



Indian Country

TODAY THIS WEEK FROM
THE PREMIER E-NEWSLETTER SERVING THE NATIONS, CELEBRATING THE PEOPLE

A Letter from the Publisher

Shekóli. Emphasizing the importance of a good education is a cliché, yet there is no denying the truth. The quest for knowledge, which should not be confined to four walls of a classroom, or to a certain age, is an ongoing, lifelong pursuit. We respect our elders precisely because of the knowledge they have accumulated, and their honing of their analytical abilities over the years. It's called wisdom.

For Native students and adults, a proper education involves learning about all the myriad aspects of their nation's history, language and land, its traditions and its culture. A western-based, U.S. education is also mandatory, for a variety of reasons. However, the intersections of those two types of educations can be fraught, particularly when it comes to history courses. It is difficult to bear witness to certain perspectives regarding the founding of the United States that we know are in contradiction with our own, or that omit vital information as it relates to the true history of the first peoples of Turtle Island.

A main feature in this week's newsletter reports on the recent twists and turns of the Advanced Placement curriculum for U.S. history. The AP course and test were revised in 2014 to reflect the diversity of the American experience. After a political outcry over moving the course of study away from "American exceptionalism," the 2015



curriculum has veered back to more commonly accepted dogma. Native educators contacted by ICTMN for our article are critical of some of the changes.

In addition to Native students and professors having difficulties with flawed histories, mainstream students will also suffer. A course that does not establish the concept of sovereignty, or which does not describe the well-established nation-to-nation relationship between the federal government and our governments, has repercussions in the real world. A lack of understanding creates the potential for conflict and the need for re-education one person at a time, which slows the development of businesses, communities and governance.

While this year represents a temporary setback, the struggle over the content of the AP course is in itself a good sign and is the type of national conversation in which Natives will continue to make their voices heard. The more awareness, the greater the chance for change.

Náki'wa,

Ray Halbritter

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The Unresolved Legacy Of Dudley George

September 6 marked 20 years since Ontario Provincial Police shot to death Anthony “Dudley” George, an unarmed First Nation man. Isadore Day, chair of the Political Confederacy for the Chiefs of Ontario, is continuing to pursue justice:

Dudley George and other First Nation members had been occupying their ancestral territory, which the federal government had expropriated for military purposes. The federal government later transferred the land to the provincial government to create a provincial park, despite promising the people of Kettle and Stony Point it would return the property.

After Dudley was killed, the provincial government created the Ipperwash Inquiry, whose dual mandate was to report on events surrounding Dudley’s death and recommend how to avoid violence in similar circumstances. The final report, released on May 31, 2007, contained 100 recommendations. The Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy supported establishing an Inquiry Task Force to conduct research and analysis and develop a framework strategy for dealing with the Ontario government on implementing the recommendations.

There have been some positive developments since then, but the most meaningful recommendations remain unaddressed. And the province has walked away from

the joint implementation process, prompting First Nations to question whether this government is committed to addressing the report’s important policy recommendations.

Since the 2014 Ontario election, Premier Kathleen Wynne has committed to making transformative change that would include First Nations leaders in the decision-making process and restore the Treaty relationship. The Chiefs of Ontario have been working to keep the premier to her word; they will do so as well in regard to the Ipperwash Recommendations.

We will continue to remember Dudley George as a protector of our ancestral lands and a seeker of justice for First Nation people. <http://bit.ly/1F480HY> ☯

When Did We Become Lawn Ornaments?

One man’s tchotchke is another woman’s symbol of Native degradation, as anthropologist Julianne Jennings (Nottoway) discovered upon moving to Manatee County, Florida:

I decided to walk around my new neighborhood. While strolling along, I began thinking about how I was going to landscape my front lawn. My senses were being flooded with ideas when I saw a weather-beaten concrete Indian statue made up of a mixture of water, paste and aggregate. The “brave” had taken its place of honor as a

cherished garden perch for songbirds and dogs needing to relieve themselves.

I decided to talk to the homeowners, who had also placed an “Atlanta Braves” banner next to the statue. To me, it represented hegemonic subjugation and cultural degradation of Native people. The banner was mounted on a pole that included a wooden plaque with the words “My Tribe” inscribed on it.

It made me remember “Joko,” the 18 century black lawn jockey, dressed in jockey’s clothing and holding one hand as though taking the reins of a horse, the other hand with a ring for hitching, and in some cases a lantern.

After grilling my new neighbors they said, “The Indian mascot was not being used in a negative way.” Really? The owner simply said that he “liked the team.” I explained that mascots based on Native American tribes (or early depictions of African American men and women that were usually confined to demeaning stereotypical images of people of color—such as loyal servants, mammies, and butlers) are particularly contentious, as many argue that they constitute offensive exploitations of an oppressed culture.

The next time I had strolled by the house, the banner was gone. I wonder if it was something I had said. <http://bit.ly/1OsuZwa> ☯

The Republican War on Indians

Gabriel Galanda (Round Valley) shudders at what he sees as termination attempts coming from Capitol Hill:

On April 22, the GOP-controlled House Natural Resource Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs held a meeting that Chairman Don Young personally titled “The Obama Administration’s Part 83 Revisions And How They May Allow The Interior Department to Create Tribes, Not Recognize Them.” At that hearing, a witness testified that all tribes recognized by Interior “should be stripped of federal recognition, as their recognized status lacks

any legal merit.”

At the hearing, Republicans asserted that the Interior Secretary lacks authority to take land into trust pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA). Rep. Young openly threatened to introduce legislation to amend Section 5 of the IRA, whereby Congress delegated trust land acquisition power to the Interior Secretary over 80 years ago. Such an amendment would only make it harder, if not impossible, for all tribes to reacquire trust lands.

The subcommittee also issued a memorandum describing the Dawes/General Allotment Act as “humane.” That law allowed the taking of 96 million acres of tribal trust land in the period between

1887 and 1934 and rendered generations of Indians homeless and landless.

Previously, in 2012, Congress unanimously passed the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership Act, which allows tribes to lease restricted lands for various purposes without approval of the Interior Secretary. But any GOP support is suspect. As Professor Elizabeth Ann Kronk Warner said, it “may be part of a larger trend . . . to explicitly limit the federal government’s liability to Indian country under the federal trust relationship.” Once the federal Indian trust relationship erodes, termination well could follow.

Indian Country, we must brace ourselves. <http://nyti.ms/1L5QB5> ☯



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Footprints, Possibly North America's Oldest, May Support Coastal Route Theory

BY ALEX EWEN

An archaeological team has unearthed what it believes are the oldest human footprints ever found in North America. Discovered in clay in shoreline excavations on Calvert Island off the coast of British Columbia, the footprints are thought to be 13,200 years old.

