

## Dalai Lama Meets With San Diego Tribal Dignitaries

On April 19th the Dalai Lama and San Diego American Indians met at an historic cross-cultural and sacred private audience at San Diego State University's Viejas Arena.



Ancient Kumeyaay Bird Songs with haunting gourd rattles and the gentle dance of female relatives welcomed His Holiness.

by Indian Voices Editorial Staff

San Diego, CA – Sycuan elder, George Prietto and Manzanita chairman, Leroy Elliot, welcomed the Dalai Lama with sage in their hands and a greeting in the

Kumeyaay language. Sycuan councilman, James La Brake, provided an English interpretation for the Dalai Lama.

Tight security added an air of solemn majesty to this private pious occasion. Sycuan Chairman Danny Tucker offered

cordial remarks, welcoming His Holiness to San Diego and expressing respectful gratitude to him.

The room filled with representatives of

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## Kumeyaay-Diegueno Tribal Flag Ceremony

JANE DUMAS DAY - 4/28/2012

by Gary Ballard

The City of San Diego proclaimed April 28, 2012, to be forever officially known as "Jane Dumas Day"

The Mission Trails Regional Park held a special community event to honor Jane Dumas and the Kumeyaay tribe — including a raising of the official Kumeyaay-Diegueno Nation tribal flag.

Prior to her invocation, Jane Thing-Dumas spoke to the crowd in both English and her native Kumeyaay language, San Diego's original language.

Kumeyaay is Jane's first language and she remains one of the last living fluent speakers of the Kumeyaay language in the world.

Jane Dumas is an enrolled Kumeyaay tribal member of the Jamul Indian Village - A Kumeyaay Nation. The Jamul band is one of twelve sovereign, federally-recognized Kumeyaay bands indigenous to the Southern California region of the County of San Diego, Imperial County, and Baja California



Mission Trails Regional Park  
Jane Dumas Day, April 28, 2012

Norte, Mexico. Jane spent some of her early childhood in the Tecate countryside (US-Mexico border area). She currently resides in the City of Lemon Grove, just east of San Diego, and west of La Mesa, California.

Jane teaches Southern California ethnobotany and Kumeyaay language at the Kumeyaay Community College (Sycuan Indian Reservation). Her published works include the videos "Trails of the Kumeyaay" (1994), and "Stewardship Through the Ages" (1999). She has also given hundreds of public speeches about Kumeyaay history and culture throughout Southern California over the past 60 years.

Seven Kumeyaay bird singers honored Jane Dumas with traditional California Indian style singing during performance at the Kumeyaay Lake and Campground performance at the Kumeyaay Lake and Campground

The Mission Trails Regional Park held a special community event to honor Jane

SEE **Jane Dumas Day**, page 10

Senior Park Ranger Sanford presents Jane Dumas (Kumeyaay elder, Jamul Indian Village) with her framed Proclamation during the Kumeyaay-Diegueno flag raising ceremony at Mission Trails Regional Park.



## US Should Return Stolen Land to Indian Tribes, Says United Nations

A United Nations investigator probing discrimination against Native Americans has called on the US government to return some of the land stolen from Indian tribes as a step toward combatting continuing and systemic racial discrimination.

James Anaya, the UN special rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, said no member of the US Congress would meet him as he investigated the part played by the government in the considerable difficulties faced by Indian tribes.

Anaya said that in nearly two weeks of visiting Indian reservations, indigenous communities in Alaska and Hawaii, and Native Americans now living in cities, he encountered people who suffered a history of dispossession of their lands and resources, the breakdown of their societies and “numerous instances of outright brutality, all grounded on racial discrimination”.

“It’s a racial discrimination that they feel is both systemic and also specific instances of ongoing discrimination that is felt at the individual level,” he said. Anaya said racism extended from the broad relationship between federal or state governments and tribes down to local issues such as education.

“For example, with the treatment of children in schools both by their peers and by teachers as well as the educational system itself; the way native Americans and indigenous peoples are reflected in the school curriculum and teaching,” he said.

“And discrimination in the sense of the invisibility of Native Americans in the country overall that often is reflected in the popular media. The idea that is often projected through the mainstream media and among public figures that indigenous peoples are either gone or as a group are insignificant or that they’re out to get benefits in terms of handouts, or their communities and cultures are reduced to casinos, which are just flatly wrong.”

Close to a million people live on the US’s 310 Native American reservations. Some tribes have done well from a boom in casinos on reservations but most have not.

Anaya visited an Oglala Sioux reservation where the per capita income is around \$7,000 a year, less than one-sixth of the national average, and life expectancy is about 50 years.

The two Sioux reservations in South Dakota – Rosebud and Pine Ridge – have some of the country’s poorest living conditions, including mass unemployment and the highest suicide rate in the western hemisphere with an epidemic of teenagers killing themselves.

“You can see they’re in a somewhat precarious situation in terms of their basic existence and the stability of their communities given that precarious land tenure situation. It’s not like they have large fisheries as a resource base to sustain them. In basic economic terms it’s a very difficult situation. You have upwards of 70% unemployment on the reservation and all kinds of social ills

accompanying that. Very tough conditions,” he said.

Anaya said Rosebud is an example where returning land taken by the US government could improve a tribe’s fortunes as well as contribute to a “process of reconciliation”.

“At Rosebud, that’s a situation where indigenous people have seen over time encroachment on to their land and they’ve lost vast territories and there have been clear instances of broken treaty promises. It’s undisputed that the Black Hills was guaranteed them by treaty and that treaty was just outright violated by the United States in the 1900s. That has been recognised by the United States supreme court,” he said.

Anaya said he would reserve detailed recommendations on a plan for land restoration until he presents his final report to the UN human rights council in September.

“I’m talking about restoring to indigenous peoples what obviously they’re entitled to and they have a legitimate claim to in a way that is not devious but restorative. That’s the idea behind reconciliation,” he said.

But any such proposal is likely to meet stiff resistance in Congress similar to that which has previously greeted calls for the US government to pay reparations for slavery to African-American communities.

Anaya said he had received “exemplary cooperation” from the Obama administration but he declined to speculate on why no members of Congress would meet him.

“I typically meet with members of the national legislature on my country visits and I don’t know the reason,” he said.

Last month, the US justice and interior departments announced a \$1 billion settlement over nearly 56 million acres of Indian land held in trust by Washington but exploited by commercial interests for timber, farming, mining and other uses with little benefit to the tribes.

The attorney general, Eric Holder, said the settlement “fairly and honourably resolves historical grievances over the accounting and management of tribal trust funds, trust lands and other non-monetary trust resources that, for far too long, have been a source of conflict between Indian tribes and the United States.”

But Anaya said that was only a step in the right direction.

“These are important steps but we’re talking about mismanagement by the government of assets that were left to indigenous peoples,” he said. “This money for the insults on top of the injury. It’s not money for the initial problem itself, which is the taking of vast territories. This is very important and I think the administration should be commended for moving forward to settle these claims but there are these deeper issues that need to be addressed.”

## Mohawk John Kane to UN Rapporteur: Process is a Farce

As the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples begins in New York, some Native people living on the land say they are cancelling plans to attend due to this year’s focus on rhetoric -- rather than the life-threatening issues facing Native people, from fracking, uranium mining and coal fired power plants, to deforestation, the militarization of homelands and theft of water rights.

John Kane, Mohawk and radio host of Lets Talk Native Pride, challenges the rhetoric and challenges countries of the world to trade directly with sovereign

Indian Nations and honor their passports. Kane responds to the sessions of the United Nations Rapporteur for Indigenous Peoples James Anaya held across the US in April and May.

