



INDIAN VOICES

OUR 37TH YEAR

MULTI-CULTURAL NEWS GLOBAL NETWORK

FEBRUARY 2023

Rebuilding TRUST in an Age of Disinformation

California News Publishers Association Steps up to the Plate

by Rose Davis

There is something inherently American about newspapers. Charles Ford Champion, CEO of the California News Publishers Association (CNPA) radiates this cultural connection as he oversees and skillfully manages the organization. Perhaps it was his attachment to newspapers in his youth as a newspaper delivery boy that bonded him to the vocation he pursued in his adult professional life. Whatever the case, it seems perfectly natural that Chuck Champion is leading the way and shining a light on contemporary journalism and media in order to return fact-based storytelling and journalism to its traditional role in our democracy (see the story on CNPA Conference on page 11).

As history has taught us, the

powerful elite doesn't take kindly to intrusions on its proclaimed domain. Witness the legions of our Mexican brethren who have been killed for doing their jobs of revealing the truth about their oppression just to the south of us and the journalists who have been incarcerated and silenced internationally. In order for CNPA to launch a sustainable and effective campaign to fulfill the role of defanging corporate control of the media, Chuck Champion is going to need allies. Recognizing this, he has astutely and publicly reached out to the community of journalists at large, particularly journalists of color and other natural allies. It is going to take all flavors to whip up a storytelling cocktail powerful enough to unnerve the autocratic power elite. A rejuvenated Jim Hightower lurks in the

wings with a renewed vigor and acerbic wit. Just as importantly, he brings to the table his network of change agents, such as Ralph Nader and Chris Hedges, who can offer a roadmap of possible solutions, as well as a lifelong commitment to amplifying the truth, which can be a source of inspirational medicine. Community journalists all over the country, such as Clovis Honore in San Diego, are on alert to lend their spiritual and intellectual fire power to the cause. Jerry Ashton of Let's Rethink This is waiting for a cue.



Grand Rising of Truth on the battlefield of thought, where the campaign for truth and democracy never ends. She was honored to give the opening remarks to launch the CapCon 2023 Conference.

This is America, where we can still

SEE **California News Publishers**, page 2

Run With the Sun Episode 3: "Mountains of the East and the Haudenosaunee"

by Bobby Wallace

The sweet smell of the pines, the salty air, and the balsam were intensely strong. To me, it was like running in a box full of medicine.

Out of respect, my friend from Canada began the first strides upon the dirt road heading west, leaving the West Quoddy lighthouse. I looked back to see Ray, the lighthouse, and the deep blue of the big water, the Atlantic Ocean, slowly vanishing.

As we drove down the road, everyone drank what they could before it was their turn to run five miles in this first leg. There was little talk, but I imagine everyone was thinking about the water surge, the songs of the Passamaquoddy women, the eagle, and the feathers. I imagine they were wondering what was their "part in life" in praying for this at this time. They were probably also wondering where the sun was, where the stars were.

While they all had smiles, there was a very serious and stoic look about them. For me, I just took it all in and was happy that I could see such strength in these special

people I was with.

Too soon, I heard, "Bobby, you're up," so I grabbed my white bandana with red roses on it, jumped out of the van, and said, "See you guys later and have fun!"

After stretching for a minute, I started off slowly, thinking that the corner of California and Mexico was far, hoping to trick my mind into thinking that five miles was nothing. We were as far east as you could go. As I went down the road, people were honking and waving and looked happy to see someone running. Then again, maybe it was all the people from the lighthouse or maybe people up there were a little different, more friendly, not afraid to see someone doing something good, not afraid to honk their horns, give a little wave and just be friendly.



As I ran the hills, I could see all the big green rolling hills far in the distance, so five miles really didn't seem that far. I was thinking of all the people back home, the ones who had traveled on and the ones who are coming to this world that we don't know yet. The smell

of the balsam was so strong I could feel it enter my nose, and as I exhaled, I could really taste the medicine taste of it in my mouth. I wondered if the people from there felt the same, or was it normal? Were they used to it?

I came to the end of my part of the run and waited at the pink medicine wheel that was painted with powder paint on the road as a sign for me to stop. It was a great run, and I felt really good. As our support vehicle approached, I wondered how everyone else was doing and hoped everyone was feeling like I did. I jumped in, and we

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Books Banned Across The Country

PEN America reports that between July 2021 and June 2022, nearly 1,700 book titles have been banned across the country — with books written by or about people of color and queer people disproportionately singled out. The magnitude of this assault on our children's right to learn cannot be overstated. But most voters who tune into politics once every two or four years for an election are not likely to be aware that the classics of their childhood, written by Black authors like Toni Morrison or Zora Neale Hurston, or work by a new generation of brilliant writers like Ta-Nehisi Coates and Jason Reynolds are being removed from the shelves of school libraries.

At first glance, the act of suppressing “freedom knowledge” might not feel as urgent as the reimposition of racist voter restrictions. When bad actors try to change the rules at the ballot box to extend their power, we can see how

democracy suffers. But when they go after the stories and experiences of traditionally marginalized citizens, when they try to separate “Black history” from “American history” — ignoring how violence and repression in our past have weakened our entire democracy — it can be harder to see how these actions leave us at risk of losing the democratic experiment.

What a truthful accounting of history would teach us about the current political moment is that suppression of votes and the silencing of voices have always been deeply intertwined. What we know from the overthrow of Reconstruction and from every battle since over who is a legitimate stakeholder in this democracy is that violence, changing the rules and placing some voters under threat and suspicion are the staples of racial tyranny in our country.

After Centuries Of Stealing Land, The U.S. Govt Is Actually Inviting Tribes To Help Manage It

Biden is laying the groundwork for a seismic shift in public land management — one that treats tribes as partners instead of an afterthought.

Last April, in a farm field in eastern Virginia, Ann Richardson gathered with a few hundred people for a celebration. It wasn't a

party, though. Several people were crying. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland was there. She was crying, too.

“I can't really describe it,” Richardson said of that day's event, which took place along the shores of the Rappahannock River. “Incredible. Surreal. Emotional.”

“I felt like we were surrounded by ancestors who had lived there thousands of years ago. We were standing in their hopes and their dreams for their people.”

Richardson is the chief of the Rappahannock Tribe, and on that Friday afternoon, her tribe took back more than 460 acres of ancestral land along the river that shares her tribe's name. Last month, her tribe reclaimed another 960 acres of



its homeland, too.

It took 350 years. It took survival, after her tribe was forced off of its homeland by English settlers in the 1600s, virtually erased by white supremacists in the 1900s and endured centuries of persecution sanctioned by the U.S.

government.

It also took a new kind of partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as the Biden administration forges ahead with what it hopes will spur a seismic shift in the way the government approaches managing public lands: inviting tribes to be co-stewards of the land their ancestors were forcibly or illegally removed from by the government.

Since President Joe Biden took office, Haaland and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack have signed off on nearly two dozen co-stewardship agreements with tribes. There are another 60 co-stewardship agreements in various

California News Publishers

Continued from page 1

meet publicly, express grievances and frustration with the federal government within the confines of elegance and civility assured by an economic system that has many issues. We need to be free from the problems that negatively impact the system in order to correct them to assure that the wealth is distributed with equity and fairness. We are far off the mark at this juncture.

The Fourth Estate has not lived up to its responsibility. If this is due to poor leadership, we don't have that excuse any more. With the help of CNPA, we have our collective strength to lead ourselves out of this uncomfortable, dangerous chaos. As pampered people, we should not be lulled into complacency; however, we are at war.

It is up to journalists and the media to tone down the divisive, polarizing rhetoric. Individually, we are sensitive, creative, vulnerable, honest, patriotic citizens. Together, we are strong

defenders of America and the Great American Experiment and our people. We need each other to do the job. Corruption and greed are powerful adversaries, and as colonized people, if we are not diligent, we will fall prey to their intent.

Our nation was built on the ideals of the Native American collective culture, whose influence is immeasurable. The founders who wrote our U.S. Constitution, based on their democratic ideals, were influenced by the Native American way of government.

The Iroquois Constitution, also known as the Great Law of Peace, is a great oral narrative that documents our formation as a nation. This indigenous creation story is baked into our collective identity and the Great American Experiment. It is one of the many miracles endowed upon us by the Ancestors, and it drives the central narrative of the struggle that we are in. Those of us who are to the wall with Chuck Champion and CNPA believe in miracles, and we believe in America.

stages of review involving 45 tribes. Haaland and Vilsack launched this effort in November 2021 with a joint secretarial order directing relevant agencies to make sure their decisions on public lands fulfilled trust obligations with tribes. In November 2022, the Commerce Department signed onto their order as well.

The Fish and Wildlife Service, the

National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management have since produced a co-stewardship guidance document, too.

To make sure their mandate trickled down to the practical, day-to-day activities of their tens of thousands of federal employees, Haaland's and Vilsack's order specifically requires that co-stewardship efforts be discussed in individual employee performance reviews.



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NAJA Accepting Applications For Pacific Islander Journalism Scholarship With AAJA

Applications due May 1, 2023
at 11:59 p.m. HST

NORMAN, OK — The Native American Journalists Association and the Asian American Journalists Association are welcoming applications for a scholarship to support Pacific Islander students and journalists in their careers.

The funding is intended to help Indigenous peoples of the Pacific, including Polynesians, Micronesians and Melanesians, pursue careers in journalism, especially in the U.S. and U.S.-affiliated Pacific islands.

The scholarship was created with support from The Omidyar Group and is administered by NAJA. It was created in partnership with the AAJA's Pacific Islander Task Force as part of the group's commitment to supporting Pacific Islanders in journalism.

The goal is to improve Oceania representation and storytelling in the news media industry.

Up to two scholarships of \$5,000 each will be awarded this year. The funding can be used for a variety of needs, including but not limited to:

- Funding salary and related expenses to enable students to take summer internships at news organizations.
- Subsidizing tuition for students who are pursuing higher education and intend to pursue journalism as a career.
- Paying student loan balances for journalists who are working at news organizations.
- Funding professional development and training opportunities.

Applications can be submitted online here. Given the broad potential uses of the money, applicants should specify how they intend to use the funds and fulfill the mission of the scholarship fund. The deadline is May 1, 2023.

In addition to the funding, recipients will receive membership to NAJA or AAJA.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to the fund via NAJA here. Donors should add a note specifying the money is intended for the Pacific Islander Journalists Scholarship.

