29TH YEAR

MULTI-CULTURAL NEWS GLOBAL NETWORK

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2015

National Indian Gaming Association Rebuilding Communities through Indian Self Reliance

San Diego once again welcomes the National Indian Gaming Association to its 2015 Trade Show and Conventon

The National Indian Gaming Association is a nonprofit trade association comprised of 184 American Indian Nations and other nonvoting associate member. The mission of NIGA is to advance the lives of Indian people - economically, socially and politically. NIGA operates as a clearinghouse and educational legislative and public policy resources for tribes, policymakers and the public on Indian gaming issues and tribal community development.

The mission of NIGA is to protect and preserve the general welfare of

tribes striving for self-sufficiency through gaming enterprises in Indian Country. To fulfill its mission, NIGA works with Federal government and Congress to develop sound policies and practices and to provide technical assistance and advocacy on gaming related issues. In addition, NIGA seeks to maintain and protect Indian sovereign governmental authority in Indian Country.

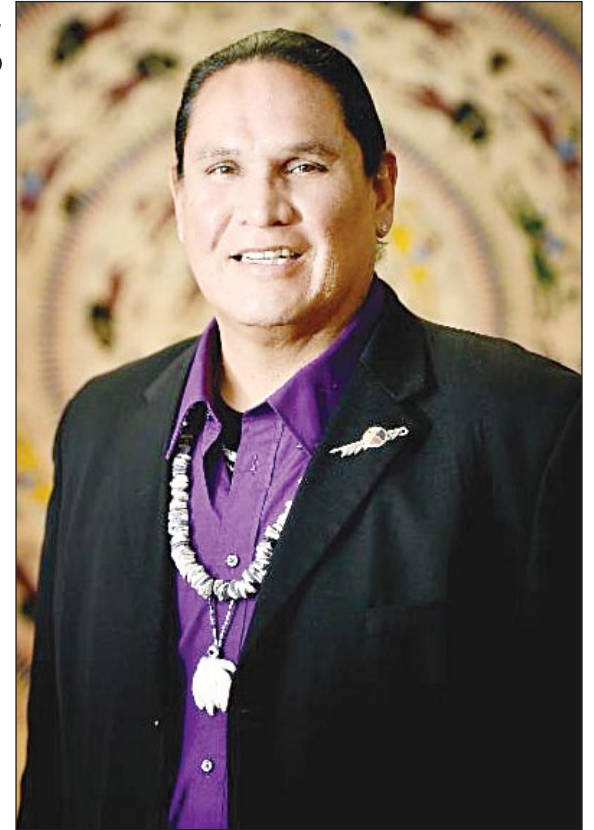
Ernie Stevens, Jr. is the Chairman and national spokesperson for the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) in Washington, D.C. Stevens is currently completing his seventh two-year term as the organization's leader, which is a position elected by the member tribes of the National Indian Gaming Association.

As Chairman of NIGA, Stevens represents the Indian gaming

industry. In this role, he has worked to educate Congress, the media and the public about the positive impacts of Indian gaming on tribal and nearby communities. Stevens is also responsible for shaping policy initiatives that have the potential to impact the industry. He has testified before Congress on a number of topics from proposed amendments to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) to Internet gaming. In addition to his role as spokesman, Stevens has worked to build consensus among NIGA's diverse member Tribes and is often quoted as saying,

"Our membership is our strength, and we are strongest when our voice is unified."

He has also succeeded in building



Ernest L. Stevens, Jr., Chairman, National Indian Gaming Association

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San Diego Black Film Festival

San Diego's Multi-Cultural Jewel

Under the direction of Karen Willis, The San Diego Black Film Festival is one of the largest Black Film Festivals in the country. It is held in southern California and recognizes African American and movies in production. The festival was founded in 2003, and takes place every year during the last week of January in San Diego, California. People from all over southern California and across the United States attend this festival every year.

The San Diego Black Film Festival, originally known as the Noir Film Festival, was started nine years ago

There were only three films shown and less than 100 people attended. Since



Daniel Tucker, chairman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association (surrounded by his wife Lori, travel show host Shamroc Peterson and media representative contribute to the San Diego Black Film Festival festivities .
Photo: Rochelle Porter

then the festival attendance has boomed. By 2011 this festival is known as one of the biggest Black Film Festivals in the United States and one of the biggest

festivals in all of southern California. The Black Film Festival is centered at

SEE **Black Film Festival**, page 2

Indian Gaming

Continued from page 1

strong coalitions with other Indian and non-Indian organizations to help strengthen the industry. In the face of constant challenges while Stevens has served as Chairman, NIGA has consistently defended any movement in Washington, DC against the Principles of Tribal Sovereignty. Stevens has led the Association and worked to protect Tribal Sovereignty and strengthen the Indian gaming industry. During his tenure, Indian gaming revenues have risen from

\$11 billion in 2000 to 28.6 billion in 2014.

From 1993 to 1999 Stevens served as an elected councilman for the Oneida Nation in Wisconsin. He is a former First Vice-President of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). As a respected leader in Indian Country, Stevens also serves as a long-standing board member on the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, the Nike N7 Foundation Board, the Executive Board of the Center for Native American Youth and the Native American Advisory Board for the Boys & Girls Club of America.

Black Film Festival

Continued from page 1

downtown San Diego's Westfield Horton Plaza Mall. The movies and films are shown at Regal United Artists.

The San Diego Black Film Festival screens more than 100 films each year.

A film of historical significance to the San Diego area kicked off this year's Thirteenth Annual SDBFF festival. The film, a documentary "By Blood" tells of the virtually unknown aspects of the Black experience in America.

It's the battle of the descendants of Black Freedmen to retain their century-long status as part of American Indian tribes.

Karen Willis, the director of the San Diego Black Film Festival said it could relate to San Diegans because of the number of Native American tribes locally.

"We decided to open with it because it seemed it was a subject matter that would appeal to San Diego," Willis stated, "Many African American families have talked about it."

After the Civil War, tribes granted tribal citizenship to their freed slaves under an agreement with the federal government. They are known as the Freedmen.

Fast forward 150 years, the Cherokee Nation and other tribes have stripped descendants of the Freedmen of their membership prompting a legal battle that's still working its way through the courts.

Film director Marcos Barbary said the controversy has manifested into a broader conflict about race, identity and the sovereign rights of indigenous people.

"It's one of the untold narratives," Barbary said. "In there sort of lies this debate over rights of the Freeman, and self determination and tribal sovereignty."

The film created a buzz and brought together a caucus of stakeholders and principles historically involved in the Freeman legal battle. Marilyn Vann lead plaintiff in the federal lawsuit against the US government department of interior, Vann et al. Versus Norton, was there along with the indefatigable Freeman lead attorney Jon Villa. The Q&A following the film was a captivating educational seminar with an animated and engaged and audience.

FOLLOW UP:
For an in-depth analysis and overview of the film by Marilyn Vann *Fight of the Cherokee and Seminole Freedmen for Enforcement of Treaty Rights* please go the Indian Voices website www.indianvoices.net under menu Black Indians.