Kane said, “I know most Native people want to throw a ‘love-fest’ for the ‘special’ rapporteur. But suggesting ways for the US to make gestures to ‘heal our wounds’ is neither shocking or bold. Let’s see Mr. Anaya say what everyone already knows: that the US is guilty of genocide and crimes against humanity or at very least should face the charges.” – Censored News

## Federal Bribery and Money Laundering Charges

The Justice Department said Thursday that a lawyer and three of his alleged accomplices had been indicted on federal bribery and money laundering charges in connection with several projects on an Indian casino in Coachella, Calif.

Federal prosecutors accused Gary Edward Kovall, who was hired by the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, of accepting kickbacks to steer the tribe to hire two of his co-defendants to work on the Spotlight 29 Casino.

David Alan Heslop was hired on Kovall’s recommendation to oversee tribal business and Paul Phillip Bardos was

hired as a contractor, also at Kovall’s recommendation, prosecutors said. After the pair were hired, Kovall instructed Bardos to pay kickbacks to Heslop, who then funneled them to Kovall through Kovall’s wife, Peggy Anne Shambaugh, according to prosecutors. In 2007, Bardos paid Heslop more than \$186,577 in kickbacks.

A Los Angeles grand jury returned a 48-count indictment against the four on Wednesday. Kovall faces up to 75 years in prison, Heslop up to 225 years, Bardos up to 155 years, and Shambaugh up to 105 years. None of the four charged could be reached for comment.



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## 2012 National Park Services Underground Railroad Conference

### Stepping out of the Shadows of History

The Underground Railroad refers to the effort--sometimes spontaneous, sometimes highly organized--to assist persons held in bondage in North America to escape from slavery.

Historic places along the Underground Railroad are testament of African American capabilities. The network provided an opportunity for sympathetic white Americans to play a role in resisting slavery, and brought together, however uneasily at times, men and women of both races to begin to set aside

assumptions about the other race and to work together on issues of mutual concern. This year's UGRR Conference which will bring scholars and stakeholders together around these issues, will surely be momentous in historical significance.

A planned Seminole Maroon Peace Belt Ceremony, similar to the one that took place at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian will be performed at a soon to be announced location in, St. Augustine, FL. The four minute event will celebrate the fact that the Seminole Maroons in 1837 during the "Negro War" gave Peace to be Free! This presentation will be done in honor of the gathering of the ancestors, decen-

dants, scholars and interested parties who will be returning to their beloved ancestral homeland for the Underground Rail Road Conference of 2012.

This tribute will also be in recognition of the reunification of the Yamassee Muskogee Nation with Derek Hankerson a St. Augustine organizer for the conference and long time political operative. The ceremony will be conducted by veteran community activist and historian (Pompey) Phil Wilkes Fixico, Seminole Maroon Descendant, Creek and Cherokee freedmen descendant, Honorary Heniha/Spokesman of the Wildcat/John Horse Band of Fort Clark/Brackettville and Old Mexico, California Semiroon

Mico, Ceremonial Elder and member of the L.A. Chapter of the 9th & 10th (horse) Cavalry and the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts. Dr. Angela Molette (Tuscaloosa Ohoya) Black Warrior Woman leader of the five Civilized Legal and Educational Fund based in Oklahoma is the leading authority on American Black Ethnic Indigenous Tribes has lent her support and expertise to the Yamassee Muskogee's bid for mainstream recognition. The Yamassee Muskogee Nation will be proudly represented by Big Chief Se'Khu and various Matriarchs. St. Augustine is the original home to the Yamassee, as was and is the Seminoles.

We are all coming home.

## Revealing and Preserving Our Culture

*Research reveals Florida's Black Yamassee Tribe were in North America Before European Contact*

by Chief Choobee Mico Se'khu

The Yamassee Indian name is not a name commonly heard by those in today's modern Native American Indigenous forums, but with a little research you will find their story is one that formed some of the most important parts of U.S. History and newly made Indian Nations!

The Yamassee Indians have been described as "the most fierce warriors of all the native tribes encountered". Mostly known for the Yamassee War of 1715 where roughly, 7% of South Carolina's white citizenry was killed, making the war bloodier than King Philip's War, which is often cited as North America's bloodiest war involving Native Americans. This war and the aftermath of it, is said to be cited as the contributed

factor to the emergence of new Indian confederated nations, such as the Muscogee Creek, the Seminoles, & Catawba to name a few.

What is more interesting, to a average historian buff is in the Congressional serial set By United States. Government Printing Office, 57th Congress 1st Session. House of Representatives, Document No. 179 Report of the Industrial Commission on Agriculture and Agricultural labor, Washington Government printing Office year 1901 page. 824 when describing the Yamassee Indians is quoted as stating for fact of record "that the Yamassee Indians were negroes, what were known afterwards as the fiercest of the Indians tribes of the South- the well-known Yamassee Indians were Africans"

Now, of course this may come to a surprise to those whom were told all black Indians were either Slaves or freedmen, but when coming from a Congressional

record, along with other supported documentation, simply makes it understandable why their existence was reported to be extinct by Scholars.

The Yamassee or Jamassi (also referred to as the Amogarickakan and the Amacarissee and/or the Amercario) were listed among the nineteen tribes "as being of dark complexion, found widely scattered among the inhabitants of North and South America". More specifically, the Carolinas, some of which is now known as Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and parts of Louisiana.

The Yamassee Muskogee Tribe, which is now led by Choobee Mico (Big Chief) Se'khu Hidden Eagle Gentle, says, his people of the Yamassee Indians, have



Chief Choobee Mico Se'khu is dedicated and committed to revealing the historical truth about his people.

revealed themselves to prove they were never extinct, nor annihilated as certain historical documents would make the claim.

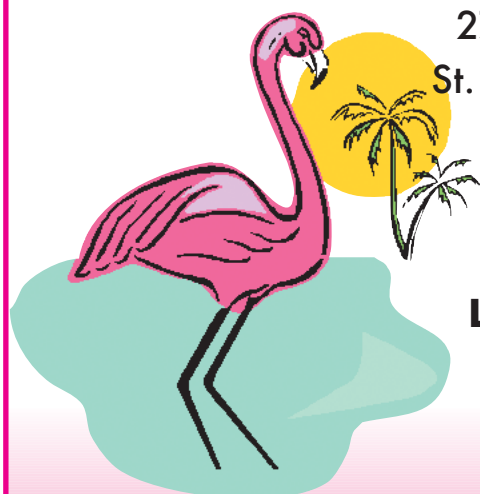
Closer to truth is that the Matriarchs of the Yamassee hid them under other tribal names, to preserve their culture & heritage! A majority of the history of the Yamassee Tribe, was passed down to Chief Sekhu and his mother, from their grandmother and great great aunts.

Other Yamassee tribal members can also share in the history of their tribe, which was passed down the ancestral family lines. Although we have learned to "forgive", "We Shall Never Forget".

The Yamassee Chief says that because

SEE Yamassee, page 5

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## Council of American Indian Organizations Meet with the Nation Of Islam

The past month has been eventful at the COAIO.

The council is comprised of 31 American Indian organizations.

and mediation.

This Council was founded in the spirit of the former Indian Center Task Force (ICTF)



From left, Sis Evon X, Nava, Vicki Gambala (Cherokee), Charles Muhammad, Shirley Murphy (Lakota), Ahmed Muhammad, Honorable Hugh Muhammad local representative for the Honorable Louis Farrakhan, Hank Murphy (Kumeyaay), Henry Mandibles (Apache), Randy Edmonds, (Kiowa).

At its apex the organization met regularly in a relaxed native style although a chairman was selected the position was informal and mainly served the purpose of providing bureaucratic structure.. Communal and Volunteerism covered everything from secretarial duties, such as taking notes for the meeting to cleaning up. The atmosphere was conducive to creative planning and functioning and Roberts Rules of Order yielded to consensus.

That was then this is now.