In a report released on June 19, Dr. Daryl Fedje and Dr. Duncan McLaren, both of the University of Victoria, state that they found 12 distinct footprints belonging to a large adult, a smaller adult and a child. Also found were the remains of a hearth fire around which the small group, possibly a family, was likely gathered. The hearth had been full of charcoal, which remained in the footprints and allowed them to be radiocarbon dated.

The new find may support the theory that ancient Indians used a coastal, rather than inland, route to the Americas. "There's no way to get to Calvert Island other than watercraft, and that applies to 13,000 years ago as it does today," McLaren said. The coastal route theory, however, remains controversial.

The Calvert Island site is below the high-tide mark, which made excavation difficult. "Unfortunately, we are working in the intertidal zone, so you are racing against the tides when you are excavating there," McLaren said. "It's a fairly remote place where you don't have massive caissons [to hold back the water] or anything like that. So you are torn between these two fields: One that you should go very slowly and excavate very delicately, and the other is that you have to rush because the tide is coming in." <http://bit.ly/1LW5qU7> 📱

Elk Return To Ho-Chunk Land For First Time In More Than A Century

BY DOUGLAS THOMPSON

Driven out more than 100 years ago, elk have come home to the Ho-Chunk Nation. Last month, 23 elk from Kentucky were released in Wisconsin's Black River State Forest, the heart of the Ho-Chunk Nation's traditional lands. It is the first step in a long-term plan to increase the size of the herd in the area to about 400.

"Opening those gates on the twentieth of August, and returning elk to a landscape where they once roamed over 100 years ago—that's a moment worth celebrating," Karen Sexton, wildlife biologist for the Ho-Chunk Division of Natural Resources, told ICTMN. "It's amazing that we are already seeing the positive impacts around the community, among tribal members."

The transfer was not without incident. Seven of the 26 Kentucky elk perished, mainly because of the tick-borne disease babesiosis. However, four calves were born.

"I was saddened to hear about the loss," said Robert Mann, director of the Ho-Chunk Nation's Department of Heritage Preservation. "As time passes, the herd will grow stronger and become acclimated to its new environment. In our culture, when an animal passes, it sacrifices itself so that others can live."

"I am thankful," said Elliot Garvin, a representative of the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Heritage Preservation Language Division. "Our people are aware that elk once roamed a major part of what we have come to know as Wisconsin. I hope this project helps our younger generations to realize that preservation of our heritage is a priority to us."

<http://bit.ly/1VO5SZh> 📱

Salish Kootenai Dam Is First Tribally Owned Hydroelectric Dam in U.S.

BY JACK MCNEEL

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of Montana's Flathead Reservation have become the first tribes in the country to own a major hydroelectric dam. For \$18.3 million, the tribes purchased the Kerr Dam on the Flathead River from Northwestern Energy in a deal completed on September 3.

The newly renamed Salish Kootenai Dam, located about five miles below Kootenai Lake, is expected to produce 1.1 million megawatt-hours of electric-

ity annually. It will provide power for upwards of 100,000 homes and could generate \$60 million a year in revenue. The new owners will manage Kootenai Lake in accordance with the previous Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license; Energy Keepers, Inc., will operate the dam proper.

The acquisition contrasts with the situation some 85 years ago when Kerr Dam was built. At that time, tribal members largely opposed the construction on a scenic section of the river known as the "Place of the Falling Waters." Lives, including those of several tribal members, were lost during construction, which was completed in 1938.

"There's great happiness and there's also great sorrow," reflected tribal Chairman Vernon Finley. "This is a spiritual place for us."

"All the chiefs back then said 'No, we don't want it,'" said 86-year-old Elder Pat Pierre, one of the few who remember that period, to ICTMN. "Then Frank Kerr [president of the Montana Power Company] made them some promises but those promises never happened. Then we had the chance to become partners with the power companies. So we did, back in the '80s, with the idea we were going to buy it. The tribes themselves started putting money away to purchase the dam. Today we did." <http://bit.ly/1hYkpmc> 📱

Natives 'Don't Do Very Well,' Says Paul

Senator blames 'lack of assimilation'

Native Americans "don't do very well because there's been a lack of assimilation" in this country, said presidential aspirant Sen. Rand Paul (R-Kentucky) on September 3. In a radio interview with conservative talk show host Laura Ingraham, Rand further said, "If they were assimilated within a decade they'd probably be doing as well as the rest of us." "Senator Paul's statements harken back to a disastrous era of federal policies that aimed to terminate tribal governments and eradicate Native American cultures," responded PaaWee Rivera, director of Native American Engagement for the Democratic National Committee, who criticized Paul's "utter lack of historical and cultural awareness." <http://bit.ly/1XstCUx> 📱

New Casino For Eastern Band Of Cherokees

Looking for out-of-state patrons

The Eastern Band of Cherokee hopes to consolidate its gaming presence in the southeastern U.S. with a second casino in North Carolina that will begin operations on September 28. The tribe's \$10 million Harrah's Cherokee Valley River Casino will open its doors in Murphy, in the western corner of the state. The band hopes that with no Las Vegas-style gaming facilities in neighboring states, the 50,000-square-foot facility will attract customers

from Atlanta, Chattanooga and Knoxville. "That was the final determination," said outgoing principal chief Mitchell Hicks, "capturing parts of those three cities." <http://bit.ly/1KcnkxK> 📱

Circle Bear Died Of Overdose

Police close case of Lakota mother

South Dakota authorities have concluded that the death in July of Sarah Lee Circle Bear (Lakota), the 24-year-old mother of two boys, while in police custody was due to a drug overdose. Citing a toxicology report, state attorney general spokeswoman Sara Rabern said that Circle Bear died of methamphetamine that was found in her blood. Also according to the attorney general's office, Circle Bear, who was arrested on a bond violation following a traffic accident on July 3, somehow smuggled the narcotic into the Brown County Jail in Aberdeen. Circle Bear's family said she was pregnant; her two sons are currently living with their grandmother. <http://bit.ly/1M4jLki> 📱

Broaddus Named NIEA Educator Of The Year

Focus is on Native 'achievement gap'

Mandy Smoker Broaddus, director of the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI), has been designated Educator of the Year by the National Indian Education Association. The Assiniboine and Sioux academic has devoted herself to assessing the achievement gap between Native and non-Native stu-

dents. A graduate of UCLA and the University of Montana, Broaddus taught at Fort Peck Community College and was dean of students at Frazer Public Schools before joining the OPI. In 2005, she became the first Indian student achievement specialist in the Indian Education Program, whereby Native American must achieve cultural literacy across the prescribed curriculum. <http://bit.ly/1ISoBcN> 📱