The Chairman has been recognized for his outstanding leadership and his advocacy in Indian Country by numerous organizations. He was recently inducted into the American Gaming Association's Gaming Hall of Fame. The Association on American Indian Affairs recognized his lifetime achievements in November and he was inducted into the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Alumni Hall of Fame in 2012.

Chairman Stevens received an Associate's degree from Haskell Indian Nations University in 1983 where he served as the Vice President of the

Student Senate. He was a two year starting center and team captain for the Haskell Basketball Team. Stevens also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Mount Senario College in Ladysmith, Wisconsin (1986). He was a three sport letterman and served as President of the Native American Student Council.

Chairman Stevens is an enrolled member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. He and his wife Cheryl have been married for over 30 years. Together they have 5 children and 13 grandchildren.

The Best of Life is Born out of Community

by Artist Toni Scott

Every act of charity is an act of love towards a richer humanity and a more well balanced and well served community.

This year I've been blessed by community and would have achieved little without the help and support of many. In fact, as far as I can remember community has helped lift me, carry me and helped me to grow and prosper. Prosperity is more than monetary, for me prosperity is the richness that is born out of kindness, consideration and love.

I sometimes joke that it takes a community to raise an artist, however light heartedly I say it, in every letter of

the phase abides a deep appreciation, because in truth it does.

My work is sometimes overwhelming, deadlines too short and the need for help great. I have called and relied on so many to help and so many have responded with great generosity.

Each and every time I am inspired by how many people in the community care and give of their precious time to another.

I've randomly sent out emails and Facebook posts asking for help on a project, move art, write about a project, carry something, research something, and on and on and on. Each and every

SEE Community, page 11



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IT IS TIME TO BREAK THE CYCLE!

TRIBAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Plan ahead before the next fire, earthquake or flood leaves you in the dark.

SHARE information with tribal elders and tribal youth

PREPARE your family with an emergency plan and kit

PROTECT your community by doing your part to stay informed



Fire Safety

Maintain 100 feet of defensible space around your home.

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Gather supplies to support your family for at least 3 days.

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Our mission is to strengthen and enhance the coordination of area-wide disaster recovery efforts on tribal lands located in Southern California affected by wildfires and other disasters by working with tribal, federal, state, and local government agencies.

ROOTS & ACORNS: Father Serra And The First Mission Indian Arrive Old Town San Diego



Kosa'aay (pronounced ko-sa-eye), the ancient Kumeyaay Indian village, is where my story begins in Old Town. Despite the missed interpretation

by Euro-Americans who called it "Cosoy," the name has been corrected by the late Kumeyaay elder Jane Dumas, who taught that the word means "the place to dry it." This refers to this area being a geological million-year-old shelf where only in recent times — for the past 12,000 years — it has become a permanent neighborhood where humans settled and dried out their shellfish and other goods.

Enter stage left: Johnny Rodriguez Cabrillo, the man! The guy who claims California as the property of Spain and forevermore is credited for this only 50 years after Columbus's arrival. He enters San Diego Bay on a Thursday afternoon, September 28, 1542, and leaves the following Monday morning to beat rush hour. It wasn't till 60 years later when explorer Sebastian Vizcaino arrives and gives the name San Diego to Old Town. Unfortunately, neither he nor any other

Europeans makes it back here for another 167 years. So it's baffling that history books and city governments claim that Cabrillo's arrival is when Native Americans were conquered here. I can just imagine my ancestors saying, "Hey, did you know that we are controlled by Spain? Yeah, I heard stories about that from my great-great-grandfather."

And now, ladies and gentlemen, put your hands together for that one and only saint of all saints, Father "Juno" Serra. "Hello folks. Take my mission, please, take my missions..."

Knock knock. Who's there? Christianity. Christianity who? Christianize all you guys!

Breaking news! Fast forward to the present... Officials at the Mission of San Juan Capistrano have started a campaign inviting the Pope to come here this September to place a statue of Fr. Serra for his canonization, instead of in Washington, DC. However, this Mission has acknowledged and admits the Native American protestations are "understandable," given the atrocities of unspeakable injustice in the name of Christianity. They are willing to open a dialog with Native Americans to begin the much needed healing and for both to move forward into the next century.

I certainly support opening this dialog, but will they follow through? What do you think, folks?

Back to my story... Thank you Padre! But seriously folks, let me introduce my next guest tonight, Sebastian Tarabal. I consider Mr. Tarabal to be one of the first Mission Indians to ever come to Old Town on July 1st, 1769. He was hired as an Indian guide for Captain "Gassy" de Portola's Sacred Expedition to Alta California, bringing "Farter" Serra to Old

Town. Their orders were to occupy and fortify Presidios at San Diego and Monterey "All for God and the King of Spain." (I will try to get these two guys, God and the King, for my next show.)

Sebastian was his christianized name and he came from the Cochimi tribe, which is located south of the Kumeyaay people in Baja California and around the Mission of Santa Gertrudis. In fact, both of their languages are considered to be within the same linguistic boundaries. No doubt he was hired on this expedition to be the Spaniards' interpreter while contacting other local Indians on the way to Old Town. "Howka...What's up?"

In 1773 he ended up settling in Los Angeles at the Mission of San Gabriel with the Tongva tribe along with his wife and family. From this point on it became a sad and tragic life for Sebastian, for he had realized that Father Serra's philosophy on mission life — that God loves everyone — was a lie because apparently, God didn't love the Natives, who were enslaved, flogged, and not allowed to practice their own religions. Tarabal felt that he had helped Father Serra perpetuate this lie to other Indian communities up and down the State of California.

Feeling disgusted, he escaped from mission life with his family and crossed the treacherous Colorado desert toward Yuma — unfortunately, his whole family perished and he barley made it alive to the Colorado River, where the Quechan tribe nursed him back to health. Ironically, another Spanish explorer, Juan Bautista Anza, was in the neighborhood at this same time looking for a passage to LA, and he recruited Sebastian to be his guide in 1774, again bringing Spanish colonists to California in 1775-76. Meanwhile, Father Serra was at the Indian village of Acjachema where Juaneños were constructing his Mission of San Juan Capistrano.

My half-Indian Grandfather, Jose Manuel Silvas, was a 10-year-boy

traveling with his father on this Anza trip. Jose Manuel's house is currently underneath the newly reconstructed 1869 McCoy house in Old Town State Park, and his dad died in 1789 and is buried in an unmarked grave at San Diego's Presidio. Also, other of my relations on this trip were Jose Francisco Lopez and Feliciano Arballo, and Tarabal was a witness to their marriage. Their adobe home foundation is also ignored and underneath a parking lot in Old Town.

Finally, Sebastian's last tour guide expedition was for Father Franco Garces, whom he met at Yuma Crossing and led all over the Mojave Desert and the Sierras. In fact, it was Father Garces who named the Colorado River. But this time Sebastian refused to revisit LA and went back to Yuma. He'd had enough!

Sebastian was heartbroken from life itself, and when Fr. Garces returned to Yuma, he asked where was his longtime friend Tarabal. The locals who knew him told him that he never recovered the loss of his only family, and because of the crap he saw at the missions, one day he just got up from camp and walked straight into a sand storm, never to be seen again.