Today many members are eager to get back on course, to come together on a monthly basis and participate in a collective agenda that includes advocacy, networking, community calendaring, needs assessments, program funding support,

1. To maintain consistent and effective networking meetings in order to improve communication and strengthen mutual support for the benefit and empowerment of the Native American community.

2. To serve as a unified advocate voice for community issues requiring our intervention.

Meetings are held the fourth Friday of the month except for November and December as the Council organizes the two Community Holiday Dinners.

Members include: American Indian Chamber of Commerce of CA, American Indian Movement, American Indian Recruitment Program American Indian Source, American Indian Studies – SDSU, Indian Training Trust Fund, Taspan Group American Indian Warriors Association,

California Indian Environmentalists, Explorers Club, Grossmont College Cross Cultural Studies Tribal Indian Nurses Association, Hummingbird Consulting, Indian Education Program – SDUSD, Indian Human Resource Center Tonkawa Seniors, American Indian Health Center,

Indian Voices, Kid Korps Native American Chapter Southern Indian Health Council, Kumeyaay Community College, Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, MS Choctaw of California Native Americans Council, Peace and Dignity Project, Native American Women's Intertribal Circle, Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science - Mesa College, UCSD Native American Alumni Chapter Sycuan Intertribal Vocational Rehabilitation, Citizen Potawatomi Nation – So. Ca. Region Office, UCSD.

Last months meeting provided a cultural networking opportunity. Members of Muhammad Mosque No. 8 exchanged hospitality and joined the Council of American Indian Organizations to introduce themselves and join in prayer to express solidarity with the Indian com-



Barry Muhammad and Henry Mandibles exchange greetings.

munity. During the round discussion table High Muhammad indicated that they are actively seeking support from the community to lock arms and walk together.

It was announced that the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan will be speaking in San Diego at the Convention Center May 27th. They invited and encouraged everyone to come to the event to hear his message "Guidance in a Time of Trouble."

The Council of American Indian Organizations looks to support positive community events and to move forward with guidance from the past.

## Organization National Disabled Sailing Championship

On 24-28 October 2012 at the Southwestern Yacht Club San Diego  
NATIONAL DISABLED SAILING CHAMPIONSHIP

This is an **OPEN EVENT** with seven sailing classes: Access 203/Access303/Access Liberty/Martin 16/SONAR/SKD18/and Capri 22 Show your Native Pride by having an entry with your tribe's story on the sails and the hull with a disabled tribal member competing(no sailing experience needed). Let us fill San Diego Bay in October showing our heritage. Rose Davis editor is the media consultant and has information on how to enter this once in a lifetime event!

SEND an E-MAIL to: [rdavis4973@aol.com](mailto:rdavis4973@aol.com)  
<http://indianvoices.net>

## NATIVE AMERICAN BASKETS PAINTING by STAN NATCHEZ - \$1,000.00



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Beautiful 3-D look painting by renowned Native American artist STAN NATCHEZ. This piece was purchased in the late 1980's and is absolutely stunning. The baskets in the painting look like you could reach out and touch them. They seem to stand out from the canvas. A gallery in the Southwest recently sold a similar painting by Mr. Natchez for \$1,400.00. Must see to appreciate the real beauty here.

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# Daily Readings from the AA Lodge

Published by the Native American Indian General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous

In 1990 Earl L., a Paiute Indian was given a vision. Earl saw the Indian Nations coming together in unity, celebrating sobriety and embracing their culture. He saw the helping hand of AA as being attractive within Indian Country. Earl's vision saw our traditional ways as adding to the warmth and unconditional love of AA's principals. In 1999, on the day Earl passed into the spirit world, he signed a letter to the Native Nations honoring their sovereignty and requesting their consensus for the NAIGSO-AA to interact with their people. Now Earl joins us in Council and the vision rests on our shoulders.

This book of daily readings is a con-

tinuation of Earl's vision, a spirit-led effort to bring the principals of Alcoholics Anonymous and the Native American peoples together, to focus the healing of AA recovery. It is hoped that the combination of the Elders' quotes and the spiritual principals found throughout A.A. literature will be a service to many who have difficulty understanding the A.A. message as written.

We believe there is a strong need to provide A.A. recovery to our people in keeping with their customs and traditions. It is our desire to bring the similarities and the differences of the spiritual principals, as expressed, in the A.A. literature and by Native American elders, into a work which will enhance understanding for those afflicted with the destruction caused by alcoholism in Indian Country.

A.A. literature has been heavily influenced by the culture in which it was

written, just as the wisdom of our elders is a reflection of the Native American spiritually. Our hope is that these meditations will add a new dimension to the A.A. message of recovery.

You will find much repetition of certain A.A. quotes on these pages, which may suggest a common thread running through the spiritually of Native Americans and A.A. literature.

Hopefully, no one of either culture will be offended by the use of the elders' quotes where there is simply no comparison to AA principals, but that hearts will be opened and minds fueled for all peoples to embrace their own spiritually in AA recovery.

During the past twenty two years of this writer's endeavor to follow Earl's vision of service to Indian Peoples and Associates two major hindrances became apparent. They are as follows: 1) A good share of the Tribal Nations' leadership councils are practicing alcoholics and/or their families are alcoholics. And 2) For lasting sobriety a personal contact with the Creator is needed. This contact needs

to be in concert, compatible, with an individual's roots (culture). A bridge is needed for an individual(s) to embrace their own spiritually. For an Indian to be comfortable in AA Recovery he/she needs to be aware there is no conflict between Indian and AA spiritually. The principals are compatible. Once this awareness settles in the barrier of "AA is Whiteman's religion" is dissolved and lasting recovery becomes obtainable. The Daily Readings From the AA Lodge takes direct documented quotes of Indian leaders/elders and parallels them with direct quotes from AA literature. Many of the quotes from the elders used in the manuscript came through years of searching through thousands of books, most not readily available except in research libraries. The manuscript may be viewed at <http://www.naigso-aa.org>. The manuscripts are not for sale but are given free of charge upon request. We believe it is the Creator's way "... sow a seed in the need and it will grow".

## Child Refugees: Victims of Inaction on Immigration Reform

The detention of 200 child immigrants in temporary housing at Lackland Air Force Base last week was shocking and unsettling.

It put a youthful face on the problem of U.S. immigration. Here the "illegal alien" is a child from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador or Honduras crossing the South Texas desert or border port with no parent, seeking refuge from poverty, abuse, child sex trafficking, or just looking to reunite with their parents.

The problem is not new, but it is growing. The Office of Refugee Resettlement reports that during the past four months, 5,252 kids landed in U.S. custody without a parent or guardian. This is almost double what it was from the same period a year ago. Last month alone, 1,390 youths arrived.

The cause of the surge baffles even

the experts. In part it may be due to tougher border security, making it more difficult for parents working in the U.S. to return for their children. The size of the Border Patrol has doubled in the past few years.

These child refugees are collateral damage of the inability of the Congress and the President to reach agreement in the past four years on comprehensive immigration reform in a politically polarized environment.

With no federal action, last year 42 states and Puerto Rico enacted 197 new laws and 109 new resolutions on immigration. Georgia, Indiana, South Carolina and Utah passed extreme measures modeled after the law in Arizona.

The current federal immigration laws cannot track the flow of immigrants. Keeping undocumented immigrants in the shadows leads to human rights abuses like those experienced by the child refugees.

*Robert Brischetto runs Social Research Services in Lakehills, Texas. He was executive director of the Southwest Voter Research Institute from 1982-1995. He can be reached at [rbrischetto@wireweb.net](mailto:rbrischetto@wireweb.net).*

## Good Karma Kitchen World Beat Center

### Pay It Forward - Vegan Food Served

Run by volunteers, our meals are cooked and served with love, and offered to the guest as a genuine gift. To complete the full circle of giving and sustain this experiment, guests make contributions in the spirit of pay-it-for-

ward to those who will come after them. In keeping this chain going, the generosity of both guests and volunteers helps to create a future that moves from transaction to trust, from self-oriented isolation to shared commitment, and from fear of scarcity to celebration of abundance.