Tribe Ready To Go Off the Grid

Relying on self-generated and renewable power

Blue Lake Rancheria of California broke ground on August 24 on a low-emission, multi-component grid that will produce renewable power via solar, biomass and energy storage. The twin goals are to provide community resilience in cases of emergency or stretches of high-energy use, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The system will also power half of the tribe's government offices and major businesses. The new system, partially funded by a \$5 million Electric Program Investment Charge grant from the California Energy Commission, is a joint project with the Humboldt State University Schatz Energy Research Center. Operations should be up and running by fall 2016. <http://bit.ly/1NkfNnZ> 📱

New Gaming Compact For Santa Ynez Band

Will remain in effect until 2040

The California state legis-

lature ratified a new tribal gaming compact with the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians on September 3; the new agreement supersedes and extends the 1999 compact to 2040. Gov. Jerry Brown had signed the compact eight days previously. The compact received overwhelming bipartisan support, with 39 of 40 members of the state senate voting "yes" and 79 of 80 members of the assembly approving of it as well. Located in Santa Barbara County, and officially recognized by the federal government in 1901, the Santa Ynez Band owns and operates, among other properties, the Chumash Casino Resort. <http://bit.ly/1hXxSus> 📱

Fundraising For Missing And Murdered Women

First Nations aim to create panel

Dissatisfied with the slow progress being made by a federal inquiry into murdered and missing indigenous women in Canada, the Chiefs of Ontario began fundraising on September 9 to create their own panel. The "Who Is She?" campaign is specific to Ontario First Nations, but its information will supplement the national inquiry. "This campaign will not only provide much needed funds," said Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day, "it will also raise the awareness of the issue on a grander, more accessible scale." The Royal Canadian Mounted Police estimate that 1,017 aboriginal women were murdered and 164 went missing between 1980 and 2012. <http://bit.ly/1UGFbsk> 📱

New AP Curriculum Is No Gift To Natives

Revised guidelines don't do Indians justice, critics say BY TANYA H. LEE

Bottom Line: *American exceptionalism is back in Advanced Placement courses in U.S. history—and that is troubling some educators.*

Last year, the College Board caused a firestorm when it overhauled its traditional Advanced Placement U.S. history curriculum. Stressing a multicultural approach, and emphasizing gender, race, class and related matters, the new guidelines downplayed American “exceptionalism”—the notion that this unique country is the greatest one on earth.

The 2014 AP curriculum was sharply criticized by those who thought it insufficiently patriotic and did not present American history in a positive light. So, following a backlash, the College Board revised the curriculum again. The latest version, issued at the end of July, has restored the Founding Fathers, private enterprise and other familiar touchstones to the syllabus. Many are pleased.

But several scholars who reviewed the curriculum in detail at ICTMN's request are not. They are particularly concerned about the College Board's treatment of American Indians.

Take this statement from the revised curriculum: “Latino, American Indian, and Asian American movements continued to demand social and economic equality and redress of past injustices.”

“No, no, no,” said K. Tsianina Lomawaima, (Mvskoke/Creek), professor of Justice and Social Inquiry and Distinguished Scholar in Indigenous Education at Arizona State University's Center for Indian Education, “These are not equivalent categories. [They] have very different goals in mind. Once again [we are] erasing indigenous sov-

ereignty and sliding American Indians in as just another piece of the so-called racial-ethnic mix. That's part of the whole impulse—to erase, eliminate the Native. Because that gets rid of the problem, which is that this nation was founded on the illegal acquisition of Native lands.”

Juliana Barr, an associate professor of history at Duke University who worked on the 2015 revision, agreed. “Each of those groups has completely different issues that they are negotiating with the U.S. government,” she said.

The scholars also questioned the College Board's treatment of the sovereign status of American Indian nations. “The way the curriculum is written says Indians are just like other groups wanting a piece of the American pie,” said James Riding In (Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma), associate professor of American Indian Studies at Arizona State University.

“That is not the case,” he continued, “because Indians have been able to conserve our sovereignty by maintaining a degree of separation from dominant society.... We are not a minority group. We are distinct peoples with a highly defined political relationship with the U.S. government.”

Shannon Speed (Chickasaw), director of Native American and Indigenous Studies at the University of Texas Austin, was unhappy with observations like the following: “Spanish exploration and the conquest of the Americas were accompanied and furthered by widespread deadly epidemics that devastated Native populations.”

“This is true,” said Speed, “but what happens . . . is a lot of students come away with the idea that the depopulation of the American continent was

largely accidental—it happened because Europeans brought germs with them and they didn't know everybody was going to get sick and die.

“Certainly many people did die of European diseases. But that is only a part of what happened and a large part of what happened, besides open warfare, which was significant, was forced labor, which killed lots of people.”


Riding In further noted that in the 2015 curriculum, there is almost no mention of American Indians after 1898. “It's as if Indians just vanished.”

Even the use of certain words is subject to debate. Throughout most of the document, Lomawaima argued, the appropriation of Indian lands is presented as a natural outcome of the movement of different groups of people across the country. But terms like “seizure,” she said, suggest a more accurate assessment.

Similarly, the College Board wrote, “In the encomienda system, Spanish colonial economies marshaled Native American labor to support plantation-based agriculture and extract precious metals and other resources.” The word “marshaled” could be understood as referring to a way of organizing workers, glossing over the fact that the encomienda system was a system of forced labor.

But what the College Board meant, said Barr, is something quite different: “We purposely used the word ‘marshal’ because it speaks to military order and coercion. That word was chosen consciously.”

For work so important—and so fraught with centuries of conquest, oppression and prejudice—a more representative group of scholars might have produced a less problematic document.

<http://bit.ly/1FwbSw6> 

Indigenous Activists Shut Down Parts of Ecuador

Land and water rights are at issue BY RICK KEARNS

Bottom Line: *Clashes between activists and authorities in Ecuador have intensified to the point that the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has called for calm.*

Indigenous activists and their allies have been on the march in Ecuador for the last several weeks, shutting down highways and staging protests throughout the country.

Their goals of the protesters are two-fold. They want to stop land and water policies that they assert takes power from indigenous communities and gives it to large agri-businesses; and they oppose contracts that have benefited extractive industries like mining and oil to the detriment of Indigenous Peoples.

Some of the protests have involved conflicts with the police and military forces. As of August 25, over 100 people have been injured, both protesters and police, with more than 25 people arrested. Both sides have accused the other of initiating the violence.

