

Union Bank and KPBS Honor Seventeen Local San Diegans at 14th Annual Local Heroes Awards

SAN DIEGO, CA – As part of its ongoing commitment to cultural diversity and responsible banking, Union Bank, N.A., partnered with KPBS to honor 17 local individuals who are making a difference to enrich the lives of others. The honorees were announced as part of the 2011 Cultural Diversity Partnership, which recognizes and pays tribute to local heroes from eight diverse communities who are making a difference by improving their workplace, profession, neighborhood, community, region and the world. The year-long celebration of diversity culminated with an awards ceremony on February 8, 2012, at the Balboa Theater in San Diego, where recipients were formally recognized. The awards event is scheduled for broadcast on KPBS on April 5, 2012, at 10:30 p.m.

The 2011 Local Heroes honorees are: Veverly E. Anderson, Theophilus A.

(Theo) Logan and Martha R. Logan (Black History Month); Kathi Anderson and Barbara Bry (Women's History Month); Thomas E. Hom and Robin J. Tarr (Asian Pacific American Heritage Month); Edith Eva Eger, Ph.D. and Jackie Gmach (Jewish American Heritage Month); Delores A. Jacobs, Ph.D. and Nicole Murray Ramirez (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Month); Richard Nares and Rachael Ortiz (Hispanic Heritage Month); Bill Bodry and Pamela Finkel (Disability Awareness Month); and Michelle Marie Parada and Brandie Taylor (Native American Heritage Month.)

"We are grateful for the opportunity to express our commitment to diversity and our communities through the Local Heroes program and our partnership with

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Photo by Melissa Jacobs



Brandie Taylor (L) and Michelle Parada (R), Native American Heritage month honorees, were recognized at the Union Bank and KPBS 2011 Local Heroes Awards at the Balboa Theatre on February 8, 2012. Ms. Parada, Ms. Taylor and 15 other honorees were nominated for making a difference in the lives of others.

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Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band Association, Ronald Graham, President; Sharon Lenzy-Scott, Secretary; Rhonda K. Grayson, Treasurer; and Jeffrey D. Kennedy, Vice President.

Correcting History - In 1979 the Creek Nation eliminated the Freedman from citizenship by reorganizing under the authority of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, violating the 1886 treaty laws governing the U.S. government and the tribe.

The Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen were former slaves owned by the Muscogee Creek Nation and or were free

Muscogee Creek Freedmen Push for Federal Recognition

persons of African descent. In the 1830s the US government forcibly removed the Creek Indian along with personal property (including their slaves) from the traditional homelands (now Alabama, Georgia, Florida and South Carolina) and moved them to Indian

Territory (now Oklahoma). This historical incident is known as the Trail of Tears.

After the Union victory in the Civil War, the United States in 1866 required a new treaty with the Creek Nation. It required the emancipation of slaves and the inclusion of Freedmen as full citizens of the Creek nation, eligible for voting rights and shares of annuities and land settlements. The treaty called for the set-

ting aside of the western half of the territory (thereafter called Unassigned Lands) for the United States to use for the settlement of freedmen and other American Indian tribes. The Creek were forced to cede 3,250,560 acres (13,154.5 km²), for which the United States agreed to pay the sum of thirty (30) cents per acre, amounting to \$975,165 USD.[2] The 1866 U.S. treaty article 4 said the US would conduct a census of the Creek tribe, to include the Freedmen.

In 1893, the United States Dawes Commission under the direction of Henry L. Dawes was established by an act of Congress. The Dawes Act, in a continuing effort at assimilation of American Indians, directed the break-up of communal tribal lands and the allotment of plots to individual households. All members of each tribe had to be registered for land allot-

SEE **Muscogee Creek Freedmen**, page 2

Ron Graham: Warrior for Cultural Truth

Mr. Graham was the litigant in effort to regain his tribal citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Ron Graham vs. Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma Citizenship Board (CV-2003-53), and also in the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma Citizenship Board vs. Ron Graham (SC 2006-03)

Mr. Graham is passionate about educating others on the genealogy and history of the Five Civilized Tribes through the Dawes Commission, and particularly the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. His father Theodore BLUE Graham was an original allottee, roll number NewBorn Freedmen 671. He's also a direct descendant of: Hutton/Grayson, Johnson, Corbray, and McGilbray. All were Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens.