More information and online registration: Good Karma Kitchen

Blessings,  
WorldBeat Cultural Center

## Yamasee

Continued from page 3

"indigenous Black Indians" have been continuously overlooked by the United States officials, now given the proven facts of our Existence and emergence, seek to be recognized by main stream Indigenous forums. Moreover, that such organizations like the B.B.I.A. ( Black Bureau of Indian Affairs) and long-time advocate on behalf of tribes of color, Dr. Angela Molette (Tuscaloosa Ohoya) Black

Warrior Woman leader of the 5 Civilized Tribes Legal and Educational Fund based in Oklahoma need to be supported by all organizations who want to make the claim of their "indigenous, Black Indian status".

We must stop looking for acceptance in other places, and just accept ourselves with such organizations as the B.B.I.A.!

[Http://www.yamaseegov.org](http://www.yamaseegov.org)  
<http://www.yamaseenation.org>  
More on the Yamasee in a later edition.

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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).

## Bureau of Black Indian Affairs Supports Elizabeth Warren and Her Claim of American Native Ancestry Oral History is Sufficient

Elizabeth Warren Massachusetts Democratic Senate candidate has expressed her belief that she has American Indian ancestry. The Harvard Law Professor further claims that she knows she has American Indian blood because a female relative told her that her grandfather had "high cheek bones like all the Indians do." "And she said, 'your mother got those same great cheekbones.'" It was revealed that Harvard once described Warren as a Native American minority.

## Congressmember Maxine Waters and (Pompey) Phil Wilkes Fixico

The Cinco De Mayo Celebration in Gardena, California brought together Congresswoman Maxine Waters and Phil Fixico.. Seminole Maroon Descendant, Creek and Cherokee Freedmen descendant, Honorary Heniha/Spokesman for the Wildcat/John Horse Band of the Texas Seminoles and California Seminole Mico.

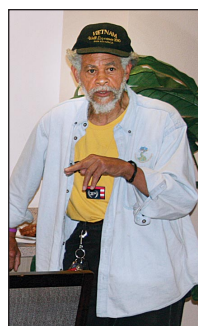
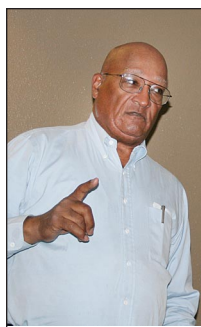
The event held May 5th, 2012 offered the perfect opportunity for a book presentation.

In his continuing guerilla marketing book presentation campaign Fixico gifted the congresswoman with a copy of Black Indians by William L. Katz.

He stated "I am extremely proud to be represented by the Congressmember. She is dedicated and works tirelessly as a champion of the People.

He then addressed those in attendance in Spanish

Gracias, a todos, soy un descendiente de los Seminole Maroonos de Florida. Necesito dar a gracias, a la gente de Mexico, porque en el ano Mil Ochocientos Cuarenta y Nueve, mis antepasados fueron viviendo en Los Estados Unidos. Pero ellos debian que escaparon, porque ay esclavitud in esta pais. Ellos fueron a Mexico, donde no



## Seventh Bureau of Black Indian Affairs Meeting

**At a time when the technology of destruction and the capacity of human destructiveness is so great, this is exactly the time to create a common global effort to build communities of peace.**

A lively and animated group of cultural seekers gathered Last Tuesday, May 8 at: 699 14th Street Market Village Apartments Community Lounge to dis-

cuss, socialize and carry on with the continuing Bureau of Black Indian Affairs meetings. Everyone involved is a member of the Steering Committee and the meetings are run by community consensus. A lecture by Chuck Ambers of the Casa de Moro Old Town Museum provided structure for this meeting. He spoke about the Genome Project, an international scientific research project with a primary goal of determining the sequence of chemical base pairs, which make up DNA, and the importance of this technology as it relates to the com-

munity. While this captivating and educational presentation held the group spellbound, it also served to demonstrate the wholistic growth and development of the Bureau of Black Indian Affairs while providing essential community education. This unique community with a shared history of Indian heritage has been coming together monthly to unravel the hidden and forbidden history of a people and to bring it into the light. Each meeting is coming together with ease as if to follow the poet Rumi "What you seek, is seeking you".



Maxine Waters and Phil Fixico

ay esclavitud y el gente de Mexico "Dieron un Bienvenidos con las Brazos Abiertos". Muchas Gracias a la Pais de Mexico y sus Decendientes ! VIVA MEXICO!

The English translation: I am a descendant of Seminole Maroons from Florida and due to Slavery in the US in 1849, my ancestors had to escape to Florida where they "were welcomed with open arms".

He was warmly greeted.

## Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor



Rice Field Canal, Georgetown, SC

### Gullah/Geechee Commission Distributes Management Plan for Public Review

The Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission is poised to submit its Management Plan for review by the public and, subsequently, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior in the spring of 2012. Its management approach was developed with input from the public and potential partners. It focuses on three independent pillars: education, economic development, and documentation and preservation. Through implementation of this plan, the Commission aims to increase understanding and awareness of Gullah/Geechee people, culture, and history, which are rooted in the rice heritage of Africans, predominantly West Africans. The Commission also will support heritage-related economic development, primarily for the economic sustainability of Gullah/Geechee people and communities; promote preservation of land and natural resources related to the culture; and preserve Gullah/Geechee resources, mainly through documentation. The plan, in part, includes a definition and historical overview of Gullah/Geechee people and culture, a list of cultural resources, and an interpretation framework. The content is designed to intrigue potential partners, stakeholders, and community members to become vested in its implementation.

The Corridor's Web site, [www.gullahgeecheecorridor.org](http://www.gullahgeecheecorridor.org), became available in 2011 as an online destination to learn about the history and culture of Gullah/Geechee people in the four-state heritage area comprising SC, GA, NC, and FL. Partnership applications are available on the website for interested organizations to apply to become an official partner of the Commission.

[www.gullahgeecheecorridor.org](http://www.gullahgeecheecorridor.org)



## UGRR Pushes for Human Rights and Dignity

National Underground Railroad Conference in St. Augustine June 20-24  
The passage of the Civil Rights Act which marked the beginning of a new era in America. The National Park Service will stage the sixth annual National Underground Railroad Conference in St. Augustine from June 20-24. It's all part of the NPS's Network to Freedom program that revolves around this crucial and important tool for human rights and dignity.

The Civil Rights Movement and St. Augustine are tied together, which makes it a fitting location for a range of topics that include how, from the 16th century to the end of the Civil War, people resisted slavery through escape and flight into Spanish Florida, the Caribbean Islands, Indian Territory, Texas and Mexico. In the process, this "Underground Railroad" – a complex network of abolitionists and sympathizers who shielded slaves and

guided them toward freedom whether north or south – shaped the cultures of the Gullah/Geechee and Black Seminole communities. Descendants of these peoples are encouraged to attend. They will join scholars and cultural historians who will offer presentations with invited guests including Secretary of State Ken Denzler, Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown, and Jennifer Carroll, Florida's Lt. Governor. Carroll, incidentally, is a native of Trinidad-Tobago, the Caribbean islands where 5,000 acres were granted to 500 African-Americans who fought for the British during the Revolutionary War.

Florida has a rich and diverse cultural heritage of This five-day forum will help us understand who and what made us what we are today.

To learn more about St. Augustine and the Network to Freedom Program and Underground Railroad contact Turkiya L. Lowe, Ph.D., at 404-507-5830.