If you have any questions about applying to this fund or making a tax-deductible donation to it, please contact NAJA Education Manager Sheena Roetman at sroetman@naja.com.



Airwaves Belong to the People

The airwaves belong to the people. Yet the U.S. government gives them away to television and radio broadcasters for free, and demands virtually nothing in return.

We have forfeited many of the means of mass communication to concentrated corporate interests, consigning ourselves to homogenized low-grade entertainment and lower-grade copy-cat “newstainment” that barely aspires to inform let alone energize our eroding democracy. The major television networks are owned by giant conglomerates – General Electric, Disney, Viacom, Fox, Time Warner. Radio is even worse, with Infinity and Clear Channel dominating the airwaves.

Yet technology keeps offering us new opportunities to learn from the past, and ensure that new media deepen our democracy and serve public, noncommercial interests.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has recently authorized non-commercial low power FM radio broadcasts. Low power FM (LPFM) has the potential to strengthen community organization and enrich public life, by permitting genuinely local broadcasting to serve the needs of local audiences.

The powerful National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) is trying to block LPFM. The NAB hopes to leverage its enormous political influence to slip a provision to block the FCC's authorization of LPFM into a “rushed-through-Congress-at-the-end-of-the-legislative-year” funding” bill.

The NAB wants to make sure that grassroots challenges to its dominance of the airwaves do not emerge.

One news director doesn't bother to cover poor neighborhoods because they “might as well be in another dimension.” Another dimension, he means, from the wealthier audience.

The NAB contends that low power stations will interfere with the quality of existing stations' sound. But the FCC, which is not known for hostility to the industry it regulates with kid gloves, has concluded that its licensing arrangement for LPFM will not cause unacceptable levels of interference to existing radio stations.

There is every reason to rely on the FCC's assessment rather than the NAB's. But it comes as no surprise that political decisions in Washington are often made on factors other than the merits, and there is now a serious risk that Congress will override the FCC's plan. In the Senate, Senator Rod Grams, R-Minnesota, has introduced S. 3020, which would drastically scale back the FCC's plan and is similar to a bill that passed the House of Representatives in April. Senator Judd Gregg, R-New Hampshire, has introduced a bill, S.2068, that would eliminate LPFM entirely. The greatest legislative threat, however, probably is posed by the possibility that anti-LPFM language will be inserted into a funding bill. That is the kind of backroom dealmaking in which NAB-style fat-cat lobbyists specialize.

Whether a tiny fragment of the public's airwaves will be returned to the public for LPFM depends now on whether the public is ready to assert its interests. Call your senators, and tell them not to interfere with LPFM. A working democracy requires some public control of the means of communication.

For more information on LPFM and for breaking legislative news, contact the Media Access Project at (202) 232-4300, or check their web page at www.mediaaccess.org.

Crazy Horse Prophecy

The great Lakota Chief Crazy Horse prophesied, “Upon suffering beyond suffering, the Red Nation shall rise again, and it shall be a blessing for a sick world.

“A world filled with broken promises, selfishness and separations. A world longing for light again. I see a time of seven generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the sacred Tree of Life and the whole Earth will become one circle again.

“In that day there will be those among the Lakota who will carry knowledge and understanding of unity among all living things and the young white ones will come to those of my people and ask for wisdom.

“I salute the light within your eyes where the whole universe dwells. For when you are at that center within you and I am in that place within me, we shall be as one.”

Amlo Resists Handover Of Pacific Alliance Presidency To Peru's Boluarte

Dina Boluarte, president of PeruAMLO does not recognize Peruvian president Dina Boluarte's government and has granted asylum to ousted president Pedro Castillo's family in Mexico.

President López Obrador has rejected the anticipated handover of the leadership of the Pacific Alliance to Peruvian president Dina Boluarte, calling her government “spurious”.

López Obrador has been critical of Boluarte since she assumed the presidency after Pedro Castillo's impeachment in December. He has refused to recognize her as the country's president and put diplomatic relations with Peru “on hold” in December.

The Mexican president stated that he will ask the Foreign Affairs Ministry to consult with the other member countries

in the alliance about his desire to withhold the presidency.

“I do not want to hand over [the presidency] to a government that I consider spurious. Let the members of the group decide,” AMLO said. “If they say we hand over the presidency, we do it. But I am going to start the consultation. I don't want to legitimize a coup, we can't do it.

López Obrador, who held the Pacific Alliance presidency in 2022, was scheduled to pass on the leadership of the four-nation coalition to former Peruvian president Pedro Castillo in November. However, it was suspended because the Peruvian Congress did not allow Castillo to leave the country due to an ongoing corruption investigation against him.

The summit was then moved to December, when it was again disrupted by

Castillo's impeachment and arrest.

President López Obrador in a 2021 meeting with former president of Peru, Pedro Castillo. President López Obrador in a 2021 meeting with former president of Peru, Pedro Castillo.

“We are looking for a way to hand off the presidency,” President López Obrador said, “but when the meeting was going to take place, they did not allow the president [Castillo] to leave.”

“Then we were going to visit Peru, and they arrested him for what I consider to be a technical coup.”

Boluarte addressed Mexico's reluctance to hand over the presidency on Wednesday.

“In January of this year, Peru should have assumed the pro tempore presidency,” Boluarte said in a statement. “However, due to the President of Mexico's political situation, he is harming those who comprise the Pacific Alliance because he does not want to hand over the pro-tempore presidency of the Pacific

Alliance to us.”

Protests and unrest have continued in Peru in response to Castillo's removal and as of last week, at least 60 people have died. Amnesty International accused the Peruvian government of a “marked racist bias” in crackdowns against the protesters on Wednesday, reporting that most of the deaths have occurred in areas with majority Indigenous populations.

Protesters in PeruProtests in parts of Peru have continued since the ousting of Pedro Castillo in December.

López Obrador has maintained that Castillo's impeachment was a coup orchestrated by the oligarchy, and has granted asylum to the former president's wife and children.

“They put him in jail. There are no legal grounds, and what is in the background is a classist, racist attitude,” the president said Friday. “Since he is a humble teacher from the mountains, he was harassed by Congress from the beginning.”

Forgotten: an African American Soldier Turned Rebel Leader in the Philippines

by Jonathan Melrod

You won't find this story anywhere else for Black History Month, but you should! By the mid-1900s, a "Buffalo Soldier" named David Fagen was virtually a household name, particularly in the African American community. Fagen's story makes myth of the false contention that African Americans offered little resistance to institutionalized racism from the Civil War until the end of WWII.

Was Fagen a hero or "a mad dog"? The answer is rooted in whether you believe that fighting against U.S. colonialism/imperialism in 1899, in this case the U.S. war of Philippine conquest, is righteous and worthy of giving rise to a true hero, martyr and courageous Buffalo Soldier, who deserted the U.S. side and joined the Philippine Revolutionary Army. The PRA was fighting to establish their own independent republic after the Spanish were kicked out.

In diaries and letters, Black soldiers posted in the Philippines, recounted how racism was endemic in the U.S. military, describing the racist abuses suffered by both African Americans and Filipinos.

Fagen was a native of Tampa, Florida, the youngest of 6 children of former slaves. He grew up where Jim Crow racial segregation laws prevailed. With the specter of lynching, race riots and the chain gang looming over Tampa's Blacks, Fagen "lived in dread at all times." Searching for any escape from Jim Crow, Fagen enlisted in 1898, being assigned to the 24th Infantry Regiment, a unit of so-called Buffalo Soldiers.

Expansionist USA, intent on

developing a global commercial empire, dispatched 6000 African American soldiers, including 2100 of the famed Buffalo Soldiers, to the Philippines islands



The 24th U.S. Infantry (primarily made up of African-American soldiers) at drill in Camp Walker, Cebu, 1902
— Public Domain

per President McKinley's assessment that the racial inferiority of Filipinos justified denying them sovereignty and engaging in a bloody war of conquest. Fagen, now on the battlefield, detested his white commanding officer Lt. Moss, a West Point graduate. Moss and Fagen clashed repeatedly, with Moss eventually fining Fagen more than a month's pay and sentencing him to 30 days of hard labor. Life was immutably altered when Fagen, after just a few months of battling Filipino rebels, turned his back on the U.S. army and joined Filipino revolutionaries who were actually fighting against American invaders.

At the time, there was a fierce debate in African American communities on their role in these foreign wars. Many saw the invasion of the Philippines as a 'race war', through which white settlers would inevitably repeat in Asia the wave of enslavement and genocide that had been inflicted on Native Americans and Black slaves. Contrary to enlistment promises, African American soldiers in the Philippines were relegated to second-class status. Officers often ordered them to carry out 'dirty jobs' that no white soldiers wanted to do. They were also forced to serve as expendable "shock" troops on the frontlines, where lives were most at risk, while white commanders stayed back at a safe distance from the Filipino rebels. Filipino insurgents put up

posters and distributed flyers with messages encouraging 'colored' soldiers to join their cause, appealing to their common suffering at the hands of white Americans.

Historians studying the Philippine-American War estimate that as many as 15 Buffalo Soldiers decided that their place, rather than helping to suppress the Filipinos' struggle for independence, was in joining them in revolution. The supposed 'deserters' of the 24th infantry proved one thing: systemic racism and oppression by white Americans was enough to forge alliances across vast national and ethnic lines.

This may have been the very reason Fagen turned his back on the U.S. army, for a new life as a Filipino guerrilla. One night, Corporal Fagen snuck out of his barracks and met with a Philippine 'insurrecto' officer, who had arranged Fagen's escape. The rebel agent had a horse waiting for Fagen outside the garrison, and together, they disappeared into the jungles.

Fagen was never captured or killed. Out of respect and tribute for his role as guerrilla leader, his Filipino compatriots addressed him as El General, although he was a Captain. Despite the wide respect and honor in which he was held by his fellow anti-imperialist insurgents, the U.S. army branded Fagen a deserter and traitor and expunged all memory of him from the annals of history. His racist white U.S. General, Frederick Funston, described Fagen as a "bandit pure and simple, and entitled to the same treatment as a mad dog".

In this writer's estimation, Fagen was anything but a 'mad dog', but a courageous resistance fighter who chose the right side in a battle against U.S. aggression and imperialism. I conclude with the aspirational belief, circulated by many, that Fagen fell in love with a Filipina woman and ran away to the mountains to live a peaceful life with her.

Long live the memory of David Fagen.