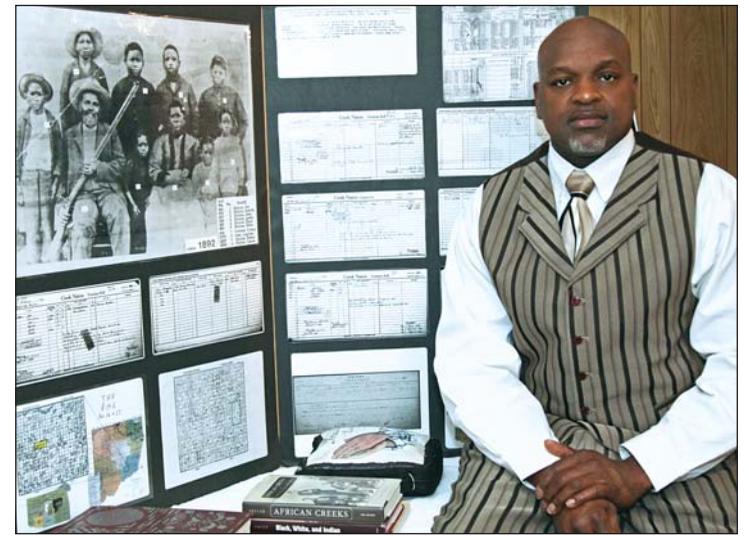
RONALD GRAHAM SR. was born and raised in Okmulgee, OK. Graduating from Okmulgee High School in 1982, he attended Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, OK, and Langston University. He is a member of the Eastside Baptist Church and works at C.P. Kelco Inc., both in Okmulgee, OK.

He currently serves as President of the Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band Association, the President of the NAACP, Okmulgee, OK branch, and formerly the Vice President of the Descendants of Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes Association. He has been involved with genealogy and the history of the Freedmen (Black Indians) for more than 25 years.

Mr. Graham has been featured or referenced in publications locally and inter-

nationally and featured in the the book *Black, White and Indian Race and the Unmaking of an American Family*, by Claudio Saunt.

Mr. Graham has given Freedmen presentation for the Oklahoma Historical Society's 75th Anniversary at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, OK. Also at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, Langston University, Tulsa University, Bacone College, Connors State College, Northeastern State University, Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma National Council Fact Finding Committee, Cherokee Nation of



Ronald Graham President of the Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band Association.

Oklahoma National Council, as well as numerous libraries, churches, and community centers. He diligently works to educate and inform mainstream America about the important role Black Indians have had in the history of this country.

Muscogee Creek Freedmen

Continued from page 1

ment. The change to communal lands was an attempt to force the Native Americans to assimilate and adopt European-American methods of land use. In 1898, the US officials created the Dawes Rolls to document the tribal membership for such allotments, including the Creek Freedmen citizens, in the Creek nation. The enrollment for the Dawes rolls lasted until April 26th, 1906. The final Dawes rolls constitute a record of the documented ancestors of Creek Freedmen.

Although many Freedmen were of Creek descent, they were included only on Freedmen rolls, which reduced their qualification for tribal membership in

later years. The peace treaty of 1866 granted them full citizenship and rights regardless of proportion of Creek or Indian ancestry.

The book *The Dawes Commission and the Allotment of the Five civilized tribes 1893-1914* Authored by Kent Carter points out the difficulties that the Commission presented.

"Determining an applicants' degree of Indian blood proved to be difficult and became a source of intense controversy later when congressional legislation based restrictions and eligibility for benefits on it. None of the rolls taken before 1896 had included "blood Quantum", and only a few of them recorded whether a person was "full blood or mixed blood – a distinction that most tribes considered important at the time.

According to the Freedmen the Muscogee Creek Nation's 1979 Constitution eliminated them from citizenship by reorganizing under the authority of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, violating the 1886 treaty laws governing the U.S. government and the tribe.

They are now seeking recognition. With the support of the NAACP through

a resolution, which was ratified by the NAACP National Board of Directors at its October meeting?

The resolution states that the NAACP supports the Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Association as they petition the Office of Federal Acknowledgement in becoming a federally recognized Indian tribe.

Local Heroes

Continued from page 1

KPBS," said Union Bank Senior Executive Vice President Pierre P. Habis, head of Community Banking. "We're proud to celebrate these amazing individuals with this well deserved recognition."

Entertainment for the evening included B-Side Players, LEIISA Polynesian Dance Group, the San Diego Ballet and Second Avenue Klezmer Ensemble.