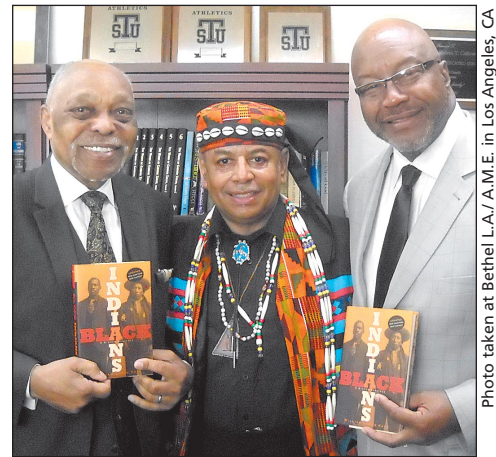
## "NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE SYMPOSIUM"

Rev. Dr. Cecil "Chip" Murray, Pompey Fixico and Rev. Dr. Kelvin Calloway

Rev. Dr. "Chip" Murray's efforts during the 1992 Rodney King Rebellion to end the violence will never be forgotten 27 years earlier the nation was stunned by its first major uprising also in L.A.

The first of which was the Watts Revolt which occurred in 1965. It started when law enforcement officers attempted to arrest Marquette Fry. Mr. Frye was born in Oklahoma and his mother has claimed to be related to members of the Caesar Bruner Band, also of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. Pompey Bruner Fixico is "Papa" Caesar Bruner's g-grandson.

Last year Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa L.A.'s current City Father honored Fixico by allowing him to become the "First Black Indian" to participate in the Los



On Fixico's left, holding a copy of *Black Indians* by William L. Katz is Rev. Dr. Kelvin Calloway the Pastor of Bethel L.A., AME Church on 79th and Western Ave. where the "No Justice, No Peace Symposium" was held.

Angeles Celebration of their American Indian Heritage month festivities at city hall.

### International Festival of the Gullah/Geechee Nation

## De Gullah/Geechee Nation: Reconnecting the Gullah/Geechee Diaspora by Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation

([www.QueenQuet.com](http://www.QueenQuet.com))

The Gullah/Geechee Nation which exist from Jacksonville, NC to Jacksonville, FL and encompasses the Sea Islands and 30-35 miles inland to the St. John's River is the Gullah/Geechee Nation. The Gullah/Geechee culture evolved through the African Diaspora that was created via the TransAtlantic Slave Trade which brought numerous African ethnic groups into Sullivan's Island which is in Charleston County, SC. Over 40% of all Africans enslaved in North America came through Sullivan's Island and were held in "pest houses" or "pestilence houses" before they were

then taken downtown to the peninsula and sold and were then dispersed on the Sea Islands.

The soil of the Sea Islands became the place from which the Gullah/Geechee culture grew as the Africans became interconnected with the Cusabo, Yemassee, Edisto, Creek, and other indigenous American ethnic groups in the region. As they banded together in their battle against enslavement, they came to be called "Seminole." Today the same people are called "Seminole," "Black Seminole," Afro-Seminole, and "Musco." No matter what names are

used, these are all people of the Gullah/Geechee Diaspora now residing in Oklahoma, Texas, the Bahamas, and Mexico as well as some that remained in the bayous of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana. They remained linked and are the unconquerable ones that continued to fight for their right to freedom and to stand for self-determination.

The Gullah/Geechee Nation has continued to reach out to and embrace all of their kinspeople and each year the "Gullah/Geechee Reunion" is an opportunity for them to return to their homeland in the Gullah/Geechee Nation and

share their stories and cultural traditions. The "Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival™ 2012" is themed "Gullah/Geechee Jubilee" and will be celebration of the reuniting of the entire Gullah/Geechee Diaspora. This is the official international festival of the Gullah/Geechee Nation which will take place in Charleston County, SC August 3-5, 2012 ([www.gullahgeechee.info](http://www.gullahgeechee.info)). As Queen Quet, Chieftess and Head-of-State for the Gullah/Geechee Nation states, "E da time fa we cum toggedda! Bring de famlee ta de Gullah/Geechee Jubilee!"

For more information on the event or to connect with the Gullah/Geechee Nation, go to [www.officialgullahgeechee.info](http://www.officialgullahgeechee.info), call (843) 838-1171, or email [GullGeeCo@aol.com](mailto:GullGeeCo@aol.com).

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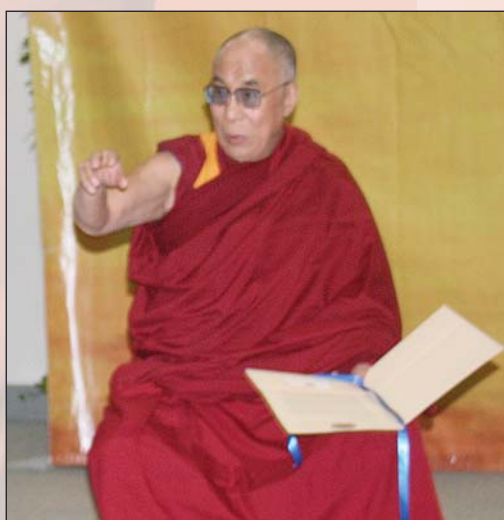


# His Holiness the Dalai Lama

"If there is love, there is hope to have real families, real brotherhood, real equanimity, real peace. If the love within your mind is lost, if you continue to see other beings as enemies, then no matter how much knowledge or education you have, no matter how much material progress is made, only suffering and confusion will ensue.

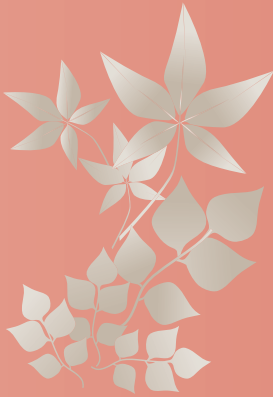
Human beings will continue to deceive and overpower one another. Basically, everyone exists in the very nature of suffering, so to abuse or mistreat each other is futile. The foundation of all spiritual practice is love. That you practice this well is my only request."

April 19, 2012





“The roots of all  
goodness lie in  
the soil of appreciation  
for goodness.”





## The Shirley Connection



Shirley Weber and Shirley Murphy

The Dalai Lama experience in San Diego was certainly a coming together opportunity for the entire community, particularly if your name is Shirley.

Shirley Murphy, (Sycuan Reservation) and Shirley Weber (Candidate for Assembly 79th District) bumped into each other in the Hallway at SDSU on the way to the event. The serendipitous meeting between the two old friends developed quickly into a caucus covering politics, relationship building and support for the Weber campaign which *Indian Voices* endorses.

## A Letter Sent to Gerry Braun, SD Parks & Rec

Greetings Mr. Braun,

In response to your last email in which you stated the following...

I hope you are doing your best to dissuade people from thinking that the World Beat Center's status in Balboa Park is at risk. WBC has received multiple letters stating the position of Park & Rec Department and that WBC has been given 30 days to comply. This has now expired and we have no formal documents to insure that our status as an institution in Balboa Park is not at risk. The public are entitled to their opinions and many community groups have researched this situation. Without an official position by your office on the status of WorldBeat Center, the public have no other option but to make assumptions based on documents available online regarding Balboa Park developments being initiated by Mayor Sanders Office, Park & Rec, City Council and various Planning groups.

No good can come from irresponsible rumors and ugly allegations.

This statement presumes that WBC is promoting nonfactual information. As addressed in our last response to your office, the flyer you acquired was generated by a separate community group. This is more than obvious on the bottom of the flyer is - created by "group name" not WBC. In reference to allegations, only those contained within the Park & Rec letter stating WBC staff activities have been made by City Staff towards WBC. Our position is to obtain a Long Term Lease, which has been promised for over 17 years and to receive equal rights within the City of San Diego's Park & Rec Department.

As you know, I have sought to coordinate the City's responses to the various issues concerning the World Beat Center in a way that leads us to common goals. This week I will send you a letter laying out a path forward.