Jonathan Melrod is author of Fighting Times: Organizing on the Front Lines of the Class War (PM Press). He is married to Maria Isabel Lopez, Filipina actress and political activist. Together they are involved in the human rights struggle in the Philippines and the on-going defense of indigenous people's ancestral lands from incursions by the Philippine army at the behest of foreign mining and logging companies.

The Forum

The Forum is a source of reporting and commentary deploying the insights of critical race theory and supplying the materials and organizing strategies to re-envision American democracy from the ground up.

We need *The Forum* to fill in the gaping blind spots of a broken media ecosystem — to center the urgent demands of racial justice and democracy in the public discourse that shapes the most fundamental perceptions of what our government is for and who it serves.

The Forum will meet this need with writing that explores the grassroots mandates of democratic reform in our multiracial society; it will not treat politics as the sport of elite insiders or as fodder for culture-war clickbait, but rather as the urgent business before us all as Americans seeking to redeem the battered promise of expansive, truly democratic self-rule and solidarity in an age of racialized resentment and neoliberal division.

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The Movement Needs You.

This movement needs you. We are expanding our staff team and have some incredible open positions. If you are seeking an opportunity to join our community of values-aligned organizers and advocates alike working hard to develop the leadership of the 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 2 Black women, with incarcerated loved ones, then you are the one we've been waiting for.

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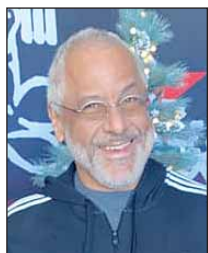


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INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES



Linguicide, Language Submersion, and Language Immersion

by Michael Odegaard

Most Californians are probably aware that linguicide was a central and overt policy in residential schools throughout the continent. There are several stories of indigenous children being routinely brutally punished in residential schools for speaking their language. While it is assumed that linguicide died with the closure of the last residential schools, actually linguicide actually continues as a covert policy today. As Roland Chrisjohn stated, “Residential schools never ceased operation; they merely changed their clothes and went back to work.” Though it is no longer as easy to openly punish indigenous students for speaking their language, the ongoing dominance of colonial languages over indigenous linguistic groups continues to fuel linguicide.

Policy makers in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s began to experiment with integrating indigenous children into dominant language-only public schools, but now we know such integrated education for children has been a disaster, since such education requires a certain degree of assimilation on the part of the child. Far too long, educators have blamed the high dropout (or “push out”) rates of First Nations children in public schools on the children themselves, in addition to their families, cultures, and socio-economic conditions.

While schools can no longer get away with physically punishing children for speaking their indigenous languages, they still practice effective linguicide by imposing a dominant language as the medium of instruction by ignoring, stigmatizing and effectively displacing indigenous languages. This effect is called “subtractive language education” since it subtracts from a child’s linguistic repertoire, instead of adding to it. The subtle message is that indigenous language is not useful or necessary, and that it may even hurt children to be able to speak it. Subtractive language education is also accurately called “submersion education” to the extent that it submerses indigenous children in

both an alien language and an alien culture; full proficiency in the dominant language is rarely achieved because children are not given the chance to first become fully proficient in their first language.

Submersion education has been linked to serious mental harm, including social dislocation and other forms of psychological and cognitive harm which leads to disproportionately high rates of poverty, addiction, incarceration and suicide of indigenous peoples and its resulting social, economic, and political marginalization. The links between these conditions and the common experience of submersion education have led linguistic rights scholars, such as Skutnabb-Kangas, to conclude that the imposition of dominant languages as a medium of instruction is a “weapon of mass destruction,” which fits the UN definition of Genocide and Crimes against Humanity.

In many tribal schools existing core programs of 30 minutes a day of language instruction are useless for maintaining or creating fluency, as 90 % of the school day and all of the “real” subjects are conducted in the dominant language, sending the implicit message that indigenous languages are not important or worthy of the same linguistic rights as the dominant language. Thus, the internationally recognized right to speak one’s mother tongue proficiently is violated by the simple fact that there is generally no option for education in California in the medium of the mother tongue. The imposition of dominant languages on indigenous children is now considered the single most important factor in the shamefully high push-out rate among indigenous youth who don’t have access to indigenous language medium education, generally known as “language immersion” education. While initial costs of establishing immersion programs may be large, the overall benefits of immersion education include greatly reduced social costs of poverty, addictions, incarceration, and suicide, and increased self-sufficiency, health, and decolonization.

ICYMI: Wisconsin’s Supreme Court Election is 2023’s Most Important Race

MADISON, Wis. — Yesterday, the New York Times profiled Wisconsin’s 2023 Supreme Court race, highlighting the stakes of the election that will determine the court’s ideological balance—and very likely decide the future of reproductive freedom in Wisconsin, the fate of the GOP’s hyper-partisan gerrymander, and other critical issues that will impact the lives of hardworking families across our state for years to come.

New York Times: 2023’s Biggest, Most Unusual Race Centers on Abortion and Democracy

In 10 weeks, Wisconsin will hold an election that carries bigger policy stakes than any other contest in America in 2023.

The April race for a seat on the state’s evenly divided Supreme Court will determine the fate of abortion rights, gerrymandered legislative maps, and the Wisconsin governor’s appointment powers — and perhaps even influence the state’s 2024 presidential election.

The court’s importance stems from Wisconsin’s deadlocked state government. Since 2019, Gov. Tony Evers, a Democrat, has faced off against a Republican-controlled Legislature with near-supermajority control, thanks to one of the country’s most aggressive partisan gerrymanders, itself approved

last year by the Wisconsin justices.

Wisconsin’s Supreme Court has been left to arbitrate a host of thorny issues in the state and has nearly always sided with Republicans. But now, with a conservative justice retiring, liberals hope to reverse many of those decisions by taking control of the open seat and its 10-year term.

Their declarations signify how the race is transmogrifying into a statewide election like any other in Wisconsin, a perpetual political battleground. Like November’s contests for governor, state attorney general, and the Senate, the court election is set to be dominated by a focus on abortion rights (for Democrats) and crime (for Republicans).

In narrowly divided Wisconsin, a one-seat edge is all the majority needs to change the state’s politics.

In recent years, in addition to approving the Republican-drawn maps, the court has ruled that most drop boxes for absentee ballots are illegal; struck down Mr. Evers’s pandemic mitigation efforts; stripped regulatory powers from the state schools’ superintendent, a Democrat; allowed political appointees of Mr. Evers’s Republican predecessor to remain in office long past the expiration of their terms; and required some public schools to pay for bussing for parochial schools.

SEE [Wisconsin Election](#), page 13

Department Interior Update

Secretary Haaland visits Australia to showcase the interconnectedness of Interior’s mission with those of our international counterparts; Deputy Secretary Beaudreau highlights the progress made to address the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples crisis; Interior announces major investments in water conservation and reliability in the Upper Colorado River Basin; the Biden-Harris administration outlines its

strategy to meet aerial firefighting equipment needs; a once-threatened bird is poised for a major comeback; we’ll tell you how Bipartisan Infrastructure Law investments are remediating orphaned oil and gas wells on wildlife refuges; archaeologists find artifacts and the foundation of a substantial brick building at the birthplace of Harriet Tubman; USGS evaluates mine waste as a potential source of critical minerals.

Love and Forgiveness

For myself, I am a Christian. I am a Christian who believes in the separation of church and state, one who believes that we ought to be able to hear a message from a person or organization even if we do not agree with all of their politics, and I am certainly a Christian who believes that Jesus cannot quite be captured by a 60 seconds commercial no matter how much money is spent on it.

But if I want to see Jesus in the political conversation a bit more, it is only because I, like many Christians and

many non-Christians, believe that loving one’s neighbor and loving one’s enemies is the way to a better world.

This belief that love can transcend our differences is a belief that yet binds many Christians and non-Christians alike. We need love if we are to heal America. And we need the teachings and exemplars of love to come forth from our heritage to show us the way to mend.

We do need love and forgiveness in America.

Is it wrong therefore to say that we need Jesus too?

— John Wood Jr., *National Ambassador, Braver Angels*

visit: Indigenousnetwork.org



To improve the quality of life of those who recognize themselves and choose to be recognized by others as "Indigenous Peoples of Color of the Americas" and in support of The American Indian Rights and Resources Organization (AIRRO).

Ohio Black Indian History

by Daniel A. Buford

There's a good reason why people don't know the history of Black people in Madisonville, Ohio. Who would repeat or write down a secret that would cost the life of a whole community?

The wrong skin color could be you killed in Ohio, especially in Cincinnati prior to the Civil War. Certain things are too painful to recall. Who could be trusted if you told someone your true identity. You could either be scalped or captured and sent into slavery.

My skin is red. My cousins were in Ohio before White or Black people. My Native American ancestry is Cherokee in the Green-Hedges lines and Wyandotte and Cherokee on the Buford side. There were Bufords enrolled in the Cherokee Tribe in the 1890 census.

My Wyandotte ancestors were on the losing side of the French Indian Wars as French Allies. My Cherokee ancestors were on the wrong side of the conflict between the British and the American colonists as British allies.

In 1780 General George Roger's Clark attacked the Little Miami River Valley in an extermination campaign against the Shawnee and Miami people. By 1810 when Blacks showed up in Madisonville

Darnett Darlene Goodloe Hardrick

January 30, 1960 – February 3, 2023

by Windy Goodloe

Darnett Darlene Goodloe Hardrick passed away on Friday, February 3, 2023, in San Angelo, Texas, at Shannon West Texas Memorial Hospital. She was 63. She was born in Del Rio, Texas, on January 30, 1960. Her parents were Johnny Goodloe and Dora Lee Phillips Goodloe. She was raised in Brackettville and graduated from Brackett High School in 1979. She spent the majority of her adult life in West Texas (Big Lake, Sweetwater, and San Angelo). She was my mom.

Writing this, even ten days after her passing, still seems surreal. My mom was so full of life. She was always smiling and laughing. Her joy-filled presence put everyone that she met at ease.

She was preceded in death by Johnny Goodloe (father), Dora Goodloe (mother), Robert Franklin (stepfather), John "Bumpy" Goodloe (brother), Frank

there were bounties for Indian scalps which had the same value as squirrel pelts.

I say all this to say that Native Americans were actually our first allies in being fugitive slaves. They saw how the White man treated Blacks and did not blame them for running away.

When Blacks were escaping in great numbers Cherokee cut their hair and blended in with the Black population as light skinned Negroes. The Cherokees had to sign treaties that demanded that all Blacks be returned before they would stop the genocidal.

This caused today's schism between enrolled Cherokees who have whiter skin and Cherokees with African heritage.