The activists have called on President Rafael Correa to drop the Water and Land Laws that are being discussed in the National Assembly and to release the 25 activists who were arrested in August. President Correa has refused to accede to the demands and has charged that his enemies in the Ecuadorean right wing are bankrolling the protests.

Meanwhile, Indigenous leaders have denied any such connection and have used the word “betrayal” when describing their feelings about a president who received a majority of the indigenous vote.

Carlos Perez, president of the indigenous political party Ecuaurari, stated that “after eight years the so-called Citizen Revolution had betrayed its original plans and had delivered the telephone

companies to international corporations but had not realized a redistribution of access to water and land.”

Other leaders spoke out against the government at protests and through various media. “During more than eight and a half years the government has not responded to our historic demands as Indigenous people,” said Jorge Herrera, President of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE), the largest of the indigenous organizations.

“We recognize the infrastructure works that have been done and that are the most visible,” Herrera said, “but the building of a plurinational state goes far beyond the building of a road.”

Starting on August 2, the three largest indigenous organizations in the country—led by CONAIE and assisted by the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorean Amazon (CONFENAI) and Ecuaurari—staged marches and protests in different provinces before arriving at Quito. The indigenous leaders chose to start the protest in the township of Zamora Chichipe, site of the large-scale Mirador mining project operated by the Chinese-owned Ecuacorrientes. Indigenous leaders have denounced the project, and clashes with police have occurred in the last year.

Along the way to Quito, on August 12 activists shut down the Panamerican Southern highway, a major thoroughfare, with rocks, tree trunks and branches, between the towns of Cotopaxi and Pichincha. On August 13, police and military started firing tear gas into the crowds that included women and children.

On the 13th as well, newspaper headlines announced the arrest and detention of Carlos Perez, President of Ecuaurari and his paramour, Brazilian

reporter Manuela Picq, who were participating in the protests in Quito. After the arrest, Picq asserted that the police had beaten her. Later that same day, she said that her visa had been canceled and she was taken to the Migration Department. (Picq has been living for eight years in Ecuador for eight years, where she was a university professor)

On that same day protesters blocked roads and demonstrated in cities such as Guayaquil. There were also large blockades along major roads in Loja province, among other locales.

Once in Quito, the marchers called for a “national stoppage” on August 17. Since then, confrontations among protesters, the police and the military have continued.

By August 24, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Victoria Tauli-Corpuz urged both the Indigenous leaders and the Ecuadorean government to maintain order and to investigate the allegations and issues relating to Indigenous rights.

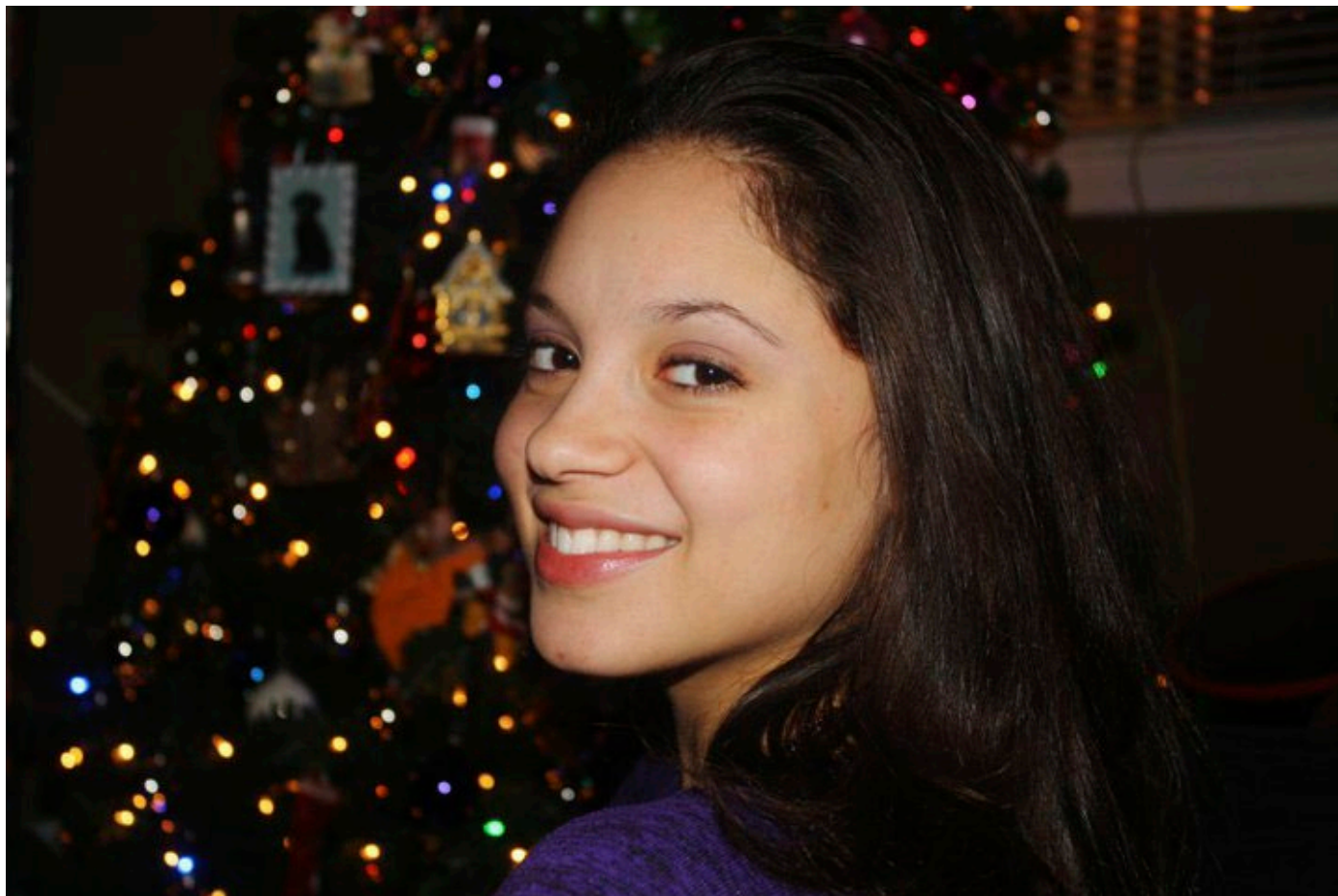
“It is necessary to re-establish calm in Ecuador,” Tauli-Corpuz said. “I am calling on all involved parties to create an institutional space for dialogue in which the demands coming from the national stoppage can be analyzed in a constructive way and in good faith.”