In conclusion, when anybody asks me what I think about Father Serra being canonized as a saint, I tell them this story! I also note that Father Garces was killed by a large number of Quechans people at the Yuma Uprising in 1781 and that Father Luis Jayme from the Mission San Diego was killed by over a thousand Kumeyaays in 1775. This goes to show just how "beloved" the priests were by the Natives. This supports my present-day viewpoint against canonization of Father Serra.

This story was brought to you by "Manifest Destiny," whose motto is "Old Town history between 1769-1869, forget about it!"

Abel Silvas aka Running Grunion
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"An attack on one is an attack on all..."

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"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects..." 4th Amendment

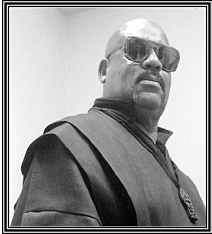
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Black Path Commentary: Critical Analysis on Culture, Community, & Struggle

Reflections on Black History: A Message & Meaning for Rebuilding the Movement!



by Min. Tukufu Kalonji

As we enter into Black History Month 2015, make note that this month of celebrating our history is a marker period for celebrating ourselves. We celebrate by the recognition of our heroes, heroines, and their achievements; but also this month serves as a marker for reflecting and reaffirmation on our collective struggles and achievements in the seven core areas of culture.

Those areas are; spirituality/ethics, history, social organization, political organization, economic organization, creative production (art, science, technology, & literature), and our ethos (community psychology) that evolves from our work, study, and struggle in the preceding six areas of culture. For history is a record of people in struggle for justice, freedom, building the world they desire and deserve to live in; and against the forces of oppressive opposition from others, contradictions within themselves and nature. Thus, while those most notables are recognized, we know in the best of African cultural understanding that any and all achievements happens as a collective process and product. Therefore, there are those whose names we might not know yet, warrant our recognition and respect for whatever role they have played in the awesome and ongoing struggle we wage for liberation and a higher level of human life.

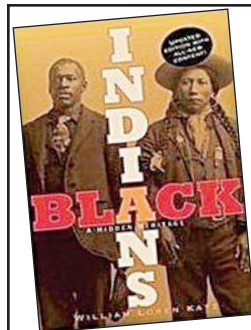
Furthermore, in the process, we see Black History as argued a record of a people struggle and from that record we seek to learn its lessons; As Malcolm X taught, "Of all our studies history is best prepared to reward our research." Secondly we are to absorb its spirit of human possibility; and thirdly, we strive to extract and emulate its models of human excellence and achievement, and finally we are obligated by our culture to practice the morality of remembrance as an obligation and honor. As ancestor

Mary McLeod Bethune teaches us that "We are heirs and custodians of a great legacy" and urged us to discover the dawn through that legacy and to bear the burden and glory of that legacy with strength, dignity and determination. And likewise ancestor Fannie Lou Hamer reaches us to "never forget where we came from and always praise the bridges that carried us over."

Given the above it is imperative that today in the midst of the ongoing oppression on Black life that we as a community to remember we are engaged in a struggle for justice! And turning a blind eye to that struggle via the Super Bowl, The Real Housewives Of Atlanta; or some other corporate programming to keep us anesthetize in the matrix of Eurocentric hegemony, will only contribute to one's own demise.

Consequently then as we celebrate Black History, let each and every one of us think deeply as to how we can actively participate in the rescue and reconstruction of ourselves in every sense of the word and in our own cultural context. Here it is important to raise the proverb given us by philosopher John Mbiti who contends I am because we are, therefore, we are because I am." Essentially this means we are all in this (our collective history and subsequent struggle) together. Thus, it is critical for us to be actively engaged in the well being of our community. As Nia the third principle of the Nguzo Saba contends "To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness." It's in this context that we participate in rebuilding and sustaining the liberation movement; doing honor and justice to the lives and legacy of our fore fathers and mothers who lived a life of ethical service to the community so that we may be here today and continue that legacy of work, study, and struggle with dignity, strength and self determination.

Min. Tukufu Kalonji is Founder of Kawaida African Ministries,
For info contact @ tkalonji@hotmail.com



Black Indians - William Loren Katz

Katz explores the little-told story of black Indians--people with dual African and Native American ancestry or African Americans who lived primarily with Native Americans. Using fascinating biographies and detailed research, he creates a chronology of this hidden heritage during the settlement of the American West. Illustrations.

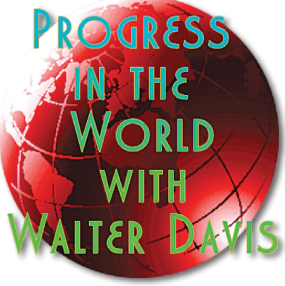
This is Africa's Hour

by Donald Kaberuka, AfDB President

The story of Africa since the Millennium is one of astounding growth. A continent-wide GDP of US \$600 billion in 2000 had reached US \$2.2 trillion in 2012. Seven of the world's ten fastest-growing economies are in Africa, and it will achieve 6.6% growth in 2013. 'The sleeping giant' is on its way, and the African trajectory continues upward, with a young and dynamic population. Africa is a global dynamo of opportunity, the world's new growth pole, and the final development and investment frontier. That said, we know that huge challenges remain: pockets of fragility, a lack of basic infrastructure, a disjointed regional economy, and the quest for truly shared and truly sustainable

growth.

Yet Africa is open for business, and organizations like the African Development Bank have laid so many of the foundations for trade, growth and investment. It has helped to build the networks of road, rail, water and electricity, to strengthen government institutions and fight corruption, to support education and skills. Development aid is part of the way ahead, especially if it is the precursor to the foreign and domestic private sector money that can, in turn, make the private sector into the engine of growth that will propel Africa further forward. The Bank can leverage US \$3 for every public sector dollar it receives, and US \$6 for every private sector dollar – this is "smart aid" at work through leveraging and mobilizing finance, as Africa takes hold of its own development destiny.



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Dr. Jack D. Forbes: Sovereignty, and Black Indians

by William Loren Katz

Dr. Jack D. Forbes of Powhatan-Renape, Lenape and Cherokee ancestry started the first Native American Studies Department in the country in 1969 at UC Davis. He went on to win awards for his probing studies of Native American History; taught in England and Holland and lectured widely from Canada to Japan, and Europe to the United States; and he wrote brilliantly on the relations between Native Americans and African Americans.

A few years before his death in 2011 at 77 we met on the airwaves during a lengthy Native American Radio broadcast discussing Black Indians in Native American history.

The program host brought up the legal efforts of leaders of the Seminole Nation and the Cherokee Nation to expel their African American members under the right of sovereignty. Dr. Forbes spoke forcefully and to the point. African Americans "are our brothers and sisters," he insisted. As members they also helped build and defend Indigenous Nations, and were staunch allies in war.

Dr. Forbes addressed the sovereignty issue by first affirming its critical importance in dealing with the United States. He then added: "Sovereignty does not trump justice, history or simple fairness." "It does not allow New Jersey, New Mexico or any other state to legally discriminate against its citizens because of their race, color, religion or anything else." That said it all.

I included his clear summary of the issue in last chapter (P. 236) of the 2012 revised edition of my Black Indians: A Hidden Heritage.