The prayers and prayer oriented actions of Indians and Blacks to be free of White domination and oppression was demonized as Black Magic and Voodoo.

African and Indian languages convey spiritual messages that can't even be uttered with the English language.

In the 21st century our generation is the most educated per capita than at any other point in history. We can mend the

"Bootsie" Goodloe (brother), Carol Ann "Sunny Girl" Goodloe Dimery (sister), Ceasor Daniels (husband), and Robert Hardrick (husband).

She is survived by her fiancé Dorris Smith; children: Windy Goodloe, Ceasor Kelly Daniels, Josh Daniels, and Samuel Goodloe; stepchildren Dorris Smith Jr. and his wife Sande, Derrick Dwayne Smith, and Lance Thibodeaux; siblings: Roy "Dodo" Goodloe, Richard "Ricky" Goodloe, Sterling "Smiley" Goodloe, Augusta "Gigi" Pines, Raymond "Rudy" Goodloe and his wife Linda Goodloe, Walter "Wally" Goodloe and his wife Tammy, Arthur "Arkie" Goodloe and his wife Carmen; sister-in-law Josephine Goodloe; grandchildren: Bentley Windham, Gavin Daniels, Delaney Daniels, and Elijah Daniels; step-grandchildren: Cassidy Smith, Riley Smith, Mia Smith, Micah Smith, Chelsee Ortega and her husband Jorge, Destyne Hamilton, Devon Smith, and Alexandria



Smith; step-great-grandchildren: Sebastian Ortega, Cecelia Ortega, Jebediah Smith, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews that she loved beyond measure.

A memorial service for Darnett Hardrick will be held on Friday, June 16, 2023 in Brackettville, Texas.

nets of memory tattered by oppression and on going injustices. For me this is very personal. My historical memory is jogged every time I visit Camargo.

I look forward to mending nets with you that will become dreamcatchers for those who visit that sacred ground we

walked on today.

A field trip to Amy Avenue where the widow lived until she died. Maybe a petition campaign led by these children can be implemented during Black History Month to turn that land into a National Park named after Frederick Douglass.

CREATOR: "I want to hide something from the humans until they are ready for it. It is the realization that they create their own reality."

EAGLE: "Give it to me, I will take it to the moon."

CREATOR: "No, one day they will go there and find it."

SALMON: "I will bury it in the bottom of the ocean."

CREATOR: "NO, they will go there too."

BUFFALO: "I will bury it in the Great Plains."

CREATOR: "They will cut into the skin of the Earth and find it even there."

GRANDMOTHER: "Put it inside them."

CREATOR: "It is done."

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Moms United to End the War on Drugs Re-launches the “TRUE LOVE, NOT TOUGH LOVE” Campaign for Valentine’s Day, Feb. 13 - 17, 2023 to Re-claim our Basic Right to Nurture and Protect

Moms from Across the Nation Propose Compassionate and Positive Solutions to the Overdose Crisis in Order to Save Lives and Heal Families



On Valentine’s Day, Moms United to End the War on Drugs is launching its sixth annual “True Love, Not Tough Love” campaign. Moms reject paternalistic drug policies that circumvent our maternal wisdom and replace it with cruel, anti-family values. With insight as moms, we are speaking out to other mothers to warn them that their children are in danger, too, and to use our innate moral authority to teach unconditional and positive regard. In raising our children, we offer steady but loving direction and discipline so that they can achieve their goals and live happy and healthy lives. We are debunking the false concepts of “enabling” and “co-dependency” and reclaiming our basic mother’s right to nurture and protect our children.

According to the CDC, over 108,000 Americans died from a drug overdose between February 2021 and February 2022, and the numbers continue to rise. The rate of opioid overdose deaths is rising faster for people of color. There has been a lot of misinformation about fentanyl, leading to public hysteria and a misguided return to drug war tactics. We must stop wasting time and resources by employing failed drug war tactics to address what is essentially a public health epidemic. We

are living in an era of systemic racism that must be exposed and confronted.

Moms United vows to:

1. Promote maternalistic values and nurturing, compassionate approaches.
2. Debunk the myth of co-dependency, which isn’t based on fact or science.
3. Endorse many pathways to treatment and recovery.
4. End prohibitionist policies that criminalize our children.
5. Support community-based harm reduction services.
6. Expose the intersection of systemic racism and the war on drugs.
7. Demand tolerance, equity, and inclusion.

When moms unite, we change the world!

“As a mother of two sons who have struggled for decades with addiction to heroin, who are survivors of a punitive and retributive criminal justice system, and who have survived accidental overdose, I’m deeply concerned that we aren’t doing enough to address an emergency that is taking so many precious lives across the cultural and socio-economic spectrum,” said Gretchen Burns Bergman, lead organizer of the Moms United to End the War on Drugs campaign.

Diane Goldstein, director of The Law Enforcement Action Partnership and steering committee member of Moms United, said, “In recent years, the police have seen the tragic increase in opioid overdose deaths resulting directly from the unregulated drug market, deaths that point to the failures of using the criminal justice system to solve a public health issue.”

Julia Negron, a member of Moms United and the Suncoast Harm Reduction Project said, “We mothers are the accidental activists, part of a club we never wanted to be in. But we are certain that true, real love can heal and stop the harm.”

The #TrueLoveNotToughLove campaign begins Feb. 13, 2023. We request that people change their social media logos to this meme from Feb. 13 through Feb. 17.

On February 13, our 7 Moms United solutions will be posted on social media as a short video.

Link to video:

<https://youtu.be/dNMAuZW7iA>

Moms United to End the War on Drugs is an international campaign that works to end the violence, mass incarceration, and overdose deaths that are a result of current punitive and discriminatory drug policies. They are building a movement to stop the stigmatization and criminalization of people who use drugs or who are addicted to drugs. Moms United is a project of A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing), a 23-year-old nonprofit organization that works to reduce the stigma associated with addictive illness through education and compassionate support. It also advocates for therapeutic, rather than punitive, drug policies.

Leaders of the Moms United to End the War on Drugs campaign from around the country include: Gretchen Burns Bergman (San Diego, CA), co-founder of A New PATH, Moms United lead organizer and the mother of two sons who have struggled with heroin addiction and incarceration; Julia Negron (Sarasota, Florida), a mother whose son served several prison terms for drug possession; Charmie Gholson (Gregory, Michigan), director of Michigan Moms United; Diane Goldstein (Las Vegas, Nevada), executive director of Law Enforcement Action Partnership; Yolande Cadore (NY, NY), drug policy reform activist; Sharon Ravert (Atlanta, Georgia), a mother and reform activist; Karen Garrison (Washington D.C.), founder mommieactivist and a mother whose sons were falsely incarcerated.

Suggested hashtags: #truelovenottoughlove #momsunited

Link to article by Hanna Dershowitz, This Valentine’s Day, Ask Moms How to Love – Alternet:

<https://www.alternet.org/drugs/valentines-day-ask-moms-how-love/>

Link to articles by Gretchen Burns Bergman, Moms Have a Better Way to Save Lives – Alternet:

<https://www.alternet.org/2018/02/moms-fight-drug-addiction/>

With Overdoses Spiking We Need a different approach – San Diego Union Tribune 5/23/22

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/story/2022-05-23/opinion-with-overdoses-spiking-we-need-a-different-approach>

Link to article by Ellen Sousares, Why I Abandoned Tough Love Instead of My Child – Women’s Day:

<http://www.womansday.com/health-fitness/wellness/a5379/help-for-parents-of-drug-addicts/>

Follow the campaign on Facebook – Moms United to End the War on Drugs. Twitter: @gretchenmomsu

For interviews contact: Gretchen Burns Bergman – 619-884-3561 (mobile)

For more information: www.momsunited.net or www.anewpath.org.

Free and Reduced Tuition Allied Healthcare Training Available to City Heights Residents

Nile Sisters Development Initiative (NSDI) is excited to announce its move back to City Heights. Its new headquarters, located at 4265 Fairmount Avenue, San Diego, CA 92105, provides culturally competent victim support services and accelerated healthcare training to all San Diegans.

LearnMore, a nonprofit vocational training school developed by NSDI, offers hands-on training to individuals seeking an in-demand healthcare career path. The 22-day or 44-day Nurse Assistant Training Program offers weekday, weekend, and evening courses, with no wait list. Enrollment is open to anyone 16 years and older and does not require a GED or high school diploma.

LearnMore teaches students the skills they will need to gain employment in the high-demand allied healthcare sector. National Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) employment projections estimate an 8% growth from 2020 to 2030, translating to 192,000 jobs.

An admissions counselor is available Monday through Friday by calling 1-833-532-7673.

Website: www.learnmorefast.org

Email: info@learnmorefast.org

Our watchword has been “the land of the free and the home of the brave.” Brave men do not gather by thousands to torture and murder a single individual, so gagged and bound he cannot make even feeble resistance or defense. Neither do brave men and women stand by and see such things done without compunction of conscience, nor read of them without protest.

—Ida B. Wells-Barnett, political journalist, teacher, 1900

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- Native America Calling live at 10a M-F
- Pala Today local news and events M-F at noon
- Native music block Saturday mornings 7:30-10
- Rez Radio Reggae nightly 7-8p
- Old Time Radio shows from the 1930’s, 40’s and 50’s nightly at midnight and Sunday afternoons.
- Rez Radio music mix of classic rock, country, soul, blues, native and reggae 20 hours daily.

REPARATIONS



by Kolita Scruggs

This week, The WorldBeat Cultural Center was proud to host a meeting with The San Diego Community, Reparations United founder, Kamm Howard, and several members of his organization. Kamm Howard is a Chicago businessman and real estate investor, and is an internationally respected reparations activist. In 2014, he spoke at the 8th Pan African Conference in Johannesburg, South Africa on the new paradigm of reparations activism. In 2016, he was a key organizer for the US visit to the United Nations Working Group of Experts for People of African Descent that proclaimed that the US must engage in reparations. Kamm has

been a 16-year member of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America, N'COBRA. Kamm recently authored a pamphlet, Laying the Foundation for Local Reparations: A Guide for Providing National Symmetry for Local Reparations Efforts. And in June of 2020, Kamm successfully led the work to pass the City of Chicago Subcommittee on Reparations.

Kamm Howard has been a trailblazer in the movement for Reparations, and has been touring the country, holding meetings, raising awareness of the topic of reparations and sharing very valuable knowledge on this topic. Everyone at The WorldBeat Cultural Center and The San Diego Community at large are so grateful and proud to have been included in this epic tour and to have received such valuable knowledge. The following "Five Pillars of Reparations" outline which Mr Howard shared with us sums up the principles and guidelines that various reparations committees and organizations are based on.