She exhorted both sides that a just and impartial investigation must be made regarding all violent acts, including charges of excessive force made against police and the military. Tauli-Corpuz also urged that the government take the necessary measures to sanction those responsible and to make reparations to the victims.

As of press time, no announcements had been made regarding negotiations between the Indigenous protesters and the government. <http://bit.ly/1fYWEcm> ☞

When 'Faith' Is More Than A Word

Three years after a killing, a mystery endures BY ALYSA LANDRY



"I still cry for my baby," said Faith Hedgepeth's mother, Connie, "and I wonder if she called out for help."

Bottom Line: *When a young member of the Haliwa-Saponi tribe was murdered in 2012, questions abounded. So far, they have not been answered.*

Connie Hedgepeth gripped the telephone in her office, her fingers tightening as she listened in horror. On the other end, a crisis counselor from the Chapel Hill, North Carolina Police Department told her calmly and matter-of-factly that her youngest daughter, a student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was dead.

"I said, 'You must have the wrong girl,'" Hedgepeth recalled. "She told me it was her, and I said, 'I don't think so.'"

Hedgepeth dropped the phone and col-

lapsed. It was 2 p.m. on September 7, 2012 and 19-year-old sophomore Faith Hedgepeth (Haliwa Saponi) had been found dead in her off-campus apartment about three hours earlier, the victim of an apparent homicide.

Three years later, an arrest has yet to be made. No suspects have even been named. Police have not given up.

"Someone knows something, and we're continually appealing to the public to come forward," said Chapel Hill Police Lt. Josh Mecimore. "This is not a cold case. We are still following up on things, still pounding the pavement, still waiting for that one piece of evidence that will help us solve this case."

Meanwhile, Faith's death remains a mystery, one that her family lives with every day.

Connie Hedgepeth, a human resources manager at Lowe's in Roanoke Rapids, was on the clock when she learned of Faith's death. The shock was eerily familiar. Two decades earlier, in the bathroom at a different Lowe's, Hedgepeth had fretted over a pregnancy test. Back then, she had two teenagers at home, a son and a daughter. Her husband had a drug problem. Her marriage was on the rocks.

The pregnancy test was positive.

Hedgepeth, desperate for stability, named her daughter Faith.

"I felt like it was my faith in God that helped me through that situation," she said. "My faith helped me to continue to work and to do what I needed to do for my children."

Hedgepeth and her husband divorced when Faith was young. Now a single mother, Hedgepeth relied on her oldest daughter, Rolanda, for help. Though separated by nearly 18 years, the two girls developed a relationship that was "part mother-daughter, part sister," Rolanda said during an interview at her Hollister, North Carolina home.

"We were always close," she said. "I was kind of like a second mom, but there was that sister bond too."

On Faith's first birthday, Rolanda gave birth to a daughter, Alexis. She and Faith became inseparable, growing up on the same wooded road in rural North Carolina. Rolanda describes Faith as bubbly, outgoing and enthusiastic about life. "She always had this energy about her," she said. "She was really happy-go-lucky."

In high school, Faith was an honor student, a cheerleader and a member of "every club there was," Rolanda said. "She volunteered for everything."

Faith received a Gates Millennium Scholarship to attend the UNC-Chapel Hill, the school her father had attended before dropping out to take care of his family. Faith, who wanted to finish what her dad started, planned to be a pediatrician or a teacher. She was also poised to become her family's first college graduate.

All of that came to a halt on September 7, 2012. According to police records, Faith was last seen alive at about 3 a.m. that morning, after she and her roommate, Karena Rosario, returned home from a nightclub. Rosario, called 911 at 11:01 a.m., and told the dispatcher that Faith was unconscious and cold, and that there was "blood everywhere."

Within minutes, police officers were at the apartment complex, securing the crime scene and gathering evidence.

Three hours later, the crisis counselor placed the phone call to Connie Hedgepeth. Like other mothers pricked by sudden tragedy, Hedgepeth learned of her daughter's death but none of its details.



Rolanda Hedgepeth (left) and her mother, Connie

"They couldn't tell us very much because they didn't want to jeopardize the investigation," she said. "Not knowing anything at all, your imagination starts to run wild."

The next hours are still a blur, Hedgepeth said. She called her son Chad, her ex-husband and finally her daughter, Rolanda, who was by now a superior court clerk.

"It was my job to call the family," Hedgepeth said. "I had to keep saying it: 'Faith is dead.'"

Police detectives drove the family from Hollister to Chapel Hill, a distance of about 80 miles. Flanked by law enforcement, family and her pastor, Hedgepeth walked into the police department with dread. But officers couldn't answer her questions, and she wasn't allowed to visit the crime scene.

"I just wanted to hold her hand, to let her know I was there," Hedgepeth said. "I still cry for my baby, and I wonder if she called out for help. Did she cry for me? These are the things you think."

The family learned later that Faith had been beaten so severely that medical examiners concluded that the cause of death was blunt-force trauma. The autopsy report, unsealed 22 months after the murder, also detailed cuts and bruises on her arms and legs and blood under her fingernails.

A handwritten note was found nearby, penned on a fast-food bag; I read, "I'm not stupid bitch [sic]. Jealous." A rape kit was performed, which revealed the pres-

ence of semen. DNA generated from the semen matched other DNA recovered from the crime scene.


Investigators have executed numerous search warrants and court orders for computers, cell phones and social media accounts. So far, there have been no results.

* * *

"We know that the police are working hard, still trying to solve the case, find out who killed her," Connie Hedgepeth said as the first anniversary of Faith's death drew near. "It's hard, but we're doing the best we can. We're trying to be patient and wait on the Lord."

"She was a very beautiful and talented girl who was committed to her culture," said tribal administrator Alfred Richardson at the time. "Her friends are still very attached to her, still mourn her loss. No one's forgetting this. As long as we remember her, there will be recognition of what happened."

Two years later, on the third anniversary of her sister's death, Rolanda stood silently at the gravesite, tucked in a grassy knoll behind the family's church. Printed on the headstone is a Biblical passage: "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Hebrews 11:1).

"At some point, God will let us know what happened," Rolanda said. "Even when I'm down, I still believe that we will find that person." <http://bit.ly/1Q4uuZJ> 

Controller

North Slope Borough, Barrow, AK
Salary range \$99k - \$123k

Job Description

Under general direction, assist the Finance Director to plan, direct, and coordinate the Borough's accounting system and financial record keeping and reporting activities; perform highly responsible and confidential financial services including planning, organizing, review, budgeting, and management of accounting and billing systems to ensure efficient and cost effective operation. Perform other duties as required.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance from an accredited college or university.
- CPA required; MBA preferred
- Minimum of five years in an accounting capacity and a minimum of three years of recent supervisory experience over financial staff.
- Prefer three years of governmental accounting experience or three years of public accounting experience with an emphasis on governmental auditing or accounting; or a combination of the two.
- Public accounting experience, a strong plus
- Computer proficiency using Microsoft software applications (specifically MS Word, Excel, Outlook).
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, the ability to work in a team environment, a "whatever it takes" work ethic, and an excellent customer service attitude.