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KJLH Broadcast, Sends Ex-Gang Member to Rain Forest Maroons

by Phil Fixico

Hooray and Hallelujah,
 Yes, God is Good and Greatly, to be Praised! Again, I was allowed to speak for approximately 50 seconds on Mr. Stevie Wonder's Award winning radio show, "Frontpage". The continuing theme that I re-visited, was about the Maroon Women Chamber of Cooperation. It is a Cultural Initiative designed to improve social, educational and economic conditions among the Caribbean Islands and countries by using historic Maroon techniques of cooperation. I was blessed to have met her Excellency Dr. Fidelia Graand-Galon (Okanisi/Ndyuka) Suriname's Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago and Dr. Merina Jessamy-Edwards (Saamaka)

these meetings of course are both by electronic means. The charismatic Co-founder Mama G, Gloria Simms of the Trewlany Maroons of Jamiaca, is also a driving force in the group.

I started posting Blogs about my experiences concerning this positive movement in early December 2014. A detailed major article including photos, captions and a full copy of the signed "Memorandum of Cooperation", appeared in the January 2015 edition of <http://www.indianvoices.net>. Below is an approximate transcript of my KJLH Radio Station, "Frontpage" program statement:

"Good morning "Frontpage Family", Mr. Avi Bernard and Mr. Stevie Wonder! I have some local news. I must thank Mr. Stevie Wonder, for having a radio

station for the community. Recently on "Frontpage" I spoke about news coming out of our Caribbean Diaspora in the form of the "Maroon Women Chamber of Cooperation". As a result of my Activism as a North American Maroon descendant I have been chosen by the group to be sent to the Republic of Suriname in South America for "Maroon Day" in October of 2015. There I will meet the Rain Forest Maroon Chiefs of the 6 Maroon nations. This is of local importance, because I am a former L.A. Gang Member and Youthful Offender from Watts. I ask all Gang Members to turn your lives around.

"Through Warm Tears of Gratitude", Phil "Pompey Bruner" Fixico, North American Maroon.

Africans and Indians, Eating from the Same Pot: Generations of Shared Culture, Traditions, Language, Food and Music

Greetings!

The Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band is thrilled to announce its 2015 conference. The conference theme for this year's conference is "Africans and Indians, Eating from the same pot: Generations of shared culture, traditions, language, food and music." The conference will be held at Langston University Langston University; 4205 N. Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Friday, May 29, 2015 at 9:00 AM - Saturday, May 30, 2015 at 10:00 PM (OKC campus). The two day conference will focus on the history and plight of the African Indian Freedmen from all Five Tribes of Oklahoma, Indian Territory (Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Choctaw, and Seminole).

Activities and presentations will include genealogy workshops; a

Mvskoke language workshop; a presentation by the renowned Storyteller, Wallace Moore; presentations by scholars, lecturers, and attorneys; a panel discussion; and a presentation by the Urban League 'Young Professionals.' In addition, a special viewing of the MCIFB's documentary "Bloodlines" will be shown at the historic Paramount Theater, centrally located in downtown OKC, only minutes away from the historic Deep Deuce and Bricktown district. Other activities and a full list of speakers and presenters will be announced soon!

This conference supports the MCIFB's primary goal to enhance public awareness of Black Indian Freedmen and Native American cultures by educating our members, supporters, and the general public regarding the history and cultures of the two groups.

Our hope is that this conference will not only inspire seasoned researchers, but challenge young researchers as well.

Who should attend? Scholars, history buffs, genealogy societies, genealogists, family historians, beginner, intermediate, or experienced researchers, hobbyists, students, descendants of Black Indians, the general public, and anyone interested in learning more about the unique history of the Black Indians.

Registration includes all workshops, entertainment, lunch, special viewing of the MCIFB's documentary "Bloodlines" (showing at the Paramount Theater), and a banquet dinner on Saturday evening. You can purchase your tickets via Eventbrite at <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/africans-and-indians-eating-from-the-same-pot-generations-of-shared-culture-traditions-language-tickets>.

Blazing Trails

Phil Fixico continues to blaze the trail toward social justice and indigenous connectivity. His single minded commitment and research has not only increased the body of knowledge about our history but also formed a link from one of our strongest Maroon Nations. His determination to make this world a better place through education and understanding of Maroon resistance has developed a cultural bond and professional relationship with her Excellency Dr. Fidelia Graand-Galon, (Okanisi/Ndyuka) Suriname's Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago. Phi Fixico's academic resilience and transparency allows us to join him in his academic and cultural crusade.

San Diego Black Film Festival Debuts BBIA Flag

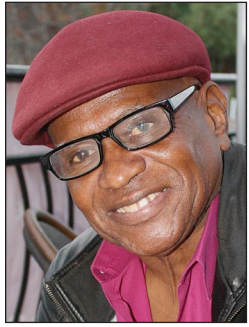
The gathering of principal Black-Indian Stake Holders at the United Artist theater for the viewing of By-Blood provided a symbiotic community network building opportunity.



Thomi Perryman, Marilyn Vann, John Vila, Rose Davis, Native Representative create cultural solidarity.

If You See A Good Fight Get In It

Movers and Shakers” of the 60’s Civil Rights Movement and Black History



by Dr. Willie Blair

Hello again and welcome to the great month of February that usually brings all sorts of celebrations and recognitions - large and small!

Everything from that little Groundhog fella - (Punxsutawney Phil) who threatens to bring 6 weeks of all types of “bad news weather” with his shadow business, to that Leap year stuff, to recognizing our first Prez - (G. Washington and the 16th Chief Executive - ole Abe Lincoln - the Great Emancipator - for our annual Presidents Day recognition)! And then there is the Fun stuff - the annual frolicking Mardi Gras - Fat Tuesday hoopla - to the time of “Roses and Candy” - Sweet-Hearts and Lovers ... ahhh - Valentines Day!

And last, but certainly not least - and celebrated “literally every day of the Month of February - is of course, Black History Month!” And in this Month’s version of my editorial column “If You See A Good Fight Get In It” I will point out some notable contributions of four “Movers and Shakers” of the 60’s Civil Rights Movement and Black History, who while they each were not ethnically a Black person, they still in their own way, greatly contributed to the advancement of Black People, and the uplift of all peoples during the Civil Rights era and in Black History!

The first individual Freedom Fighter is **Dean Smith** (1931-2015) - the former North Carolina Head Basketball Coach icon. “With the passing of North Carolina Head Basketball Coach Dean Smith, America lost not just a coaching legend, but a gentleman and a citizen” said President Obama recently. When he retired, Dean Smith had won more games than any other college basketball coach in collegiate history! He went to 11 Final Fours, won two national titles, and reared a generation of players who went on to do even better things elsewhere, including a young man named Michael Jordan; who later became “arguably” the best basketball player to ever lace up his sneakers! But now with his death, Dean Smith will equally be remembered for his towering contributions to social progress that has also become legendary on Chapel Hill! He was the first UNC Coach to offer a scholarship to a Black athlete (Charlie Scott). In fact, Coach Smith would accompany Scott and later on his other Black players, into restaurants and other public facilities, at a time in the 60’s when Blacks were not welcome to dine

or lodge there. His stern attitude was “if my Black player (s) are not welcome in your establishment, then I won’t dine or lodge here either!” Racist taunts aimed at the UNC Black players did not deter Coach Smith at a time in America and certainly in the South, where it was common fare! When asked why he took such a strong stance against Jim Crow racism, Smith responded “ It’s just the way that my parents raised me!” The great legendary coach and devoted Civil Rights devotee, was presented with the Medal of Freedom by President Obama before his passing!