The Five Pillars of Reparations:

- 1 - Restitution: The restitution pillar allows for restoring the 'original situation' before the victim suffered these violations. This includes "liberty, identity, restoration of employment and return of property.
- 2 - Compensation: Compensation is a monetary transfer to the victim, proportional to the damage done and based on an economic assessment of the gravity of the violation such as lost opportunities, loss of earnings and moral damage.
- 3 - Rehabilitation: Rehabilitation includes medical and social services, mental health support, and legal assistance.
- 4 - Satisfaction: The satisfaction component depends on the nature of the human rights violations: examples include "public apologies, judicial and administrative sanctions, commemoration and memorialization.
- 5 - Cessation and Guarantees of Non-repetition: This component allows for protection against similar breaches in the future, most notably by administering tailored law enforcement, public dedication to human rights promotion, or the implementation of tailored psychological and social services.

When these five pillars are observed and put into practice, it is believed that reparations for all Africans in America can and will be achieved. Ashé

FUSIÓN
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102.5FM
Reggae Makossa
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LENTIL LOAF

by Kolita

Cook 1 cup of rinsed brown lentils and 1/2 cup of rinsed red lentils in 3 1/2 cups of water until tender. Partially mash lentils and mix with 2 onions and 1 cup of chopped mushrooms that have been sauteed in 1/4 cup of oil.

Add to lentils, mushrooms and onions:



- 2 cups of cooked brown rice
- 2 tablespoons of smoked paprika
- 2 tablespoons of Bragg's Liquid Aminos or soy sauce
- 1 teaspoon of onion powder
- 1 teaspoon of garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 1 teaspoon of sage

- 1 teaspoon of
- 1 teaspoon of basil
- 1 teaspoon of thyme

Press into an oiled loaf pan and spread the catsup or barbeque sauce on top. Bake in middle of oven at 350* for 1 hour.

WORLD BEAT CENTER

Black Comix Day Returns to WorldBeat Center

by Makeda Cheatom

WorldBeat Cultural Center hosted the 5th annual Black Comix Day weekend. The free mini-convention celebrates Black creators and artists from Marvel and DC, as well as Black writers and illustrators coming from all over the country. Keithan Jones is the founder of Black Comix Day and set the event to coincide with Black History Month. Seeing the writers and illustrators every year in this art genre is like meeting a family every year for a reunion. Meeting these artists, illustrators and creators is like meeting a family that transcends time and space. They have characters that are saving the world. They even have Harriet Tubman as a ninja woman. Seeing Octavia Butler's Kindred as a comic book is a cool way for youth to read the works of this great afro-futurism author. I want to invite you all to read Octavia Butler, one of the greatest and cosmic afro-futurist writers that hails from California. As for music, Sun Ra and



his intergalactic orchestra is definitely afro-futurism as well as John and Alice Coltrane, Miles Davis, Pharoah Sanders and a whole heap of Jazz greats were before their time. San Diego check out Lawana's Afrofuturism Lounge this summer. Before the event founder Keithan Jones was interviewed by KPBS at WorldBeat Cultural Center and right after he greeted 5th graders from Iftin Charter School. During their visit, Keithan was able to sketch superheroes that represented them and their Muslim culture. They asked for hijabs, long skirts, loose pants and headwraps. It really opened up my consciousness to think about not just looking for color representation but also cultural representation amongst Blacks. This is a very important move to include all our Black children to love and respect the hero within themselves. Join us next year and assalamu alaikum!



The Impact of Trauma

by Ken L. Campos, MD

Trauma affects the lives of people of color in modern America. Even in a generally progressive state such as California, there is still a great disparity in trauma among the ethnic and racial groups compared to the dominant culture. The World Beat Center proposes to present public workshops on "what to look for in trauma." Among people of color, there can be traumatic events starting in childhood which modern medicine now recognizes has an impact on physical health, hypertension, heart disease, diabetes and other medical conditions. For the youth in school, there may be racially motivated bullying, another trauma. Traumas can range from the "micro-aggression" of systemic racism to other adverse childhood events (ACEs). Later in life, these traumas can range from extremes of excessive police reactions against people of color, and of course gang violence. Socially, trauma responses can also result in mental health problems, the worst is violence

and aggression against the self or against others. Suicide and homicide are the extremes here. Personality disorders and criminality can also result. We propose to help the general public, especially parents, family members, peers and friends identify the signs and symptoms of trauma: "what to look for." By helping the public to see the problem in a loved one, we hope to encourage confidence in people of color to seek counseling and medical attention. Treatment will result in an improvement in the lives of those affected by trauma. Additionally, society as a whole will be improved by a reduction in loss of productivity in the workforce, and a reduction of people in the criminal justice system. Stay tuned as the programs and workshops continue to develop.

One WorldBeat Cafe's Year of the Lentil

The initiative is celebrating the fact that beans are an eminently sustainable protein source: hardy, nourishing, energy-efficient, and even altruistic, as they can be successfully used to assist with crop rotation. We love pulses for being cheap, filling, tasty, and an easy way to add protein to any salad, soup, or grain dish. Lentils happen to be the world's oldest cultivated legume, and we give them VIP status for their incredible culinary versatility and pleasantly earthy flavor. There are many types of lentils to choose from and each has a characteristic shape, color and texture. Brown lentils are also a wholesome type that is suitable for your diet meals! They are packed with fiber, calcium, iron, protein, and many other minerals. They also have a low fat and sodium legume content. Make sure to try our Lentil Loaf recipe!

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The Womb of the World

by Makeda Cheatom



March is International Women's Month but just as Black History Month is 365 days a year, Women's Month is also the same: 365 days a year. Even though we are grateful all year to our sisters, mothers, aunts, grandmothers, and friends all year long, this is a time we give them a special "big up" and highlight their accomplishments. We have several activities for women at the WorldBeat Cultural Center. On March 26th from 4-6PM Dr. Starla Lewis will have their Woman's Worth event. There will also be several workshops concerning menopause. We suggest all women participate even if they are not in menopause in order to help them to transformational balances. Our society treats menopause like something to be ashamed of and ignored. We have very little information and resources about this beautiful transition in life. We will have meditation, breath workshops, herbs, sound baths and healing energy from the food you should be eating leading you into menopause and during menopause. This is no joke, don't miss out on self-care and loving yourself. This will bring unity to you and your family.

All Tribes Charter School Visits WorldBeat Center

WorldBeat Cultural Center has started a seed library with seeds by Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds at All Tribes Charter School. This month students from All Tribes visited the WorldBeat Center for a drum workshop. We also toured the garden and listened to a dandelion "play" music for us. We gave everyone seeds as well as enough to start their seed library. WorldBeat Center would like to thank the students and teachers. Thank you for your gratitude card and all your kind words. Looking forward to visiting you and talking about Climate Action Change and preparing for a better future!



Woman's Worth Presents
WOMAN to WOMAN
Celebrating Self Love + Sisterhood
Hosted by STARLA LEWIS + ISHÉ
Sounds by Deejay Dandelion
March 26th 4pm-6pm
World Beat Center 2100 Park Blvd.
In collaboration with BlackRose Communications

Antonio Garra Day

Antonio Garra Day, March 18, 2023 - San Diego Old Town from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. This year's theme: "We are gathering to celebrate the life and legacy of Antonio Garra. San Diego Native Americans are communities that strive to be part of San Diego County by contributing and working with local cities and towns."

The event will start at 11:00 AM with some words spoken by Mr. Linton at the cemetery near the marker of Antonio Garra. The Old Town San Diego Chamber of Commerce will reserve parking behind the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The route will start at the church and will go to the El Campo Santo Cemetery. We are providing a wagon that will be drawn by horses. It will carry our elders the half-mile round trip from the church just outside of the state park. There will be a small Celebration of Life

with some words spoken by Mr. Linton (a Garra descendant) near Antonio Garra's marker. The wagon will then pick up the people, leave El Campo Santo Cemetery, and return to the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The route is about six-tenths of a mile each way. Then, everyone will walk from the church to the plaza in old town State Park. At 12 o'clock, we will have speakers and birdsingers. Rez Radio will broadcast the event. Stan Rodriguez (Kumeyaay) will open the event with a welcoming. Dr. Rodriguez will speak and sing some songs. Will Madrigal will have a booth with information about Cahuilla history and culture. Madrigal will speak and sing some songs. Elijah Duro will speak and then sing some songs with the Pal'Atingve singers. Assemblyman James Ramos will be a speaker and, hopefully, will sing some songs. After which, he will be joined by the Intertribal Birdsingers. The event will end at 4 o'clock.

Saviours' Day 2023

The scriptures Nehemiah 9:27 and Isaiah 29:20 in the Bible both speak of a people who have been oppressed by enemies. They also speak about how they will be sent saviours to deliver them. God promised Abraham that He would come Himself to save His people, after they had endured mental and physical bondage in a strange land for 400 years. We in the Nation of Islam believe that the Black man of America is who these scriptures refer to. We have been taught that he is the original man and that his family includes the millions of indigenous people of this planet.

Master Fard Muhammad was born in Mecca and made himself known here in America on July 4, 1930. He raised up The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad to continue the work of resurrecting the mentally and spiritually dead in the hells of North America ... and beyond. After his departure in 1975, The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan subsequently took the helm of the Nation of Islam, providing life-giving teaching and unparalleled guidance that all of humanity can benefit from.

Our annual convention named "Saviours' Day" is a commemoration of the divine, redemptive work of Master Fard Muhammad,

The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad, and The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. This year, Saviour's Day takes place from February 24-26, 2023, in Chicago, Illinois. Minister Farrakhan will deliver a major and historic address entitled "The War of Armageddon Has Begun" on Sunday, February 26. It will be livestreamed on www.noi.org/webcast starting at 2:00 pm CST.

Sis. Mary E. Muhammad is the Student Director of Protocol at Muhammad Mosque No. 8 (San Diego) Nation of Islam, under the local leadership of Student Minister Abdul Waliullah Muhammad.



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~ On the Town with Camille ~

by Camille Appling

5th Anniversary Women of Color Sheroes Lead Breakfast 2023 – Jacobs Center San Diego

February 4, 2023, arrived in class at the Euclid Jacobs Center to engage locals in a heartwarming and life-affirming tribute to Women of Color dedicated to improving society through experience, business acumen, and diligence. The event was orchestrated by the incomparable organization founder Angela de Joseph, who invited leadership of all colors and prestige prepared to resolve societal issues through attentiveness and persistence.