Generous benefit package includes: Alaska PERS retirement program, comprehensive health insurance, and six weeks annual leave.

For more information, please visit our website at www.north-slope.org. EOE

Ute Indian Tribally Designated Housing Entity**Request for Proposals for
Audit Services for FY 2015**

The Ute Indian Tribally Designated Housing Entity (UITDHE), hereafter referred to as the Housing Authority, located in Fort Duchesne, Utah is seeking proposals from interested accounting/auditing firms that provide auditing service specifically for Indian Housing Authorities or Tribally Designated Housing Entities as defined in the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996.

The Auditor must be responsible, qualified, and must be able to perform the audit in accordance with the requirements of the Single Audit Act.

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is being advertised as an open procurement with Indian Preference. Firms claiming Indian Preference must submit proof of enrollment with a federal or state recognized Indian tribe and proof of at least 51% Indian ownership of their firm. All sealed proposals are due no later than **5:00 PM, September 25, 2015** at the business office for Ute Indian Designated Tribally Housing Entity.

Scope of Work for Audit Services – Length of Contract 1 year renewable based upon an annual review of services by the Housing Authority.

For a complete copy of the RFP and rating schedule please call UITDHE at 435-722-4656 between the hours of 8:00 am to 5:00 pm MST.

MANHATTAN MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS RE-OPENING WAITING LIST

ECHO, HDFO is a 99 unit building including 98 units designated for the elderly and disabled located at 1050 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the waiting list for renting to those with limited income. Qualifications will be based on income guidelines

Occupancy Guidelines:

Family Size	Apt Size	Monthly Tenant Portion of Rent*	Total Maximum Gross Income **
1	Studio	Eligible resident pays 30% of income	\$30,250
1-2	1 Bedroom	Eligible resident pays 30% of income	\$34,550

The age of eligibility requirements will be available for age 62 and over, and the mobility-impaired who are 18 and over.

* Includes gas for heat and cooking

** Income guidelines subject to change

Monthly rent is based on 30% of the family's total household income (as per US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development regulations) and includes gas for cooking.

Completed application must be returned by regular letter sized mail only (No priority, certified, registered, express or overnight mail will be accepted) to a post office box number, or its equivalent, that will be listed with the application and must be postmarked by October 9, 2015. Applications postmarked after October 9, 2015 will be set aside for possible future consideration applications will be selected by lottery; applicants who submit more than one application will be disqualified. Duplicate applications will not be accepted. Qualifications will be based on Section-8 Federal guidelines and additional selection criteria.

**APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE A CREDIT &
BACKGROUND CHECK & ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA**

Interested parties send your request by post card to: ECHO, Apartments, 1050 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10025 or download from <http://www.phippsny.org/housing-application/>.

NO BROKERS FEE. NO APPLICATION FEE.
RETURNED APPLICATIONS WILL BE SELECTED AT RANDOM IN
THE ORDER THAT THEY ARE OPENED.

SUPERVISED BY US DEPT. OF HUD





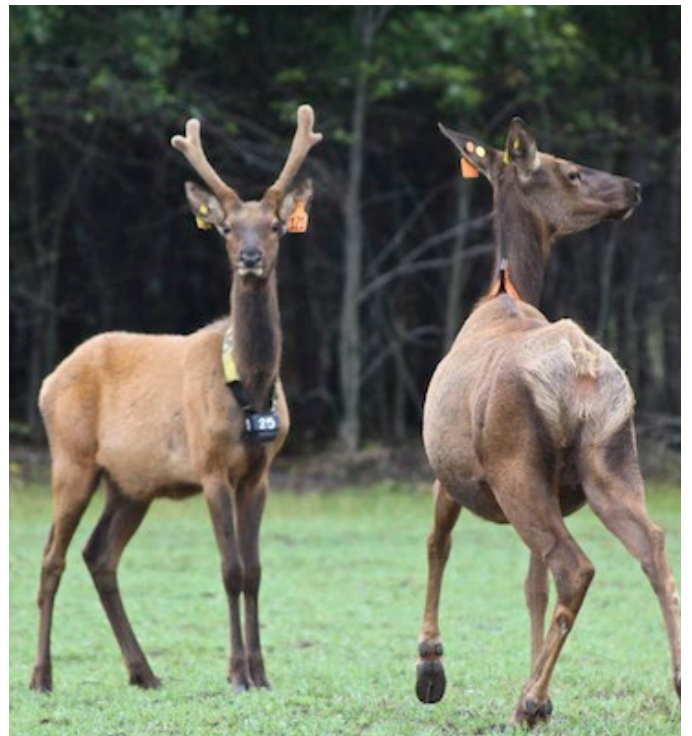
GOP presidential hopeful Sen. Rand Paul was slammed for saying Natives suffer “because there’s been a lack of assimilation.”



This month, the Salish Kootenai Dam in Montana became the first major hydroelectric dam to be owned by U.S. tribes.



The Blue Lake Rancheria of California is developing a renewable microgrid for emergencies or periods of high energy use.



Elk have returned to Ho-Chunk land in Wisconsin for the first time in more than 100 years.

Child Support Contract Attorney

The Sac & Fox Tribe in Iowa is seeking a Contract Attorney for its Child Support Services program.



Qualifications: Graduate Education Required: Graduation from a law school accredited by the American Bar Association; **Bar Licensure Required:** Membership in good standing in, or eligible for the Iowa Bar Association; a state bar association; Meskwaki Tribal Bar Association; **Work Experience Required:** Minimum of five years of civil litigation, primarily family law; preference for individual also familiar with tribal law and federal Indian law. State of Iowa valid driver's license is required. Salary: Dependent on Grant funding. **Send, fax or e-mail resume to:** Human Resources, Sac & Fox Tribe, 349 Meskwaki Road, Tama, IA, 52339. For info call: (641) 484-4678/FAX (641) 484-8478 or e-mail: benefits.personnel@meskwaki-nsn.gov.

General Manager

\$83,432 – \$127,588
Full Benefits
Prof. Mgt., Regular,
Full-Time

This position is located
in Chiloquin.