Viola Liuzzo - Viola Liuzzo was of Italian and Unitarian Faith background. She was a dedicated Unitarian Universalist Civil Rights Activist from the State of Michigan. In March 1965 Liuzzo, then a housewife and Mother of 5 with a history of local activism, heeded the call of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and traveled from Detroit, Michigan to Selma, Alabama in the wake of Bloody Sunday, the attempt at marching across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Liuzzo participated in the successful Selma to Montgomery marches and helped with coordination and logistics. But while driving back from a trip shuttling fellow activists to the Montgomery airport, she was shot dead by members of the Ku Klux Klan. She was 39 years old at the time of her death - the same age of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X at the time of their respective assassinations ! Viola Liuzzo’s name is today inscribed on the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama - she was also enshrined in the State of Michigan’s Civil Rights Hall of Fame - and in the collective hearts of all true devotees of the American Civil Rights Movement!

Senator Robert F. “Bobby” Kennedy -1925 -1968 - was born in the Boston suburb of Brookline, Massachusetts. Since his early tenure into the political arena in the late 1950’s there was always one thing or another that separated Bobby from his older Brother Jack (J.F.K.) who eventually was elected President of the United States. And that was his more fervent belief that it was time to push harder for racial equality in the United States. Especially in the Deep South!

Sometimes disagreeing with his overly cautious brother the President, on civil rights matters, and also against a very un-sympathetic on race relations , but very powerful subordinate, F.B.I. Director. J.Edgar Hoover Bobby -as the then Attorney General, had his work to expand Human and Civil Rights cut out against him! But unlike his Brother,

SEE **Movers and Shakers**, page 13

Rincon Chairman Receives Award

Bo Mazzetti, chairman of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, was presented with the Fifth Annual Anna Sandoval Leadership Award at the Western Indian Gaming Conference’s Tribal Leaders’ luncheon, February 11, 2015, at Harrah’s Resort Southern California, in Valley Center, Ca.

Daniel Tucker, chairman of the California Nations Indian Gaming Association (CNIGA) presented the award on behalf of the association.

“Like Anna Sandoval, Chairman Mazzetti is a staunch supporter of tribal sovereignty and tribal government gaming. Rincon is always willing to back up their beliefs with action,” stated Tucker. An example is the bad faith lawsuit against former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, a six-year court battle that changed the rules for tribal state compact agreements, and was victorious at the United States Supreme Court.

“This is a serious honor and I am deeply moved,” said Mazzetti upon receipt of the award. Known for his friendly manner and easy humor, Mazzetti was recognized for the Rincon Band’s economic development under his leadership. Last year, the tribe completed a major \$200 million dollar expansion of its gaming property and name change from Harrah’s Rincon to Harrah’s Resort Southern California.

“We certainly deserve an award for courage and optimism, as we approved the funds for the Harrah’s expansion during the recession, when the local economy was in questionable condition,” noted Mazzetti, pointing out that the decision has proven to be good timing for today’s market.

Along with adding numerous award-winning resort amenities and features, the resort currently boasts the second largest number of guest rooms in San Diego

County and nationally recognized brands like Starbucks, Pinks Hot Dogs, and the Earle of Sandwich. The tribe’s investment portfolio includes a number of diverse product companies, not located on the reservation, and a Travel Plaza on the Rincon reservation, featuring the first 7-Eleven franchise with an American Indian tribe and a Subway restaurant.

Mazzetti has been instrumental in shouldering the 46-year-old San Luis Rey River water battle to return a share of water to five north county tribes—river water that was diverted in the early 1900’s, devastating the tribes’ agriculture and commercial resources. The water was given away illegally by the Federal government—an action that the tribes and involved water districts have been working to correct with a compromise settlement.

“We are expecting approval of a bill in the Congress this year that will bring to an end years of costly litigation, complicated negotiations, and frustration,” he explained.

While an advocate of Indians in high-level executive office in the governor’s cabinet, Mazzetti urged tribal leaders to invest more time and energy in meeting with each other “face to face.”

“We need to meet as tribal leaders without lawyers, and lobbyists, and other staff” to discuss our issues and come to consensus. That’s the old way, the Indian way, and we need to get back to it, talking to each other as leaders, not through others.”

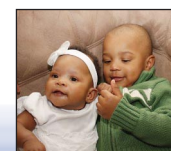
True to his word, Mazzetti has been active in exporting the example of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association (SCTCA) to the Northern and Central regions of California, to create an active advocate in local regions, as well as tribal leadership conduit for statewide issues and cooperation.

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Building a Community in the Spirit of Roy Cook

Dear Readers ... it is with an extremely heavy heart that we learned of the recent passing of Roy Cook, our writer, community advocate, and spiritual guide who navigated our walk through two worlds. He was all about building community. This page is a collage of humanity dedicated to Roy Cook who touched so many in the urban community while shining the path to the traditions of our indigenous culture represented by the various reservations connecting us.



Soaring Eagle Dance Workshop

by Roy Cook



This 2/11/15 workshop gathering continues to demonstrate the surge of new families and children with the interest and commitment to attend the Soaring Eagle dance workshops. Respected Elder Randy Edmonds was emotionally affected by recent events and he asked John Hood to provide the blessing. John also spoke to the unique opportunity this gathering offers to the San Diego Native American youth and greater community. We were



pleased to welcome back Ms. Mara Peters and Ms. Dina Apple with Tami Arashio with their news and views of their areas of involvement to the SE workshop circle of friends.

The pot luck meal was comfort food and a very delicious level. Meat loaf,

mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables was served to all the attendees. Additionally, there were donuts and Camille's Girl Scout cookies to purchase and share for all to enjoy. Here are views of some of our contest PHILLIPS Bar-B-que \$50 meal donated by Abel Jacome and 50/50 bootstrap pot luck fund. The winner, Brenda Torres, returned it back in a very generous gesture. Aho.



We continue to appreciate and thank the drum for the songs and all who contributed to this healthy pot luck winter feast. The Soaring Eagles also will appreciate any voluntary donations that will benefit the community potluck feed.

By example these pictures will demonstrate views of our instructor, elders, parents and new and young Soaring Eagle dancers from the 2/11/15 Soaring Eagle Dance workshop at the SDUSD Ballard center in Old Town San Diego. The Ballard Center location is in Old Town: San Diego Unified School District, SDUSD at Ballard Parent Center 2375 Congress St. San Diego, CA 92110.



For more information regarding the SOARING EAGLES please contact:
 Vickie Gambala 619-266-2887
 vickiegambala@gmail.com
 Jennifer Garcia 619-540-4688
 mariposa2172@yahoo.com
 Carla Tourville 619-743-9847



carlatourville@yahoo.com

Our next Ballard center SE workshop is on 2/28/15.