As stated in our last email, WBC has the impression that the Mayors position as Chief of Park & Recreation Department compromises the unbiased ability to mediate a fair compromise by both sides and that the continued actions of the Park & Rec department enforcement has proved this. A non respect to a moratorium mentioned by Councilman

Gloria also shows this.

For WBC to be able to work toward common goals we need to know what those are. Your office has not responded to Councilman Gloria's requests for open communication or the answers to the questions sent over 1 week ago from Stephen Hill. Please see the forwarded email below from Stephen Hill - Request for input re World Beat Center. Without this information the public as well as the WBC will not have a desire to negotiate.

WBC will continue to serve the community of San Diego through it's programs, classes and events. We would hope that the Mayor would have compassion and support these efforts. WorldBeat Center is loved and respected by the citizens of San Diego, however having to operate on a daily basis for years under a city department that has held on to grudges and old vendettas prevents the City of San Diego from achieving it's own goals of being a Multi Cultural and Diverse City.

*Sincerely,  
Makeda Cheatom Executive Director,  
WorldBeat Cultural Center A Non Profit  
Multi Cultural Institution in Balboa Park*

## Jane Dumas Day

Continued from page 1

Dumas and the Kumeyaay tribe — including a raising of the official Kumeyaay-Diegueño Nation tribal flag.

This was the first time the Kumeyaay tribal colors were raised at the Kumeyaay Lake and Campground, and it is significant because it is displayed alongside the American and California state flags in a public park.

Jane blessed the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center when it opened in 1995

## WorldBeat Cultural Center Presents The Twinkle Brothers with Della Grant Roots Reggae from Jamaica

Date: Friday June 22nd

Time: 8 pm Cost: \$15

Venue: WorldBeat Cultural Center  
2100 Park Blvd. San Diego 92101

Website: [www.worldbeatcenter.org](http://www.worldbeatcenter.org)

Jesse Graham (619) 230-1190 public-  
ity@worldbeatcenter.org Artist Website  
<http://www.twinklemusic.com/>

## DAY OF THE DRUM - Music is a Weapon

A Free Community Event  
Keep the Beat - Protect WorldBeat Center

SUN, MAY 20th at 2pm

Featuring:

AFRICAN SHOWBOYZ from Ghana

LOS PINGOUS from Argentina

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JUAN SANCHEZ Afro-Cuban

NANA ASIEDU Children's Drumming  
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African / Caribbean food will be available!

Information and online registration:  
<http://worldbeatculturalcenter.member-lodge.com/>

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WorldBeat Cultural Center

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## Dalai Lama

Continued from page 1

the Kumeyaay and local tribes were at tentative and reverently respectful as The Dalai Lama drew similarities with Tibet's struggle for independence from China with the indigenous audience members.

Ancient Kumeyaay Bird Songs with haunting gourd rattles and the gentle dance of female relatives preceded the Dalai Lama's message.

His holiness emphasized the value of Western knowledge with Indigenous knowledge for the people to insure a balanced education and a quality egalitarian life.

He emphasized the importance of keeping language alive in order to stay connected culturally.

The Dalai Lama nodded approvingly when he was apprised of existing Tribal efforts to recover ancestral remains from the University of San Diego in order to conduct a cultural appropriate repatriation and internment.

Born Tenzin Gyatso in 1935 in north-eastern Tibet, he was recognized as the reincarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama when he was 2 years old. After the Chinese government suppressed a Tibetan national uprising in 1959, the Dalai Lama began living in exile in Dharmasala, India. During his extensive

travels since, he has visited more than 60 countries, engaging in dialogues with national and spiritual leaders.

UC San Diego was the first stop on a two-day tour of San Diego universities by the man who is the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhists and a 1989 Nobel Peace Prize winner revered by millions of people, Buddhist and non-Buddhist, worldwide.

During his visit to San Diego he discussed climate change with UC San Diego professors Veerabhadran Ramanathan and Richard Somerville at RIMAC Arena. The talk was titled "The Global Impact of Climate Change: Balance Through Universal Responsibility, Compassion and Human Consciousness."

At USD, he discussed "Cultivating Peace Through Justice." and Upholding Ethics and Compassion in Challenging Times.

The audience with the Tribal dignitaries brought to an end a, spiritually educational and uplifting tour from this remarkable teacher. The event concluded with a collective message of spiritual goodwill and continued prayers of support for His Holiness from Viejas Chairman, Anthony Pico.

*Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them humanity cannot survive.*

## Murder of White Buffalo Calf

A North Texas ranch is offering a reward for information leading to the arrest in the killing of its sacred white buffalo. The rare white buffalo, a male calf named Lightning Medicine Cloud, was found slaughtered and skinned on April 30 on Lakota Ranch near Greenville, Texas, just shy of its first birthday. Its mother died the next day.

The ranch's owner, Arby Little Soldier, said he thinks the mother was poisoned. Little Soldier, the great-great-grandson of Sitting Bull, was away on a trip when the white buffalo was killed. "Someone who

probably knew we were out of town killed him and stripped the meat," Little Soldier told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "I think it was a professional hit on the mom."

According to the paper, the ranch and its supporters are offering \$45,000 for information leading to the killer. According to the ranch's website, Native Americans "see the white buffalo calf as the sign to begin life's sacred hoop."

And they are very rare. According to the National Bison Association, just one out of every 10 million buffalo born are white.

## North Park Festival of Arts

**Happiness in a Glass Served in the Craft Beer Block Sunday, May 20, 2012 North Park, San Diego, CA**

Go on a delicious exploration of beers in The Craft Beer Block on Sunday, May 20th, 2012 at the North Park Festival of Arts. These craft brews produced by Southern California's favorite breweries will please your pallet. Try the delightful reds and pair your favorite dish with the perfect Pale Ale. The Craft Beer Block offers festival goers over 25 breweries to

appreciate. It will be difficult to choose only 12 to taste! The local breweries include Mother Earth Brewing Co., The Green Flash, Ballast Point, and Coronado Brewing Company! These San Diego favorites will be out in full force to sample their delicious blends of hops, barley, and wheat.

To learn more about this event or to purchase tickets to the Craft Beer Block please visit [NorthParkFestivalofArts.com](http://NorthParkFestivalofArts.com) or call North Park Main Street at 619.294.2501.

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## Welcome to Kumeyaay.com



This web site is dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the Kumeyaay culture. **Kumeyaay.com** tells the story from the Kumeyaay perspective, and is the premiere source for Kumeyaay Indian information.

Visit us at: [kumeyaay.com](http://kumeyaay.com)  
Email: [larry@kumeyaay.com](mailto:larry@kumeyaay.com)



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## Allensworth Universal Cultural Family Fair

Allensworth Community Volunteer Association, WE CAN Foundation; Lula Washington Dance Theatre; Barbara Morrison Performing Arts Center (BMPAC); Rhythms of the Village Production; Blessed- Love; NAACP; (PAFF ) Pan African Film Festival; KAOS, (HAFF) Healthy African American Families; Buffalo Soldiers; Jazz Zone; American Native Indian; Latino; Asian; Pacific Islanders; African; African American; and European communities across the state invite you to join them in a celebration and global cultural discovery at the Allensworth Universal Cultural Family Fair, Saturday July 21 and Sunday, July 22, 2012, from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM each day at the Allensworth Historic State Park in

Delano.

Building on the success of the Allensworth Scat To Rap Family Music Festival, the Blues and Gospel Festivals, The Allensworth Universal Cultural Family Fair celebrates the legacy and pioneering spirit of the Allensworth Township and the richness and diversity of California's history and cultures. Just as Colonel Allensworth traveled the world in his role as Military Chaplain, Allensworth's friends and global neighbors came to visit and honor the historic township of Allensworth. This two-day Family Fair will also feature indigenous drummers featuring African, American Indian, South American, Pacific Islanders and Asian drummers, folkloric music and dancers. The Fair will close

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### National Park Service & Interior Dept

The National Park Service and the Interior Department has announced the release of the final version of a general management plan that would establish the nation's first tribal national park.