The breakfast began with an Indigenous drum circle, ballet dancer Djelia Kadi and vocalist Buki Domingo. The event was set in the downstairs meeting area at the Jacobs Center where the catered food was incredible with impeccable decorations and accommodating seating.

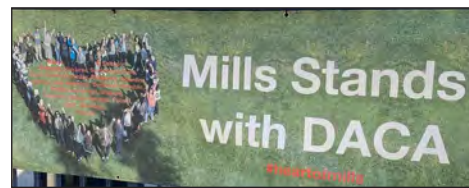
The Women of Color were adorned with blessings from our very own San Diego mayor Todd Gloria and Mother Harmon to begin the festivities. This was followed by tributes by Toni Adkins, who is the president pro tempore of the California State Senate. There were even comments by the elegant board of supervisor chair Nora Vargas, who shared “My Journey.” Next, Angela de Joseph shared pertinent accolades from her work in the community. She introduced our endeared Women Warrior Awards for 2023 to the accomplished Genevieve Jones Wright, who worked closely with San Diego city counsel pro tem Monica Montgomery to represent Jones Wright as the “Executive Director of Community Advocates for Just and Moral Governance.”

Jones Wright’s speech was both personal and inspiring for people that watched her blossom into a highly reputable lawyer. We also received a personal message from the recently elected Mayor Karen Bass of Los Angeles who greatly encouraged the crowd as the Woman of Distinction. Later, the keynote speaker and a long-time community advocate for human rights, California Secretary of State Dr. Shirley Weber spoke words of inspiration. President and CEO of the County of San Diego Black Chamber of Commerce Donna DeBerry received the revered Changemaker Award for Diversity and Inclusion on Pertinent Issues in San Diego County. While our very own Congressmember Sarah Jacobs gave a heart-felt proclamation “honoring

the Women of Color Roar Team.” The event was also attended by many valuable Women of Color, including the Pillar of San Diego WorldBeat Center’s Makeda Dread, Award-Winning budgeting leader Mayor Raquel Vasquez of Lemon Grove, and Leah Godwin of Leah’s Creations and RISE San Diego.

Visit to the Bay Area Oakland, Sacramento, and Berkeley

Indian Voices Newspaper visited the Bay Area this month to cover the California Publishers Network Association’s CapCon Conference 2023 in Sacramento and some of Oakland’s most important educational and governmental facilities. While in Oakland, we visited longstanding Laney College, which has recently included free laptops and free lunch with admission to promote students’ education, success, and health.



The Mills College campus was beautiful with historical buildings covered with signs of support for causes like DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals), proudly stating Mills College stands with DACA for their International and national student populations’ right to stay in the United States. We ventured to UC Berkely, a campus that remains a pillar in the California educational system, thanks to its huge strides in research and development. We regrettably missed visiting San Francisco State University, taking a trip to San Francisco mayor London Breed’s office, and seeing East Palo Alto’s Stanford University. Luckily, we were able to deliver some San Diego sunshine to Oakland mayor Sheng Thao when we delivered the *Indian Voices* newspapers. We also stopped by the Oakland store called Oaklandish and the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce.



The state’s capital Sacramento aka “The Sacrament” showcased amazing sites, including the

immaculate Capital Mall which hosts the leaders of California government. The buildings are amazingly preserved with a legacy of decision-making and

conscientiousness for their constituents. The Capital Mall is located in the heart of urban downtown Sacramento, which is covered by politically inspired murals and graffiti that tells the hood’s story of detriment, pain, and hope. The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament poignantly showed the detailed artwork and soul of the city. The California Museum offered multiculturalism at its best by highlighting real life issues like Indian colonization and societal issues. Governmental authorities like Ronald Regan and Chief Justice Earl Warren were displayed in the museum with hope from them listening to the community’s concerns about religion, nutrition, education and human rights. The thought-provoking exhibits offered insight to prevent hate crimes like race-based criminal activities by connecting people to women’s rights and multicultural human rights. The exhibits expressed the plight of the American with vivid displays of triumph of the human spirit. I enjoyed revisiting the Oakland and Sacramento Area. Check out these websites for more information at: Oaklandca.gov; Cityofsacramento.org



truth in journalism. He stated that truth in journalism would prevent catastrophic errors in decision-making in the private and public sectors. Barr served as attorney general during George H.W. Bush and Donald Trump’s administrations.

The conference included declaratively just information paired with dinner parties with input from government employees.

YNBN: Young Black N’ Business Media Event

Recently, the entrepreneurial and forerunner group, Young Black N Business, gathered for a media event with some of San Diego’s finest entrepreneurs, social activists, business leaders and beauty queens. The entrepreneur and founder of YBNB, Roosevelt Williams III, who has been Mr. Black San Diego and a strong businessman in both the private and governmental sectors, welcomed the elite

consortium of local business leaders and socially responsible to open conversations about what’s really going on in San Diego.



President of the local rotary Fernanda Torres, who is a Lawyer from Mexico, was present while Teacher of the Year and executive director of Miss San Diego Scholarships Trisha Camp attended with several local beauty queens determined to demonstrate their contributions to society with social impact initiatives that addressed several pertinent subjects affecting all of us. The beautiful Miss San Diego, the outstanding Marlee Wright, works to prevent drowning. She advocates for safe swimming for all ages. The future lawyer is currently studying constitutional law. The lovely Miss San Diego County, Love Bradley, is a student in the physician and oncology program at UC Irvine. She is continuing her outstanding work in stem cell research and cancer prevention. In addition the delightful Miss San Diego, Diondraya Taylor, who attends the University of California Los Angeles holds a PhD in education and is dedicated to creating workshops that enhance learning skills and entrepreneurial endeavors.

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California News Publishers Association CAPCON 2023 Jan. 31,2023 - Feb. 2, 2023

The California News Publishers Association provided a spectacular event held at the Kempton in Sacramento this year to discuss the importance of trust in journalism. The responsibility of the journalism community has been shown in stating the truth in data presentation and story telling for accuracy and legitimacy. The conference showcased forerunners like executive director Regina Brown Wilson of the California Black Media, who discussed the pertinence of trust in journalism, along with the trustworthy Julian Do of the longstanding media outlet Ethnic Media Services, the personable Silas Lyons, who is the director of the Gannet Center for Community Journalism, and *San Diego Union Tribune’s* own Mathew T Hall. The panel was hosted by Martha Diaz Aszkenazy.

Additional speakers included Dr. Benjamin Toff, who is a project director at the Reuters Institute. Other subjects that were covered included “Who To Trust for News” and “Combating Disinformation: With Justice at Risk” which was presented by author and attorney general William P. Barr. He covered the subject unabashedly and clearly regarding the importance of



NATIVEHOPE.ORG

Villages Are Transforming The Experience Of Aging!

What is a village? It may not be what you think. A village is a membership organization that connects older adults to the community, programming, and expertise they need to continue living lives of purpose and promise. This innovative, community-based solution improves one's quality of life and expands choices at all stages of aging. A village empowers older adults to sustain independence and remain in charge of their lives as they age. A village is not a place to live; it is a way to live!

According to AARP, nearly 90% of older adults want to continue living in their own homes and communities as they age. Villages make this possible by providing affordable support and services through nonprofit, grass roots, and membership organizations created and governed by older adults in their own neighborhoods. Using a wide range of volunteer and contracted services, villages provide expert guidance, support, and community to empower older adults to remain independent, connected, and fully engaged as they age.

Members typically join villages when they are still active and healthy, and they become a part of a trusted community that will support them when they need more assistance. As profiled on national television and various media throughout

the country, villages are part of the solution to address the unmet needs of older adults who wish to age in their homes and communities. The majority in this group, often called the missing middle, do not qualify for publicly funded programs and cannot readily afford the high cost of long-term services and support. For them, the village is a made-to-order solution.

The village movement started in Boston in 2001 and in California in 2009. In less than two decades, villages are proving themselves to be reliable resources for older adults seeking support as they age. As providers of social care, such as transportation, shopping, food preparation, laundry, companionship, and social connection, villages help their members with basics that can enable them to continue to live in their homes safely and comfortably.

Village Movement California is a coalition of 46 villages across the state. Launched in 2018, Village Movement California's mission is to transform the experience of aging across the state by strengthening impact, accelerating growth, and ensuring the sustainability of the Village Movement. Find your local village and learn more at <https://villagemovementcalifornia.org/>.

On the Town with Camille

Continued from page 11

Other attendees included photographers and realtors, such as Chris Jones and Jonas Royce, Ray Donegan, who specializes in financial literacy, the captivating B. Austin, who is a rising creator and entrepreneur, and the charismatic Kuya William Peetom of the Kaizan Group and Phillipino Chamber of Commerce of Commerce of Southern California.

More information can be found on Facebook @Young Black and N Business

Christening Ceremony for USNS Earl Warren T-AO 207 Third Ship in the Fleet Oiler Program for the U.S. Navy Barrio Logan Naasco-General Dynamics

Saturday, January 21, 2023, welcomed the christening of the United States Naval Ship Earl Warren, which is the namesake of the California governor and US Supreme Court justice Earl Warren. During Earl Warren's service for the United States government, he was revered for his decision-making during tragedy and skilled acumen in national and international relations. Most notable is his work with the Brown vs. the Board of Education case, which changed the picture of the American classroom from monoracial to multicultural through the

Supreme Court's ruling on desegregation. Earl Warren was an attorney general and district attorney for California's Alameda County. He served the Bay Area, including Oakland and San Francisco. The University of California San Diego proudly named a school after him where they specialize in "ethics, society and law" for a better society. He was known for his rulings on desegregation and human rights.

His christening ceremony was attended



by San Diego's finest, including San Diego Congresswoman Sara Jacobs. The event was sponsored by President Obama's appointed Supreme Court Justice Elena Kagan, who christened the vessel, and the Honorable Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro and wife Betty were in attendance. Lieutenant Keith Ellison began with opening prayers followed by an astonishing color guard. Speeches by Darse Crandall, Navy Judge Advocate General of the Navy and Rear Admiral Michael Wettlaufer, USN Commander, Military Sealift Command, made the christening memorable.

We Salute the US Navy and USNS Earl Warren!