The workshop also continues to encourage the continuity of our tribal cultures and is bound up in the wisdom lessons of traditional life. The wisdom of the traditional role of RESPECT was the theme of heartfelt lessons from tribal life. This new month continues to be a good time to review dance regalia and adjust for growth or wear. However to avoid past disappointments, caution was expressed when ordering outfits that required a large up-front deposit and a murky delivery time.

In these times of health and winter trials it is our constant spiritual message to pray for all my relations. May the Creator bless you all and your family, Mehan, Aho.





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*Tribal TANF is a program for Native American families residing in San Diego County and select areas of Santa Barbara County. One member of the household must be able to provide proof of ancestry with a Federally Recognized tribe or provide proof of descendency from the California Judgment Rolls.



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- * You must live on or near one of the 12 Kumeyaay Indian Reservations in San Diego County.
- * You must have a physical or mental impairment that creates difficulty with obtaining or maintaining employment
- * You must require vocational rehabilitation services to achieve and maintain gainful employment.

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15,000 Americans Tell Federal Reserve 'No Thanks!' on TBTF Bank Merger of CIT Group and OneWest Bank

Proposed Bank Merger Sets New Record for Number of Americans Opposing

Yesterday, California community advocates, along with the Daily Kos, delivered over 15,000 petitions to the Federal Reserve, setting a new record for the number of individuals opposing a bank merger. The petition signers are urging the Fed to not approve of a proposed merger of CIT Group and OneWest Bank, which would create the newest Too Big To Fail bank.

Advocates also gave the Federal Reserve a letter signed by 51 national and state organizations, urging the Fed to hold public hearings on the proposed merger, citing concerns about regulatory capture, unpaid bank bailouts, the FDIC paying OneWest for foreclosure costs,

and systemic risks created by the merger. Organizations calling for public hearings include: The National Housing Resource Center, National People's Action (NPA), PolicyLink, Public Citizen, Courage Campaign, The Other 98%, US PIRG, National Consumer Law Center, and The California Alliance for Retired Americans.

"Over 15,000 Americans who signed the Daily Kos petition are angry that banks like CIT Group received billions while ordinary Americans lost their homes. We're calling on the Federal Reserve to not approve of this merger, to not repeat the same mistakes again, and to not create another Too Big To Fail bank" commented Paul Hogarth, campaign director at Daily Kos.

"During the past two years, CIT Group spent over \$6,000 a day lobbying for less regulation. The irony of a bank

that needed a \$2.3 billion loan from taxpayers, but then couldn't pay back that loan, and who is now spending millions lobbying for less regulation, is not lost on our communities. How can the Fed ignore over 15,000 people opposing this merger? No more regulatory capture. No more rubber-stamped mergers. And no more communities and taxpayers picking up the tab for bank misbehavior!" added Paulina Gonzalez, executive director at CRC.

The proposed merger would result in a bank with nearly \$70 billion in assets and is the first time a bank merger would result in the creation of a Systemically Important Financial Institution, more commonly referred to as a Too Big To Fail bank.

"This merger is the poster-child for income inequality and bank bailouts gone bad. How can regulators justify to the American Public approving of this merger when there has been such much harm caused to communities, so much public subsidy provided to the two banks, and yet, no clear public benefit from the merger?" asked Kevin Stein, associate director of the California Reinvestment Coalition.

"My husband obtained a reverse mortgage that was serviced by OneWest Bank. When he passed away, OneWest sent appraisers to our home before we even had his funeral. Since then, I've tried to work with them to keep the home, but it's been a lot of back and forth with scheduled sale dates, then postponements, then new scheduled sale dates. My house was scheduled to be sold yesterday, but then last Friday the bank postponed the sale for another month. As you can imagine, it's a roller coaster of emotions for me" said Jan Cooper, a 74-year-old Anaheim resident who lives on Social Security.

"Our mother had a reverse mortgage serviced by OneWest. Even before she passed away, we contacted OneWest, but they refused to work with us as we tried

to pay off the reverse mortgage in order to keep our family home. As a result, they took her house in November. How many other families have to go through this nightmare before the regulators act? The Federal Reserve needs to do its homework on this merger and talk to other families like ours who have been harmed by OneWest" commented Michelle Ayers and her sister, Mary Dambacher, who live in North Fort Meyers, Florida.

The national sign-on letter outlines some of the more troubling issues with the merger, including:

Regulatory capture: The Propublica/This American Life story about regulator capture heightened concerns about the Federal Reserve coddling the banks it is charged with regulating. Advocates believe this merger is the first test-case for the Federal Reserve to demonstrate that it prioritizes communities and taxpayers over banks and Wall Street.

Communities paying for bank mistakes: In addition to the \$13 billion price tag for IndyMac's failure, advocates are also concerned about the cost shouldered by local California governments for an estimated 35,000 OneWest foreclosures, the \$2.3 billion in TARP funds that CIT Group accepted and never paid back, and CIT Group's plan to reduce its taxes after the merger by using its Net Operating Loss from its 2009 bankruptcy.

Outsized executive compensation: Despite a proposed Community Benefit and Reinvestment plan that would rank the new bank near the bottom of its peers, the proposed merger includes generous compensation for bank officers and investors. The new bank's CEO would receive \$12.5 million in restricted stock in addition to his \$4.5 million annual salary. The Executive Vice Chairman could collect his \$4.5 million annual salary for part-time work, as he would also be allowed to continue running his hedge fund.



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Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue Conference to be Held March 20

Restoring Respect will be holding its 4th Annual Conference on Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue on March 20 at the Joan Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego. The theme this year is “Celebrating

Luna, a San Diego Mesa College professor who co-chairs Restoring Respect and directs the Institute for Civil Civic Engagement. “Civic dialogue at all levels of American society has become increasingly fractured, negative and dysfunctional. Our hope with projects like this is to help give our students the skills they need to be more productive participants in needed community dialogues.”

The Celebrating Civility Awards are sponsored by the United Way of San Diego County, U-T San Diego and the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council. Also involved are the National Conflict Resolution Center, Cal State University San Marcos, the League of Women Voters San Diego North County, Point Loma Nazarene University, the University of San Diego, the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) and the Independent Voter Project.

National Conflict Resolution Center Director Steven Dinkin will be the conference’s keynote speaker. He has directed the National Conflict Resolution Center since 2003 and is co-chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the San Diego County Bar Association. The National Conflict Resolution Center works with law enforcement and the judicial system to provide and promote collaborative dispute resolution and conflict management services to individuals and organizations.

Before coming to the National Conflict Resolution Center, Dinkin served for several years as an employment and workplace mediator at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and other federal agencies.

Other speakers and panelists include the Rev. George Walker Smith, founder of the Catfish Club of San Diego and co-chair of Restoring Respect; SDUSD

Superintendent Cindy Marten; Dr. Mary Lyons, President of USD; Dr. Constance M. Carroll, Chancellor of the SDCCD; and Dr. Mary Walshok, Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Programs and Dean of Extension at UC San Diego.