The plan recommends the establishment of the nation's first national park in partnership with the Oglala Sioux tribe.

The land was taken from the tribe by the federal government in the 1940s for a practice bombing range and is now managed by the park service as part of the Badlands park.

Although Congress must still approve the plan, the announcement means the National Park Service will start working with the tribe, public and Congress to craft legislation for the new park.

#### South BayFront POW WOW

August 11-12 2012

Sat: 10am to 10pm

Sun 10am – 8pm

A community gathering celebrating our Native American Cultures in a natural setting, highlighting the beauty of our Bayfront. The Pow Wow, a weekend

observing and conserving our Native American cultural history with traditional dancers and cultural displays, will celebrate Chula Vista's shared diversity and serve to educate the public on our historical heritage.

Set Up from noon on

Breakdown – Sunday 12 after 6pm

Location Chula Vista Bayside Park

#### San Diego Museum Council presents El Dia De Los Museos (Day of the Museums)

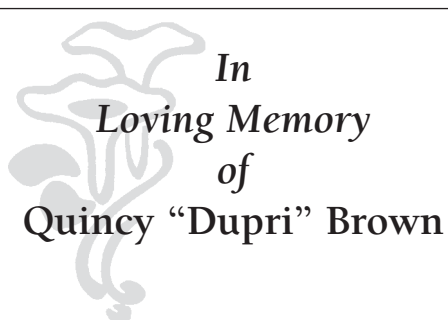
Sunday, May 20, 2012

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on Sunday, July 22nd with a drum circle inviting all global audience to participate.

We are excited to announce that the Fair will be a completely "Green" Fair with a Green Innovation Pavilion and that "green scholarships/intern credits" are available for volunteers to assist with the "Green" Fair component. Other components of the Fair will include a Health Pavilion; Travel Pavilion;

Educational Pavilion; Music and Dance Stages International; Food Fair; Antiques & History Pavilion; Fine Arts & Crafts Exhibitors; Children's Pavilion; and historical and book exhibits throughout the Fair.

For sponsorship, exhibitor, volunteer opportunities, contact Rev. C. Eziokwu Washington at the WE CAN Foundation, (323) 293-9845, eziokwu@wecan-foundation.org

#### We would like you to share your story about living with the Hepatitis C Virus Quality of Life Among Hepatitis C Virus American Indians in Rural Southern California

This study will involve a confidential, personal interview that will take about 60-75 minutes.

**Age:** Are you 18 years or older?

**Criteria:** Are you living with Hepatitis C Virus?

**Volunteer:** Are you American Indian/Alaska Native?

**Community:** Are you a patient at IHC, Inc.?

There is little research and knowledge about how American Indians/Alaska Natives are living with Hepatitis C. This study will have

*This study has been approved by both the Indian Health Council, Inc. and University of San Diego Institutional Review Boards.*

important implications for our community regarding Hepatitis C education and program development, enhance disease management, culturally appropriate services, and contribution to Indian Health policy and practice. To work towards this goal, we are asking you to consider volunteering for this research study.

*Eligible participants receive a \$25 Target Gift card for their participation.*

Please contact study coordinator:

Dale Todicheeny, PhD(c), RN

Telephone: 602-315-1315

Email: dtodicheeny@gmail.com

Interview Locations:

Rincon Clinic

50100 Golsh Road,

Valley Center, CA 92082

Santa Ysabel Clinic

110 1/2 School House Canyon Rd

Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

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- 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.
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New Management Partner Dr. Carroll Waymon

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# The Punishment for Drug Possession Should Not Be Life-Long

by Margaret Dooley-Sammuli

Anyone who has struggled, or seen a loved one struggle, with alcohol addiction knows that drug abuse is a difficult, personal, and complicated issue, not one that's going to be solved with a bumper sticker or simplistic solutions – or by sending people to jail for years on end. The state Senate is now poised to make a modest but important change to how California addresses drug possession.

Senator Mark Leno has proposed legislation – Senate Bill 1506 – to revise the penalty for simple drug possession under state law from a felony, which is punishable by up to three years in jail, to a misdemeanor, which is punishable by up to one year in jail as well as fines and probation. The bill was passed by the Senate Public Safety Committee on April 17 and will be voted on by the full Senate within days.

Please join a wide-ranging coalition of African-American, civil rights, drug treatment, employment & reentry, faith, health, Latino, law enforcement, LGBT, social justice, and youth organizations in urging Senators Kehoe and Vargas in San Diego and Senators Wyland and Anderson in North County to vote for this critical legislation.

California has the nation's largest diversion program for low-level drug offenders. Even with that program, however, 18,000 Californians were sentenced to jail or prison simply for possessing a small amount of drugs for personal use in 2010, according to the Department of Justice. (This only counts those for whom simple drug possession was the most serious convicting offense.)

Under SB 1506, police will still make drug possession arrests, District Attorneys will pursue charges, and the courts can order incarceration, fines, probation, treatment and other condi-

tions of probation. However, law enforcement and the courts will be able to handle non-serious offenders much more efficiently, saving hundreds of millions of dollars. The Legislative Analyst's Office estimates that SB 1506 will generate \$1 billion in just five years, a wind-fall that could be invested in treatment after years of devastating cuts.

At least as important as the cost savings, SB 1506 will support public safety. It will hold people accountable while relieving them of life-long barriers – to employment, education, and housing – that undermine sobriety and crime prevention. A felony conviction equals lifetime punishment and economic disenfranchisement for individuals and their families. Revising the penalty to a misdemeanor will support community reintegration for people who once struggled with a drug problem.

For drug offenders, treatment – not incarceration – is effective crime prevention. Studies consistently associate harsh penalties with worse outcomes for drug offenders. In contrast, treatment reduces crimes like drug selling, shoplifting and assaults. SB 1506 will free up significant resources for counties to reinvest in proven public safety strategies such as drug treatment.

People with drug problems need treatment. When we stop spending millions of dollars a year to incarcerate people whose only crime is addiction, we will free up funding that can be used effectively to help more people get the treatment they need. Ask your state Senator to vote "yes" on this bill.

Margaret Dooley-Sammuli is Senior Policy Advocate for Criminal Justice and Drug Policy at the ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties: [www.aclusandiego.org](http://www.aclusandiego.org)

# American Indian Community Night



April 26 at the Ballard Center was Amateur Hour for the San Diego Indian community.

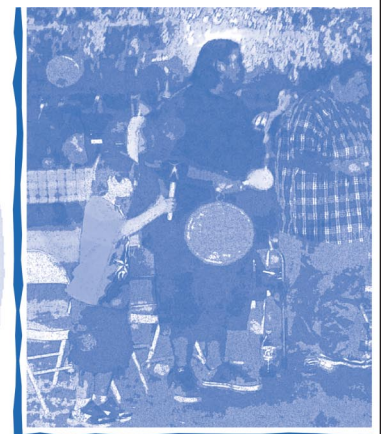
Young and old came out to show their talents. Manuel and Cecela Flores spoke to the youth and told them the secret of healthy relationships and how to avoid the negative influences around them.



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Childrens Games - 2 pm  
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-Games start at 3 pm  
Dinner served from 4 - 6 pm  
Peon Games at dusk (Adults & Kids)



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# NEVADA NEWS

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## Toquop Announcement Clears Way for Clean Energy

**Plant was last coal-fired project in Nevada**

**Navajos fighting Sithe Global on Navajo Nation, hope Desert Rock will be halted**

by Phillip Yates, Resource Media

LAS VEGAS, NV – A decision by the Sithe Global Energy to abandon a proposal for a new coal-burning power plant near Mesquite, Nevada drew praise from a diverse group of voices who applauded the end to one of the last remaining obstacles in the state's transition to a full-fledged clean energy economy.