NEWS from San Diego North County By Linda Kallas

The Mission San Luis Rey is celebrating its 225th anniversary with a different event each month of this year. To kick off the year, Mel Vernon, captain of the San



Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians, presented a lecture on the history of the Luiseno people prior to contact with the Europeans. It was held on January 28, 2023, in the Historic Mission Church. The lecture was attended by well over 100 people, which included a mix of local Luisenos and other members of the community all eager to learn about the Luisenos culture.

The event began with beautiful Native American flute music performed by Faustino Fredericks, a Luiseno. Faustino played several songs and used a different Native American flute for each song. The music was mesmerizing, and the acoustics in the church added to the enjoyment of each song. Faustino's music created a sense of beauty and harmony that the audience really appreciated.

After Faustino finished playing the flutes, Chris Devers, an elder from the Pauma tribe, spoke to the audience about the historic nature of what was transpiring in the Mission Church. He had never spoken in the Mission Church. Chris then explained that the burning of sage was a sacred tradition for native people, one of blessings and prayers, which the smoke represents. He lit the sage and held an abalone shell which caught the ashes. He went to each pew and offered the audience the blessings of the smoke. This was a captivating moment for those in attendance.

Inside Safe Program Stepping Up

LOS ANGELES, CA -- Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass is stepping up the city's efforts to house the homeless under the "Inside Safe" program.

"It's a very exciting time because people are very thankful to be leaving the streets," Bass said.

In less than two months, the program has moved 247 unhoused people into temporary shelters at motels and last week, 40 of those people who were at motels were placed into permanent housing.

The city has more than 41,000 homeless people and there's a long way

Following the smudging, Mel provided an informative lecture on the general perspective of the culture of the Luiseno people and what their life was like before the Missions were established. Mel shared that the Luisenos have been here for 10,000 years and are still here. A short PowerPoint was included in the lecture with a map of the tribal area that was inhabited by the Luisenos. It included pictures of baskets, grinding stones, kiichas, and some of the tools that were used in the past. Mel also spoke of his ancestry in relation to the people who built the mission. When Mel

had finished his lecture, he opened it up for questions from the audience. Both Mel and Chris graciously answered every single question to the best of their



abilities. It was exciting to see such interest from the attendees as the questions continued for almost half an hour.

The final portion of the program was to gather in the Agapito Court where refreshments were served by the Mission chef. A variety of chicken wings, tortilla strips, dips, water, iced tea and wine were offered. Mel and Chris mingled and continued to answer questions from those that were in attendance and are looking forward to future native cultural and educational events.

This was an informative, entertaining, and delightful way to spend the evening. Next month the Mission is offering a flute concert in the church, featuring Faustino Fredericks, Rob and Marge Anderson, and Mel Vernon. For more information on upcoming events at the Mission, please visit the Mission's website at www.mission.org or call 760 757-3651, ext. 170.

to go. Bass acknowledged some of the challenges on Tuesday, including complaints about the conditions at one of the motels.

"We did have a problem recently with one of the motels. It is challenging. We've been fortunate in the sense that we've been able to find motels, but we need so many more rooms than that," Bass said. "The other thing that's challenging is that not in every council district are there motels. We don't want to ship people from one end of the community to the next. We want to keep them nearby where they were."

visit: Indigenousnetwork.org

NEWS from Las Vegas/Nevada
Kena Adams, Coordinator Las Vegas/Nevada

FYI ...

8 Tribal Bills Passed Senate!

- The legislation includes:
- H.R. 441, the Don Young Alaska Native Health Care Land Transfers Act of 2022;
 - H.R. 478, the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act;
 - H.R. 4881, the Old Pascua Community Land Acquisition Act;
 - S. 989, the Native American Language Resource Center Act of 2021;
 - S. 1402, the Durbin Feeling Native American Languages Act of 2021;
 - S. 3168, a bill to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to modify the enforceability date for certain provisions, and for other purposes;
 - S. 3308, the Colorado River Indian Tribes Water Resiliency Act of 2021; and
 - S. 4104, the Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2022.

Black History Month Vegas-Style

County Commissioner William McCurdy (District D) and his fellow commissioners and community leaders

gathered in front of the iconic “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign on February 1. In honor of Black History Month, McCurdy honored the local past and present Nevada Black community by lighting the sign with red, black, and green lights. This historic landmark was created by Betty Willis in 1959.

The City of Las Vegas honored Black trailblazers this month with its 9th Annual Black Trailblazers Awards event. It was held on January 19 as the community geared up for Black History Month this February. Honorees were Melven Green, local architect; Temeka Henry, grassroots advocate; Q’shaundra James, portrait artist, and Vogue Robinson, a poet, mentor and artist. Congratulations!

The West Las Vegas Library and The Contemporary West Dance Theatre Company have teamed up to bring you choreographic ballet works for FREE! Two shows will take place on February 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m. The Las Vegas-Clark County Library District has all kinds of free events in honor of Black History Month. For more info, visit thelibrarydistrict.org

The Paris Hotel will feature the 5th Annual African Fashion Showcase on February 26. This is not a free event. Tickets start at \$75.

UNLV director of oral history Claytee

White shares Nevada’s diverse history, telling us why “Nevada Means Home” to so many of us. “The work is unending because we forget our history,” said Claytee White, director of UNLV’s Oral History Research Center and a Black woman who has lived in Las Vegas for three decades. “History is vital. History is as important as water and air.”

And the Fight Continues in North Nevada

Various tribes including the Paiute and Shoshone, environmentalists, and a lawyer for a local rancher continue to urge the federal court in Reno to stop the proposed lithium mine on the Nevada/Oregon border. An official lawsuit was filed over two years ago while they continue to fight and march to save, what the elders revere as sacred land. BLM insists they are complying with all U.S. laws and regulations. But the damage the mine will cause will be irreversible to Mother Earth. U.S. District court judge Miranda Du refused twice in the last year to grant injunctions sought by tribal leaders who say the mine is on the site where their ancestors were massacred in 1865. The judge proposed she may have a decision in the time frame of three months. Indian Voices will keep you posted.

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Wisconsin Election

Continued from page 5

Many of those cases, which Democrats hope to roll back, were brought to the court by the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, a think tank and legal organization that has served as the leading edge of the state’s conservative movement. The group’s founder, Rick M. Esenberg, said the court’s role ought to be upholding laws precisely as legislators have written them — not proposing major changes to them.

The conservative candidates, Justice Kelly and Judge Dorow, have been less forthright about how they would rule, but both have left ample clues for voters. Last year, Justice Kelly participated in an “election integrity” tour sponsored by the Republican Party of Wisconsin. Judge Dorow, who was so well-known in the Milwaukee suburbs that people dressed as her last Halloween, said in a 2016 legal questionnaire that the worst U.S. Supreme Court decision was *Lawrence v. Texas*, the 2003 decision that struck down anti-sodomy laws.

Both have ties to former President Donald J. Trump. In 2020, Mr. Trump endorsed Justice Kelly and praised him at a Milwaukee rally. Judge Dorow’s husband, Brian Dorow, was a security official for Trump campaign events in Wisconsin. Neither Justice Kelly nor Judge Dorow agreed to be interviewed.

The enormous stakes in the race so far have not been matched by commensurate public interest. Marquette University Law School, which conducts Wisconsin’s most respected political polls, has no plans to survey voters about the Supreme Court election, said Charles Franklin, the poll’s director.

Ben Wikler, the chairman of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, said there was no question that spending on the race would eclipse the most expensive U.S. judicial race on record, a \$15 million campaign in 2004 for the Illinois Supreme Court, according to the Brennan Center for Justice.

Mr. Wikler, who has spent recent weeks stumping for cash from major Democratic donors, said he hoped to make the race a national cause célèbre for liberals along the lines of Jon Ossoff’s 2017 House campaign in Georgia or the referendum on abortion rights in Kansas last year.

He cited the court’s 4-to-3 ruling in December 2020 that rejected the Trump campaign’s effort to invalidate 200,000 votes cast in Milwaukee County and Dane County — an argument that has resonated with top Democrats in Washington worried that a more conservative court could reach an opposite conclusion in the future.

“Wisconsin is extremely important for the presidency,” Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the majority leader, said in an interview. “The Supreme Court is the

firewall to an extreme Legislature that wants to curtail voting rights. And so this election is very important, not just for Wisconsin, but for the country.”

For Wisconsin Democrats, the election is an opportunity to imagine a world in which they can exert some control over policy rather than simply trying to block Republican proposals, after a dozen years of playing defense.

visit: Indigenousnetwork.org

“No matter how big a nation is, it is no stronger than its weakest people, and as long as you keep a person down, some part of you has to be down there to hold him down, so it means you cannot soar as you might otherwise.”
—Marian Anderson, singer.

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Run with the Sun

Continued from page 1

drove down the darkened roads, looking for everyone.

By the way, as we drove toward the dim light of the sun, I couldn't see anything through the windshield because the windows were dirty from bugs and debris. I was really hoping we didn't hit a moose, a bear, or another car. Luckily, Willa could see just fine. We finally approached the support van, and I could see everyone sitting inside. I asked, "What are you guys doing?" and it only took me about 10 seconds to figure it out. They were being attacked by mosquitos. Not by a hundred or two hundred but by thousands and thousands, and now I was getting drilled myself by those hungry little blood suckers.

As the day came to an end, we all went back to the cabin, ate a healthy meal, and hunkered down for the night. Again, I could hear the talking and laughter of everyone as I closed my eyes and faded away into the darkness of sleep.

Morning came fast. Before we knew it, we were up and on the road again, each getting dropped off at our starting points and running in the cool of the morning. It was a good day. As I ran with the sun through Passamaquoddy Territory, I noticed it really wasn't so bad because the sun was shining on my back, instead of on my face, and the cool air, plus the shade on my face, was a great feeling.

As the days passed, it was time for me to go home and catch up on some work. I was sad to leave, but I knew the prayer would continue. As I said before, stories are meant to be shared, so here's one.

I was up at 2:30 am, and I packed my bags, cleaned up around Dwayne's house, then went outside and stared up into the sky. It was as black as black could be, but the stars popped, meaning they were shining brightly. I looked to the tree line to the north and began to feel a little overwhelmed with all the good stuff I had seen and felt during the previous days and started to get a little choked up. What a bad-ass trip and adventure I was on! Everything was so perfect! All the people were so cool and nice, and all of them believed the same as me — that water is one of the most special things on Mother Earth. It's my sister, it's my family, and it's much more than words can say. We all had the same love for this special gift from the Creator.