Reality Changers founder Christopher Yanov will be the speaker at the luncheon held after the conference for student nominees, their parents, and faculty and staff from participating high schools. Reality Changers is a San Diego-based nonprofit that mentors and tutors at-risk, high school students aspiring to become first-generation college students. He recently was named one of the most-admired CEOs by the San Diego Business Journal and one of the region’s new civic power brokers by San Diego Magazine.

The March 20 conference is scheduled to run from 9 a.m. to noon, with registration beginning at 8 a.m. It will be held at USD’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, 5998 Alcala Park, in San Diego. The event is free and open to the public.

The Conference on Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue is a product of

Restoring Respect, a community initiative that aims to bring civility back to the political process and issues of public importance. It was established by the San Diego Community College District, USD’s School of Leadership and Educational Sciences, the Catfish Club and others. The first Restoring Civility to Civic Dialogue was held in 2012, and Restoring Respect’s efforts have since evolved into the Institute for Civil Civic Engagement. For more information visit: www.sandiego.edu/restoringrespect

As the second-largest of California’s 72 community college districts, the San Diego Community College District serves approximately 100,000 students annually through three two-year colleges and San Diego Continuing Education. The three colleges, San Diego City College, San Diego Mesa College, and San Diego Miramar College, offer associate degrees and certificates in occupational programs that prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and entry-level jobs. Beginning fall 2015, Mesa College will also offer baccalaureate degrees in the field of Health Information Management.



San Diego Mesa College professor Carl Luna at the 2014 Restoring Respect Conference.

Civility,” and Restoring Respect, in partnership with the San Diego Unified School District and the Institute for Civil Civic Engagement, will present the first in an annual series of Celebrating Civility Awards: Creating Civility on Our Campuses and In Our Community.

All seniors at high schools in the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) have been invited to participate in this new scholarship awards program. Through essays, video, multimedia platforms, or art, seniors are being asked to reflect on what civility means and how can it be advanced on their campuses and in their communities. One student from each high school will be nominated as a finalist, and the top three student entries will receive cash scholarship awards. The nominated students will be honored at the Restoring Respect conference and the scholarship winners will be announced.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to get our next generation of citizens and community leaders to think about issues of civility in our society,” stated Carl

Community

Continued from page 2

time people have responded and come to the rescue.

Without community, exhibits that I created for the inspiration of humanity, would never have come together. Never seen the light of day.

It is community in the form of family, friends, neighbors and strangers that make life full and possible. Have you ever needed something and could not on your own figure it out or get it done. We all have from the first minute we are born into this world to the last breath we breathe.

Looking at the definition of community is any size of social unit that shares a common value. Thank goodness my parents, a social unit of two, shared a common value to feed me.

Thank goodness my neighborhood shared a common value to watch out for one another, or the time I watched out for them, as a kid climbing into my neighbors window to wake the old man from sleep as a fire raged in his kitchen, surely he would have died.

The list of community support in in my life has been so blessed and the list so long it would take forever to write. For even a priceless smile from a stranger when I was feeling low was often enough to wake my heart and remind me of the intrinsic beauty of being alive.

Community is all we truly have, each and every one of us could not exist without it, no man or woman is an island to themselves. All that we are is the result of someone who cared enough to share, give and love.

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Legendary Rapper MC Lyte is Honored by the Hip Hop Sisters Foundation



MC Lyte's DJ, Kenny Lattimore, Faith Evans, MC Lyte, Kelly Price, Constance "mother of MC Lyte", Member, Lynn Richardson, Lamman Rucker and Micci Gilbert.

Photo and Article by Rochelle Porter

Hip Hop Sister Foundation celebrate FIRSTS for MC Lyte in Beverly Hills, CA, on February 5, 2015 at the PORTA VIA restaurant.

FIRST rap artist to perform at New York's historic Carnegie Hall

FIRST female rapper to ever receive a gold single

FIRST female solo rapper ever nominated for a Grammy

FIRST African American to serve as President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Recording Academy/ Grammy Organization.

Several family members "HHSF" and guest were present to show their love and appreciation to MC Lyte for being a

very loving and caring person first and foremost. Her personal accomplishments seem to come second or third after family, friend, and her foundation The Hip Hop Sisters Foundation. I personally have been to and a part of foundations that help our youth but, the Hip Hop Sisters Foundation tops them all in giving to our youth and laying a wonderful path for the best and the brightest to achieve their dreams. If I never get the opportunity to be in the presence of this wonderful lady again in my lifetime I will never forget her kindness and how special I felt to be in the presence of so many devoted and caring successful artists. Blessed and Highly favored I am.

South Bronx Tale

From Hip Hop to Mambo: A South Bronx Tale, tells a story about the creative life of the South Bronx, beginning with the Puerto Rican migration and the adoption of Cuban rhythms to create the New York salsa sound; continuing with the fires that destroyed the neighborhood, but not the creative spirit of its people; chronicling the rise of hip-hop from the ashes; and ending with reflections on the power of the neighborhood's music to ensure the survival of several generations of its residents.

"Wattstax - 30th Anniversary Special Edition" where half a million people gathered together to hear and celebrate with some of the nations most acclimated

cultural workers in celebration of Black Power. To tell the truth, the proof of success lies in a whole social structure being changed from the bottom up. The extraordinary importance of this change is that it is willed, called for, demanded. The need for this change exists in its crude state, impetuous and compelling, in the consciousness, creativity and expression of the men and women who are colonized. The yearnings for freedom rooted deep within the hearts and minds of the people oftentimes find their most vibrant expression in the music and dance, in the creativity of the individual that percolates up through the oppression and despair and becomes a means for individual uplift and then takes hold amongst the masses and furthers the transformation of repressive societies.

Building Community

by Katarina Wittich

Building community has come into my life in the last three months in a rich and beautiful form I never could have imagined. I saw the opportunity to create an ecstatic dance class in my neighborhood, and I took it, knowing nothing about how to do it, just knowing it was something that was needed. It's been a steep learning curve and tons of work but it is slowly growing and it is clear that the community wants this. I see it as a place for humans of all origins, ages and creeds to come together and celebrate their humanity and their connection with all living beings. I especially want

to reach young people because I think it can be a life altering experience to discover dance as a way to be joyfully connected physically, without the numbing of drugs or alcohol in clubs and bars. To form community that is fun and also spiritual and deep. Ecstatic dance is a form of dance church, freeform dance from the inside out, as if no one was watching and you are simply dancing the river of life that flows through you. It is a source of profound joy and connection to the universe and to oneself and to one's tribe on the dance floor. Its a way of building a community larger and more inclusive than any that we are born into. On the dance floor we are all family!!!

Yvette Porter-Moore is a Professional Genealogist & Family Historian, and is the owner of Root Digger Genealogy Research Services.

Ms. Porter-Moore is available for speaking presentations and writing assignments.