Sithe's parent company, the Blackstone Group, officially announced on a conference call this afternoon that it was dropping the proposed 750-megawatt Toquop Energy Project. Joining Blackstone's Tony James was Senator Harry Reid and Mesquite Mayor Susan Holecheck. The company said that it is instead pursuing a 700-MW natural gas plant with a 100-MW photovoltaic solar plant.

"With its vast wind, solar and geothermal resources and potential for meeting demand with energy efficiency programs, the decision to move away from coal really does bode well for Nevada,"

said Charles Benjamin, the state director of Western Resource Advocates. "It opens doors to an even swifter transition to 21st century energy technologies that will create jobs and revitalize Nevada's economy."

Early in 2009, there were still three proposals for new coal-burning power plants in Nevada, which would have generated 4,850 megawatts of electricity, enough to power roughly 2.4 million homes. NV Energy shelved its 2,500 MW Ely Energy Center in February and LS Power followed a month later when it abandoned plans for the 1,600-MW White Pine Energy Station. Both companies, whose plants would have been located near Ely, cited the financial risks, uncertainty of coal and the desire to move forward with projects focused more on renewable energy technologies. Toquop was the last of the three plants still moving forward.

"Nevada's future lies with clean renewable energy, not outdated fossil fuel technologies," said Steve Rypka, a renewable energy and green living consultant who owns GreenDream Enterprises in Henderson. "Clearing the last obstacle out of the way for that to happen is a big step forward for Nevada."

Residents of Mesquite and southeastern Nevada, along with their counter-

parts just across the border in southwestern Utah, had fought the Toquop plant for years over concerns about pollution from its smokestacks and the effect on scarce local water resources. They said Sithe's decision would help protect the region's air quality and public health.

"We can all breathe a little easier now," said Michele Burkett of the group Defend Our Desert. "Now we hope that this can pave the way for Nevada to become our nation's leader in developing home-grown clean, renewable energy. That will enable us to become an energy exporter while growing our own

economy with good long-term jobs."

Former Public Utilities Commissioner and Nevada Consumer Advocate Tim Hay said the decision by Sithe and Blackstone are in line with trends by utilities and power companies nationwide. In the last several years, more than 125 proposals for coal-burning plants have been halted as developers or regulators determine that there are affordable and reliable options to coal that don't have its financial risks or require the expenditure of billions of dollars.

"More and more power providers and investors are realizing the high risks associated with coal, while at the same time looking for ways that new and existing demand can be met with a combination of cleaner energy sources and also a full menu of energy efficiency measures," said Hay. "Ultimately, that's good for both shareholders and rate-paying customers."

*Navajos living in the Four Corners area have been fighting a plan by Sithe to build a coal-fired power plant on Navajo Nation land near Farmington, N.M. Dooda Desert Rock continues their grassroots resistance to Desert Rock power plant, which would be the third in the area.*

## This is for all dog friends who need a smile!



An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on the head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.

An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out..

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and

on for several weeks.

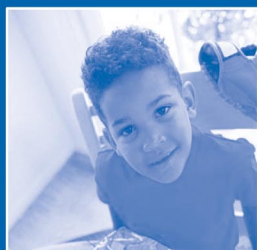
Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3. He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'

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## REID: BOOSTING TRIBAL TOURISM

Tourism is a key driver for Nevada's economy, and the federal government is reducing barriers so more international travelers can visit Nevada. Travelers across the globe have come to the Silver State to experience Nevada's rich tribal heritage. According to the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Nevada ranks second in native tourism among overseas travelers. More foreign visitors coming to Nevada will appreciate a cultural exchange and help give Nevada Tribal economies a boost.

I was pleased to learn that Nevada -or the Great Basin- Tribes are exploring and

developing ways to accommodate new visitors. The Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference was recently held in Elko, and the event brought together tribal tourism experts to talk about how Nevada Tribes could best connect with global travelers. Just a few weeks ago, I joined U.S.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and other travel leaders for a similar event to discuss ways to increase Nevada's share of international travelers. In 2010, 6.7 million foreign visitors traveled to Southern Nevada alone. This group had a total economic impact of \$10 billion and supported more than

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96,000 jobs. I was pleased that President Obama accelerated visa processing by 40 percent and expanded the Global Entry program to simplify the journey for frequent travelers to the United States. Nevada Tribes stand to gain new visitors because these measures will make travel to the United States less complicated.

From the magnificent petroglyphs of

Sloan Canyon, to the Wa She Shu It Deh Native American Arts Festival and Snow Mountain Powwow- there is so much to see and experience in the Great Basin, home to the Washoe, Paiute and Western Shoshone people. I will continue my work in Washington to ensure that our state and Nevada Tribes benefit from foreign travel to the United States.

**Junio 20-24, 2012**  
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El National Park Service y el National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program se enorgullecen de presentar la sexta Conferencia Anual Nacional del El Camino Oculto a la Libertad en San Agustín, Florida del 20 al 24 de junio del 2012. Esta conferencia explorará como aquellos esclavos del sur de Estados Unidos que buscaban libertad se apoderaron de oportunidades para escapar de la esclavitud huyendo hacia la Florida Española, las islas del Caribe, el territorio indígena, Tejas, y México.

La conferencia también explorará como El Camino Oculto a la Libertad influyó en la formación de la cultura de ciertas comunidades que buscaban la libertad en el sur del país, como son las comunidades de los Gullah Geechee y Seminole Negros.

Algunos de los temas de la conferencia incluirán historias de los sueños en busca de la libertad durante la Guerra de 1812, y en la Guerra Civil de Los Estados Unidos, en conmemoración del bicentenario y 150 aniversarios, respectivamente.

Los descendientes de los Gullah Geechee y Seminole Negros serán particularmente bienvenidos a dar presentaciones y ser parte de la conferencia la cual culminará con un festival cultural, destacando artesanía, lengua, música, y comida tradicionales.

Para obtener más información sobre la red para la libertad y conferencias del El Camino Oculto a la Libertad visite <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/community/annual-conference.html>, contacte [turkiya\\_lowe@nps.gov](mailto:turkiya_lowe@nps.gov) o llame al teléfono de la Dra. Turkiya L. Lowe, 404-507-5830

Escapando hacia las destinaciones del sur:  
El Camino Oculto a la Libertad, Identidad Cultural, y Libertad a lo largo de la Frontera del Sur.



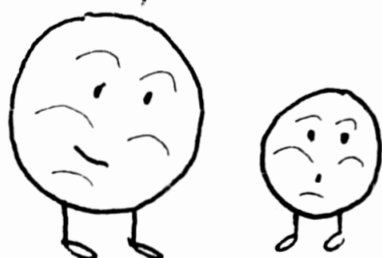
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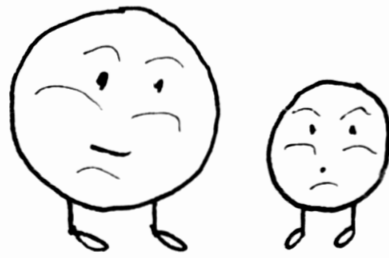
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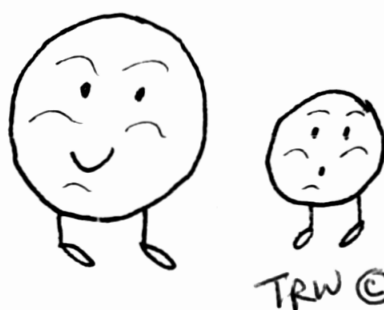


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\*Tribal TANF is a program for Native American families residing in San Diego County and select areas of Santa Barbara County. One member of the household must be able to provide proof of ancestry with a Federally Recognized tribe or provide proof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



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