I was still looking to the north. I stretched my arm toward the brilliant spots of lights in the sky, and in front of my eyes, a shooting star did a perfect curve on the horizon just above the tree line. I had butterflies instantly, and I felt my eyes get a little water in them. I looked down, back up to the tree line and said, "Thank you." Afterward, I turned around and went back inside to grab my gear.

Then, I was back on the road again, to Augusta, Maine, then to Boston on a pond hopper, then back to San Diego to do what I had to do, and the prayer continued.

We were in close contact with the run, and I enjoyed seeing the pictures of them eating lobster and corn cooked in pots over the fire or seeing them run into towns with really old buildings or running in the hills of Maine. What a magnificent place to be, free to run in the multi-colored mountains with such history and water everywhere.

The weeks went by. My work was done, so I knew I had to return to this special run because

I felt it within my fire. So I went back.

Again, I was on the plane back to Boston, then on a pond hopper to Lebanon, New Hampshire, where I was going to be picked up by Ray and the other runners. As my son and I exited the plane, I could see our people through the windows of this very small airport. It was the size of a large storage building that seemed to be located in the middle of nowhere. As we walked into the building, we were greeted by familiar faces, with bro hugs and smiles, and it felt great to be back.

My luggage seemed to have flown somewhere else, so my son got his bag, while I had to fill out paperwork and have the airport staff try to track my bags down. We left the airport and headed west to grab some food and then drove to our host house in Holderness, New Hampshire. As we made our way into the driveway of our host house, I was amazed by the beautiful large A-frame cabin we would be staying at. It was located in the middle of big green woods, and Squam Lake was off in the distance. I could barely see between the trunks of the trees. It was a magical place with large pines, birds flying through the trees making lots of noise, and bugs and other little critters climbing up the trees. The West Rattlesnake Mountain was across the road. This really made me feel at home.

We entered the cabin and chose our spots to sleep. I chose the screened-in porch that was almost like sleeping outside in the woods without the mosquitos. Our host and friend Peter asked us if we liked to canoe, and without hesitation, we were all in the van and cruising down the road to Squam Lake for a canoe ride with the pink, red and dark blue skies of New Hampshire as our backdrop. It really was a blessing.

The morning was here again, so we packed up all the bags, bundled up all the medicine, loaded it into our support van, and we were off. Our goal was to get through Enfield Park and run through the woods to get to the New Hampshire/Vermont border in Hanover.

As I ran through the woods, I felt the cool of the woods and the water that was around. I ran over many bridges and could see little fish in the water, frogs swimming all around, and birds taking one of them for a snack every so often. I finally found the pink medicine wheel and flags on the road, so I walked down the steep bank toward the highway through all sorts of clingy vines and bright green ivy, found the keys to the support vehicle hidden behind the rear tire, started it up and headed toward the stopping spot for my son.

When I pulled up and saw his face, I noticed it was a little red, and he was all sweaty, but he looked good, with a big smile on his face. He had the luck of running in the sun, while I had the luck of running through the coolness of the woods. We both walked up to the small local store with Peter, grabbed a couple drinks, a few small bags of almonds, and went back down to the car. The break was good, but it was time to do some more miles before we ended the day.

After eating at a local restaurant, the day came to an end in Killington, Vermont, and we said our "see you later" to Nikki and her son Luke. They were great people and had been with the prayer since its beginning at the West Quoddy Lighthouse. We exchanged gifts, returned to the van, and headed to our next host house, which was in Stockbridge, Vermont.

After the humid and hot day of running and

eating a huge meal, we finally arrived at Stockbridge, Vermont, where we met Otto and Sarah at their home on Mt. Pleasant, across from the White River. We began our introductions in a little circle talking with one another about the prayer for water. Then, the clouds began to rumble, and a little rain came down for about 20 seconds. We all looked around at each other in awe. It was like perfect timing as the words came out. The stay with Otto and Sarah was absolutely awesome!

Staying on their farm next to the huge garden with a homemade pizza oven and little bunkhouse all made with their hands was incredible. This special place was toward the top of the mountain where we could see all the lower mountains and green rolling hills off in the distance. It was all inspiring.

There were many places we stayed, and many stories that could be shared, but there will be another time and place for them.

There aren't that many things in this world a person can experience like these kinds of prayers, with the right people, who all work together in a good and respectful way as one. It is a special kind of feeling, and it is really strong. As the prayers kept going with every stride and step. Day by day, our sights were set on getting to Utica, New York, then on to Buffalo, and finally, hopefully, Pennsylvania.

We had been able to run the prayer in Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Now we were in New York. Our bodies covered every footstep with a prayer. Every single step. Utica, New York was within our sights. The ground was not landscaped with many mountains; instead, it was flatter with long stretches of Mother Earth that it seemed like you could see forever. The temperature was in the mid to high-90s, and the humidity was off the hook. We would run for 50 yards or so then be covered with sweat. Our minds had to be so focused, that the pain and thought of dehydration could not sway our minds to stop, but to just keep going and know what we were doing was something bigger than who we are and because we believed in something greater than ourselves.

And there we were, finally, in the middle of summer in the blazing heat, as well as high humidity, entering Utica, New York. We all ran our miles on the flats, through the cornfields and through farm lands on the outskirts of Utica, through small towns, small local roads, sometimes being chased by someone's doggie, and also being looked at funny for being brown in the racist towns before Utica. I never would have imagined that for New York, but it really is everywhere.

Peter, who is a very strong runner, had an idea. He wanted to give it all he could and do a 30-mile run on a trail adjacent to the highway through the woods to finish it up, so we all agreed to support him with water, electrolytes, and snacks. As the time went by, I could finally see him coming down the road in the in the heat and high humidity of the day, running like a horse, with only five miles left. When he finally approached us at the small local gas station, he grabbed a couple waters and drank them right up. Then, he was off again. I wanted to help him, but he felt the strong urge to do the whole thing by himself. It was in his fire to do this one thing for our sister — "all water." And who can deny the passion he felt in that time and moment? I know he will always remember that day as one of the best days of his life. All of

us will remember.

When Peter finished his 30 miles, I picked him up at the Mohawk River. We said a prayer to the water and headed to the KOA about 15 miles away. I asked him if there was anything special he wanted to eat, and he said anything filling and healthy was good. Well, the other runners had an idea. They wanted to get KFC on our way back to camp, so Peter and I grabbed the food and made it back to camp. We all sat down and started making plates of food while talking about all the miles we ran together, all the special things we saw, and how we all would do this again on the second leg of this prayer. We were all happy, tired, and sore. When we finally starting to eat, the following words came out of Peter's mouth: "Bobby, you guys, you are never going to believe this." We looked around at each other like he was going to say his cat died or something like that, but here is what he said, "You guys, guess what? You're not going to believe this! Well, I have never eaten KFC in my entire life!"

And it was on, we all laughed so damn hard, started joking with him like there was no tomorrow. We all couldn't believe what we had just heard it, but it was true. He was raised a little conservative, maybe a lot conservative! I said, "I hope we didn't start something bad for you. The next time we saw you, I hope you don't look like the heavy guy that stole Austin Powers' mojo in the 1999 movie 'The Spy Who Shagged Me.'" It was epic!

We all cleaned up, looked at the maps, and went over the plan for the next day. Then, we tried to sleep. It was a great night, but it was hard to sleep because of the heat, humidity and some intoxicated campers next to us.

As the morning came really fast again, with only about four hours sleep, I could feel the soreness in my muscles and knew everyone else must have felt the same way, tired and sore. We packed up our gear and loaded it in the van, said our "see you later" to Peter, and were off to meet our sister Liv, who is "Haudenosaunee" from Onondaga. Her grandmother Regina was a runner for the late Mr. Dennis Banks, and there is a correlation that I will talk about in the next episode titled "Things go in a circle."

While we sat in a McDonald's parking lot, drinking some waters while starting to look over our maps, our Onondaga sisters arrived. We could tell right away they were our Native relatives, as only we can do. They pulled up and got out of their car with big smiles and looked happy to see us and to be a part of this longest run from east to west. I could see the spark in all their eyes, and it was powerful.

We went over the route with them, exchanged numbers so we could be in close contact in case someone got lost, then proceeded to do our thing, stagger runners as we moved west. My son was fortunate enough to start first and run through the old city of Utica. Liv went second as we made our way through this old city toward Haudenosaunee Territory, to the Onondaga Rez.

Episode 4 - "Things Go in a Circle" will be in the next edition of Indian Voices.

If you are interested in running, walking, donating or helping in any manner with the "Run With the Sun" Please contact: Bobby Wallace 619-922-7032



MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN



My Brother Died Today.

He was hurt and afraid.
So he took his own life to stop the pain.

I lose another brother everyday.
My sister shot herself.
She did it cause she thought she wasn't good enough
for someone else.

I wish I could of been there.
I wish I could make everything better.
But this is a daily thing that happens.
And I could have been one of them.

My brother got picked on.
He got pushed around and stepped on.
They called him hurtful names.
All because he wasn't the same way.
He felt alive when he tied the rope around his neck.
Because he knew he wouldn't have to deal with the pain no
more.

My sister's crying right now.
She feels trapped in this world and she wants out
She won't talk to anyone.
And she's done.

I lie awake at night wondering why.
Why people hurt others just to feel good inside.
I wonder how they feel now that they died.

Every three seconds, I lose another brother.
Every five seconds I lose other sister.
My sister has cuts all over her arm.
She had a big heart.
They called her ugly.
They called her a freak.

She jumped in front of car on a busy street
Every year it's the same.
Every minute there's a pain.
Every hour there's another grave.

These people didn't deserve to die.
They felt like no one was there by their side.
They cried.
These words need to stop .
The hate needs to stop.
The pain needs to stop.
The prejudice need to stop.
This world feels like a cemetery.
And there's a spot waiting for me.
But I'm not ready.

They weren't ready neither and what happened?
They couldn't take it any more and ended it.
They got hate when they needed love.

Why am I not good enough?
I'm perfect the way that I am. I'm sick of this and I'm
taking a stand.
That's a lot of lives lost, but there's so much more to save,
I'm gonna make a change today.

For my brothers and sisters who died because of words.
And for anyone who feels like dirt
You are not.
You're beautiful.
You're original.

Don't give that up.
Be something those mean people are not.
Be someone who is strong.
I'm by your side now till the day I die.



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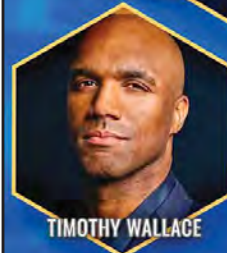
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