You can catch Yvette online at

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Movers and Shakers

Continued from page 7

now the late President J.F.K., the now U.S. Senator and soon-to-be front runner for President of the United States, Bobby Kennedy made a strong civil rights agenda part of the linch pin of his main Presidential campaign. Especially after winning with huge margins the primaries of such key battleground states of Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, and South Carolina during the Presidential campaign of June 1968 . and of course with the help of massive voter turn-out among Black voters in those aforementioned battle ground states! Evidently, powerful Black leaders did not forget that during the mostly violent struggle for education and voting rights in the early to mid-60s, it was mainly RFK as Attorney General, who vehemently pushed his (President Brother and later successor L.B.J. and F.B.I. Director J. Edgar Hoover, to use maximum federal force and pressure to protect the largely non-violent Civil Rights marchers and protestors that were principally led by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Robert Kennedy spoke endlessly about the urgent need to redistribute America's vast wealth to the poor and marginalized groups in America; as he felt that this economic shift of national resources would also achieve more racial harmony in the long run! These and other bold moves that this young 42

year old Presidential aspirant advocated, was summed up in his constant citing of the great quote that he often used in speeches from the venerable George Bernard Shaw, who once said: "You see things as they are and you say why; I dream of things that never were; and I say why not!"

And yet there is another more profound (almost prophetic) and almost "chillingly" vision given by the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy when he said just before his death in 1968 " Within 40 years after I have left this earth - I envision that a Black Man will be elected President of the United States!

Eleanor Roosevelt - (Anna) Eleanor Roosevelt - was an American politician, diplomat and activist. She was the longest -serving First Lady of the United States, holding the post from March 1933 - to April 1945 during her husband, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's four terms in office. Though widely respected in her later years, Eleanor was quite a controversial First Lady for her outspokenness, particularly her stance on racial issues. Eleanor soon became an important connection for Franklin's administration to the African American population during the segregation era. Despite the Presidents desire to placate Southern sentiment, Eleanor was vocal in her support of the African American civil rights movement. After her inspections of the New Deal programs in Southern states, she concluded that the New Deal programs

were discriminating against African Americans, who received a disproportionately small share of relief moneys. Eleanor became one of the only voices in the Roosevelt White House insisting that benefits be equally extended to Americans of all races!

Eleanor also broke with precedent by inviting hundreds of African American guests to the White House. And when the racist White House staff refused them entrance - Eleanor Roosevelt "personally" led them through the door! And when the great Black Singer Marian Anderson, was denied the use of Washington's Constitution Hall in 1939 by the Daughter's of the American Revolution, Eleanor resigned from the group in protest and helped arrange another concert for Marian on the Steps

of the Lincoln Memorial! Eleanor also arranged the appointment of African American educator Mary McLeod Bethune, with whom she had struck up a friendship, as the Director of the Division of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration. She later lobbied for more stringent anti-lynching laws, more jobs for Black men and women in the factories that were building the armaments that were being sent to our fighting forces in the European and Pacific Theaters during World War II. It has been said repeatedly, that First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, did more to advance the plight of the Negroes in the United States, than all of the U.S. Presidents in U.S. History combined - including the 4 terms served by husband Franklin Delano Roosevelt himself!



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Protecting our Public Land

Protecting Nevada's wilderness, public lands, air quality, and beautiful landmarks has been one of my top priorities in Congress. Commitment to the conservation of Nevada's most precious resources means increasing the development of clean energy technology and decreasing our dependence on fuel sources that hurt our environment like coal. That is why I am excited to learn the Reid-Gardner coal plant retired three of its four boilers last month.

For years the Moapa Band of Paiutes endured the consequences of breathing

dangerous pollution from the Reid-Gardner coal plant. Since its construction near the tribe's reservation in 1965, it has been one of the major contributors to pollution in southern Nevada and a likely contributor to the contraction of respiratory diseases in the area. Its closure is a significant step toward Nevada taking control of its energy future and it is symbolic of Nevada's commitment to the health and well-being of its inhabitants. I am pleased that Nevadans and its leaders united to stand up for the Moapa Band

and create new opportunities for the tribe.

To truly recognize Nevada's energy potential we must replace Reid-Gardner with clean energy that will protect the air we breathe and drive our economy forward. Our dedication to clean energy has created thousands of jobs in Nevada and allowed for billions of dollars to be invested in our state. In 2009, I worked with the Interior Secretary to develop a process to expedite clean energy projects on public lands. Nearly fifty large-scale energy projects have been authorized since 2009 as a result. Together, these projects generate enough electricity power 3.4 million homes across the country and I am working with the

President to double the amount of renewable energy generate in Nevada by 2020.

The future of energy in Nevada lies with our ability to develop our solar, wind and geothermal resources and rid ourselves of our dependence on dirty fossil fuels that harm our planet. Not only does clean reliable energy keep our air breathable and limit the amount of greenhouse gasses released into the atmosphere, but the investment in domestic renewable energy also limits our dependence on foreign oil. I remain committed to a clean renewable energy future for Nevada and I will continue to fight policies and institutions that stand in our way.

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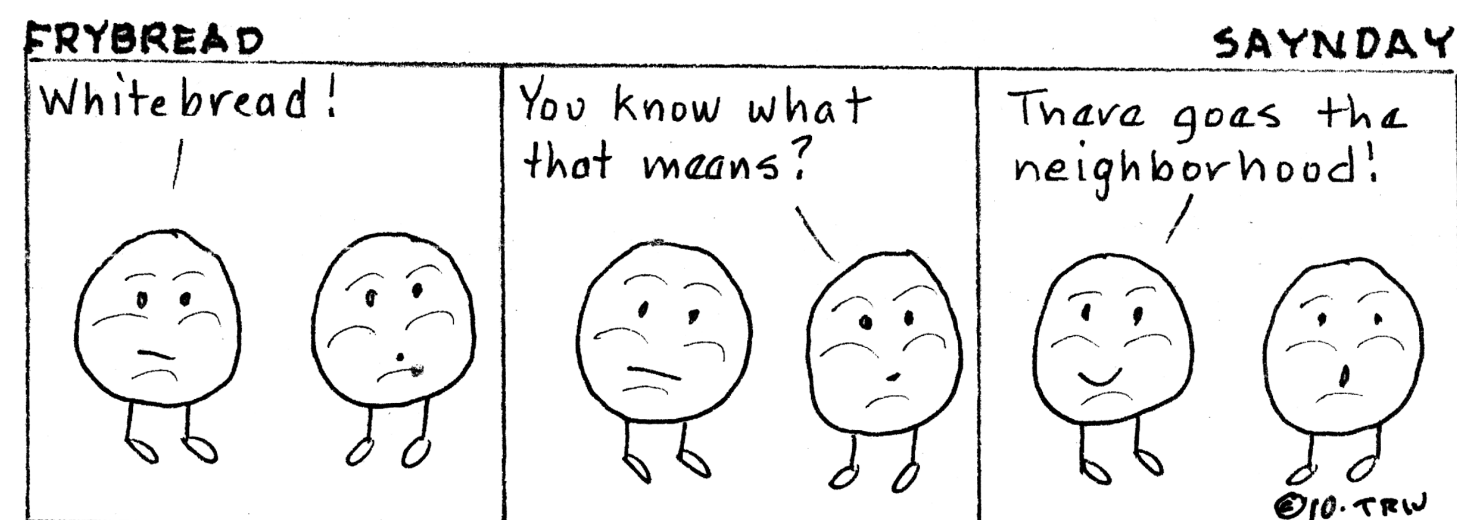
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