The evening elegantly topped off with a charming gathering and reception at the Gaslamp Westin Hotel. It was a lively and animated networking fiesta. All of the awardees mingled with their admirers and supporters.. This truly multi-cultural event emphasized the beauty that shines when humanity is celebrated.

Kumeyaay presence was palpable. Much talk revolved around the desire to have Bird Singers and drummers at next year's event.



Richard Nares (L) and Rachael Ortiz (R), Hispanic Heritage Month honorees, were recognized at the Union Bank and KPBS 2011 Local Heroes Awards at the Balboa Theatre on February 8, 2012. Mr. Nares, Ms. Ortiz and 15 other honorees were nominated for making a difference in the lives of others.



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National Underground Railroad Freedom Center Plans to Merge

CINCINNATI, OH - An American museum that tells the history of black slaves escaping from the U.S. south has announced plans to merge with another museum to ensure its survival.

The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio said it would merge administrative, programming and some personnel costs, as well as expand community partnerships and fundraising opportunities with the Cincinnati Museum Center.

The Freedom Center, which opened its doors in 2004, was facing possible closure at the end of this year if it did not fill a \$1.5 million funding gap.

Details are still being hammered out, but the initial overview of the merger's financial aspects looks positive, according to Elizabeth Pierce, the Museum Center's vice president of marketing and communications.

"We are entering a phase of due dili-

gence," she said. "We have some initial analysis that allows us to think it was the right thing to do. We are now going to validate those assumptions."

That process will take about four to six months to complete, she said.

Now that word of the likely merger is out, the two organizations can begin the process of working with national, regional and local partners to help raise money and support, Pierce said.

The Freedom Center has had trouble in recent years garnering support from some donors because of the perception it might not remain open.

"We are not doing to do this alone," said Douglass McDonald, president and CEO of the Museum Center. "Part of this process is going to be going to people in the community and establishing partnerships."

Almost immediately after opening in 2004, the Freedom Center began to strug-

gle financially, eventually laying off several staff members and taking other measures to cut costs.

The museum is directly across the Ohio River from the slave state of Kentucky, and Cincinnati was a major stop on the "underground railroad" that helped slaves go north to Canada.

The museum also has an exhibit examining contemporary slavery, which includes such practices as forced child labor and sex trafficking.

Since its inception, museum leaders, including former Procter & Gamble Co. CEO John Pepper, who is co-chair of its board of directors, hoped to make the facility a national museum.

If that had happened, the federal government would take over the building and its accompanying \$3 million operating expense -- although if the planned merger goes ahead, it would not now be necessary.

"This is an unprecedented opportunity

for our two iconic institutions and for the men, women and children we serve," Pepper said.

"Having examined the case for joining together, I am convinced that this combination of talent and efficiencies will dramatically expand the impact of the Freedom Center's mission, locally and nationwide. Our two institutions will do things together neither of us could do alone."

Cincinnati City Councilman Christopher Smitherman, who is also president of the Cincinnati Chapter of the NAACP, had criticized the Freedom Center for "not living up to its potential."

He said the museum backed off its original intention to tell the story of African-American slavery for a "smorgasbord of conversation around freedom," welcomed the news. "I view the merger as a very positive step for the region," he said.

The Bracero Program: San Diego County Premiere Screening & Conversation with Filmmakers at San Diego County Library

From 1942 to 1964, millions of Mexico's men and their families participated in the temporary contract worker program known as the Bracero program. Harvest of Loneliness is a documentary that tells the story of men, women, and children whose lives were changed by this program. San Diego County Library is proud to host the first public screenings of the film in San Diego County, followed by discussions with filmmakers Gilbert Gonzalez and Vivian Price. This program is part of California Reads, a statewide program developed by Cal Humanities in collaboration with

California Center for the Book to examine the meaning and nature of democracy. Vista Library will host the first screening, 700 Eucalyptus Ave, on Saturday, March 17 at 3 p.m. The second screening is at El Cajon Library, 201 E Douglas Ave, on Sunday, March 18 at 2 p.m.

Over the span of two decades, the Bracero Program left women and children in villages that had been emptied of men, causing distress, dire poverty and sometimes, permanent separation. The documentary features first-hand accounts from those impacted by the

program. Filmmakers Gonzalez and Price have both been professors in California, and are excited to bring the documentary to SDCL for its premiere in San Diego County, which shares a border with Mexico.