For more
information contact:

The Klamath Tribes
PO Box 436
Chiloquin, OR 97624
jobs@klamathtribes.com
www.klamathtribes.org
541-783-2219 x 113

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<http://wapo.st/1PWGzQC>

NORTHWEST TRIBE SENDS TOTEM POLE ON JOURNEY AGAINST COAL

<http://bit.ly/1NGmMGA>

WHERE HAVE ALL THE INDIAN FIREFIGHTERS GONE?

<http://bit.ly/1LhXEB3>

CALIFORNIA'S SHARE OF INDIAN GAMBLING MONEY DWINDLES

<http://bit.ly/1KX6DM4>

CONCERT DRAWS ATTENTION TO TREATIES AND RETURN OF STOLEN LANDS

<http://bit.ly/1NY2tW6>

Upcoming Events

ADVISORY BOARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN MEETING SEPTEMBER 17-18

In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Bureau of Indian Education will hold a two-day meeting to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, on the needs of Indian children with disabilities. On the agenda will be an introduction of members, announcement of chairperson, reports from the BIE, advisory board work, recommendations on priorities for 2015 and a public comment period.

Location: 1951 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, D.C.

NATIONAL TRIBAL TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 21-24

Conducted by the Tribal Technical Assistance Program, the 18th annual gathering will break down along tracks devoted to planning, transit leadership, safety and technology. Specific workshops will be devoted to long range transportation planning, safety data analysis, historical preservation, rural road construction,

workforce development, disaster preparation and related matters. In addition to corporate entities like the American Road & Transportation Builders Association and John Deere, sponsors include the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Location: Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

NNALEA NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE TRAINING EVENT SEPTEMBER 22-24

The National Native American Law Enforcement Association's 23rd annual event will be devoted to aspects of law enforcement, emergency management, emergency services, and the needs of natural resource and environmental protection professionals. The dozens of lectures, workshops and discussions will include "Crisis Intervention," "Community Prosecution in the 21st Century," "Basic Tactical Medicine Training Program," "Domestic Violence" and "Emergency Management Overview for Tribal Leaders."

Location: Linq Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

NORTH BC NATURAL GAS SUMMIT SEPTEMBER 23-24

The seventh summit, "The Road Ahead for LNG [liquefied natural gas]" takes place against the backdrop of 19 pending LNG proposals. No longer able to rely on U.S demand, the production and export of liquefied natural gas to new markets is essential to the industry's long-term growth. Issues such as First Nations consultation, infrastructure, and transportation of LNG from the British Columbia coast are some of the challenges that will be featured at this year's event.

Location: Four Seasons Hotel, Vancouver, British Columbia

BC ABORIGINAL FUNDING CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 23-25

The conclave will bring together 60 federal, provincial, public, and private funders to share their funding opportunities with 400 B.C. First Nations and aboriginal organizations. Both formal presentations and one-on-one meetings will be conducted.

Location: British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centers, Victoria, British Columbia

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re your opinion piece "No Fight Too Small In The Battle Against Racism" (September 1):

Racism is alive and doing quite well here in America. Donald Trump and the Republican Party are not only attacking minorities, they are actually claiming they are going to deport American citizens. The support they are getting is unbelievable.

Now we also have the Black Lives Matter groups, to whom only black lives matter. I

have personally contacted Black Lives Matter and asked for support on some issues that affect all minorities. But as was the case when I approached the NAACP and the Rainbow Coalition, I was ignored.

It is a shame that all minorities don't band together. After all, we are fighting for the same thing.

—Sal White Horse Serbin
Cypress, Florida

Re your opinion piece about blood quantum and the "vanishing Indian myth" (August 30):

Anyone who believes in the vanishing Indian has never been to Arizona or New Mexico. What most people don't realize is that we walk among them. We're just not wearing buckskins, loincloths or feathers.

—Michael Madrid
Las Cruces, New Mexico



TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

BROCKOVICH VISITS NAVAJO NATION

Environmental activist Erin Brockovich visited the Navajo Nation on September 8 to learn more about last month's Gold King Mine spill in Colorado. "This is not gone," she said. "This is not over, not by a long shot . . . You cannot have a spill of this magnitude and just walk away." On August 5, an Environmental Protection Agency team accidentally released 3 million gallons of the mine's toxic wastewater into a tributary of the Animas River, threatening both the Navajo and the Southern Ute

NI GC GENERAL COUNSEL IS NAMED

The National Indian Gaming Commission has named non-Native Michael Hoenig as its general counsel. Hoenig has been counsel

to Chickasaw Nation Ambassador Charles Blackwell, counsel to the Native Affairs Development Group, and worked for the Muscogee Creek Nation and the Sitka Tribe of Alaska. He succeeds Eric Shepard, who was acting general counsel from September 2012 until his position was made permanent in April. However, he left to take charge of the Division of Indian Affairs for the Interior Department's Office of the Solicitor.

BIA AWARDS CLIMATE CHANGE INTERSHIP GRANTS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has awarded \$1.3 million in Tribal Climate Resilience Program grants for Native students who expect to study global climate change. The funds will support tribal youth internships that focus on identifying and inte-

grating climate adaptation into tribal program management, as well as climate research internships to develop actionable science to help tribal managers identify effective management choices. A subset of awards encourages climate literacy.

INDIAN RODEO CUTS REDSKINS FUNDING

The Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR) will no longer accept funding from the Washington Redskins Original Americans Foundation. The rodeo accepted \$200,000 from the foundation last year. But amid growing conviction that the group exists primarily to burnish the image of the NFL franchise, whose name has come under increasing fire, rodeo officials have reversed course. "The resources you are offering," said INFR vice presi-

dent Bo Vocu, "come with the expectation that we will support the racial slur that continues to promote your associated professional football team's name."

INCUMBENTS RETURN TO MOHEGAN TRIBAL COUNCIL

A newcomer joined three incumbents who were re-elected to the Mohegan Tribal Council of Uncasville, Connecticut in a series of secret ballots that ended on August 30. Former chairman Mark Brown, treasurer Thayne Hutchins and recording secretary Cheryl Todd will retain their seats on the nine-member body. The new member, manager of tribal communications Joe Smith, worked for several major film studios before returning to Connecticut in 2003; he has worked in tribal communications since 2007.

How Did I Miss That?

Kanye West for president, the latest Washington Redskins boner and Ashley Madison's fembots BY STEVE RUSSELL

Kanye West ended a bizarre rant at the MTV Video Music Awards with the announcement that he is running for president in 2020. The rant launched from his 2009 VMA escapade, whereat he grabbed the mic from Taylor Swift to complain that Beyoncé should have gotten the award Swift was accepting. Mid-rant, West blurted out his probable campaign slogan, "I'm not no politician, bro!" Then he admitted he had "rolled up a little somethin'" to "knock the edge off."

This year, West did not reveal what party nomination he would seek, so we don't know if President Obama's description of his 2009 display as "jackass" ran him away from the Democrats.

My Republican cousin Ray Sixkiller was rolling on the floor laughing, so I had to point out that Kanye West would be the second black president and the third to admit smoking weed.

"West would lose money as president," he gasped, "but Kim Kardashian as First Lady would make the whole thing worthwhile."

Rachel Maddow showed a Jeb Bush campaign video in which the candidate bragged about his response to hurricanes while governor of Florida. Standing next to the man who wants to be Bush III was the man appointed by Bush II to head FEMA, Michael Brown, who did such a sterling job when Katrina hit New Orleans 10 years ago. In case anyone missed that, Brown published a piece in Politico blaming the Katrina fiasco on local officials, the head of Homeland Security, and the media.

Cousin Ray snarked, "Heckuva job, Brownie."

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker told Morning Joe that our principal foreign policy problem is "failure to be aggressive in the Middle East." Cousin Ray heaved a sigh.

"So, we fought a war over Kuwait and we're shooting at people ourselves or through proxies in Iraq, Syria, Libya, Lebanon, Egypt and Yemen. We're arms dealers for Israel, Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Remind me what other countries are located in the Middle East?"

I reminded him: The Sultanate of Oman.

"Good grief! Scott Walker wants to invade Oman?"

Gizmodo published a technical analysis of the Ashley Madison data dump and concluded that the number of real women available to be met on the site is exceedingly small. It supports Gizmodo's conclusion that "the overwhelming majority of men using Ashley Madison weren't having affairs. They were paying for a fantasy."

In a follow-up report, the plot thickened. The data showed that Ashley Madison had created an "army of fembots" over 70,000 strong to flirt with human men. The upside is that the fembots are programmed to leave gay people, men and women, seldom contacted by a bot. Those looking for same-sex activity or seeking a person of the same sex to complete a ménage à trois actually have a chance of hooking up. The biggest error in the first report was that bot messages were mistaken for human messages—which, I suppose, is the point of bots.

The downside is that there were so few conversations between humans that Ashley Madison was saving the contents of intimate chats in databases

not hacked. Knowing those online flirtations are archived and therefore can be subpoenaed might be keeping some men up at night for reasons having nothing to do with bedroom action.

Adding injury to insult, Ashley Madison charged straight men who caught on for removal from the database. The hack proved Ashley Madison did not really remove those who tried to check out of the roach motel—just took them down from the Web.

Cousin Ray noted that somebody besides Ashley Madison made money: "Divorce lawyers."

The *Washington Post* and the sports world have been in escalating wonderment for years at how the Washington football team has misused and abused potential superstar Robert Griffin III, failing to provide him with either a playbook suited to his talents or a competent offensive line.

The latest bit of crazy followed another RGIII concussion during practice. The scrambling quarterback will sit in favor of excellent pocket passer Kirk Cousins. The third quarterback in the chart, fellow Texan Colt McCoy, is better suited to a Kirk Cousins game than an RGIII game. Pulitzer Prize-winning *Post* columnist Eugene Robinson commented on *Morning Joe*, "I think the team is cursed until it changes the name."

"Wow," I said to Cousin Ray, "the RGIII and Washington team story ought to be a movie."

"Too late," Ray replied glumly. "Wes Craven died this week." <http://bit.ly/1JXI9mr> ☞

UPCOMING POW WOWS

39TH ANNUAL AMERICAN INDIAN DAY AND POW WOW CELEBRATION

9/17/15—9/19/15
Saint Joseph's Indian School
1301 North Main Street
Chamberlain, SD
STJO.org/powwow

SAC RIVER/WHITE RIVER BANDS OF THE CHICKAMAUGA CHEROKEE NATION CULTURAL AND ART SHOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
Chickamauga Grounds
Bolivar, MO
573-885-1070 or 573-259-2263
NorthernCherokeeNation.com

31ST ANNUAL FALL GREAT MOHICAN POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
Mohican Reservation Camp and Festivals Grounds
23270 Wally Road
Loudonville, OH
800-766-2267
powwow@mohicanreservation.com
MohicanPowWow.com

NORTHERN CHEROKEE GATHERING

9/18/15—9/20/15
Northern Cherokee Grounds
578 East Highway 7
Clinton, MO
573-885-1070 or 573-259-2263
NorthernCherokeeNation.com

FDR STATE PARK POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
FDR State Park
2957 Crompond Road
Yorktown Heights, NY
718-686-9297
native@redhawkcouncil.org
RedhawkCouncil.org

43RD MANKATO TRADITIONAL POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
Land of Memories Park
Mankato, MN
Dave Brave Heart
507-514-5088
dsbraveheart4@yahoo.com
MankatoWacipi.org

MONTROSE INDIAN NATIONS POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
Friendship Hall
1001 North Second Street
Montrose, CO

18TH ANNUAL BATTLE POINT TRADITIONAL POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
County Road 73
Battle Point, MN
218-760-3127
leahgale@hotmail.com
LLOjibwe.org

53RD ANNUAL AMERICAN INDIAN POW WOW

9/18/15—9/20/15
Traders Village Houston
Grand Prairie, TX
972-647-2331
TradersVillage.com/grand-prairie/events/53rd-annual-american-indian-pow-wow

3RD ANNUAL HAWAII ISLAND ALL NATIONS POW WOW

9/19/15—9/20/15
Mooheau County Park
Hilo, HI
808-747-2903
hawaiiipowwow@hotmail.com

NOTTOWAY INDIAN TRIBE OF VIRGINIA POW WOW

9/19/15—9/20/15
Surry Parks and Recreation Center Grounds
205 Enos Farm Road
Surry, VA
757-686-8602 or 757-708-4364
nottowayofva@aol.com
NottowayIndians.org

MOTHER EARTH'S CREATION POW WOW

9/19/15—9/20/15
Pow Wow Grounds
2145 White Mountain Highway
Center Ossipee, NH
603-539-6697
spiriteagle@motherearthscreation.com
MotherEarthsCreation.com

CURVE LAKE POW WOW

9/19/15—9/20/15
Curve Lake Cultural Centre
1024 Mississauga Street
K0L 1R0, Curve Lake First Nation, Ontario
United States Minor Outlying Islands
info@curvelakefn.com
CurveLakeFN.ca



Get Covered

“Little Cheyenne Girl,” a digital projection by J. Nicole Nahmi-A-Piah designed to spotlight Native health, is on a 10-city tour.

KAUFFMAN AND ASSOCIATES

THE BIG PICTURE