"The public library is the perfect place for civic engagement and meaningful dialogue about our shared history and what democracy means to each of us," said Program Services Manager Pat Downs. "The Bracero Program is an important part of U.S. and Mexican history that is not very well known. This screening and discussion provide a wonderful opportunity for families and neighbors to learn more about their shared history and for the generations to tell their stories."

California Reads programs are made possible with support from Cal Humanities in partnership with



Bracero worker

California Center for the Book. For interviews with the filmmakers, contact Vivian Price at vpvprice@gmail.com. For more information on the Harvest of Loneliness screenings, contact branch staff at the Vista Branch (760) 643-5100 or the El Cajon Branch (619) 588-3718.

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Meeting in Jacksonville, Mayors Tout Export Growth as Tool to Help Economy

by Steve Patterson, *jacksonville.com*
Courtesy Morris News Service

Ports like Jacksonville's can revive the country's economy if businesses and government will focus on selling American products overseas, the head of the U.S. Conference of Mayors told politicians and businesspeople meeting Saturday in Jacksonville.

"We're going to have to send [products] ... to the other countries of the world," Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said as he shared a stage with Jacksonville Mayor Alvin Brown.

"The new markets are in Latin America. The new markets are in Asia. And we've got to be focused on those new markets," said Villaraigosa, the conference president.

Mayors had gathered since Friday at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel to talk about business trends and federal policies affecting ports and exporting.

Their ideas will become part of a push by the conference to make port trade a higher priority for federal officials, said Brown, who chairs a conference task force on ports and exports.

"We have a presidential election. We want to be sure that those who are running ... know that this has to be an issue," Brown told a few dozen people

gathered for questions and comments Saturday morning.

He said the subject would return at a mayors conference national meeting in Orlando.

Mesa, Ariz., Mayor Scott Smith echoed Brown, saying Americans need to get angry about infrastructure and ports and should push the federal government for improvements.

"Not only is it our future, it's our kids' and grandkids' future we're talking about," he said.

A set of speakers stressed a sense that international commerce can matter to businesses far beyond seaports.

Des Moines, Iowa, Mayor Frank Cownie said a Chinese delegation led by Vice President Xi Jinping came to his city this month "because we're the heartland and they want food." But he said Midwest farms can't sell if the transportation system can't deliver.

"We have to have the capacity at your ports," Cownie said. "You can only get the goods in and out with infrastructure — if you have rails, roads or rivers."

Tallahassee Mayor John Marks said that "our port is actually in Jacksonville," but he thinks more of his city's businesses should still look for customers over-

seas. Only 1 percent of businesses that have been surveyed reported trading overseas, Marks said.

Joshua Rodriggs, president of the business development group Brazil Florida Alliance, said most companies involved in international trade in both countries are small- to medium-sized firms that could benefit from contact with foreign businesses.

There are good business reasons to look overseas, said Leslie Smith, president of Jacksonville-based Heavy Equipment Resources of Florida.

Smith said he was a novice when he went to a conference about international sales several years ago, but has since learned enough to sell equipment to mining companies in Africa.

"We're doing pretty good at it," he said at the conference. "We're traveling all over the world and we're moving American products. And we're beating the Chinese."

Read more at jacksonville.com

friends and global neighbors come to visit and honor the historic township of Allensworth. The two-day Family Fair will also feature indigenous Drummers featuring African and American Indian/South American, Pacific Islanders and Asian drummers folkloric music and dancers. The Fair will close on Sunday, July 22nd with a drum circle.

The WE CAN Foundation in partnership with Power of Green Los Angeles is 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 that 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 and volunteer opportunities, contact Rev. C. Eziokwu Washington at the WE CAN Foundation, (323) 293-9845, eziokwu@wecan-foundation.org



Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, recently appointed by the Democratic Party to chair its convention in North Carolina this September, addresses the Mayors Conference.

Maxine Waters Vindicated

WASHINGTON, D.C. — All five Republicans on the House ethics committee and the panel's ranking Democrat withdrew from a long-standing investigation of Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters of California on Friday to avoid further questions about their impartiality.

The extraordinary development came more than two years after the panel began examining whether Waters tried to steer money from the 2008 financial bailout to a minority-owned bank while her husband was a shareholder and board member of the institution.

The mass recusal came in one of the committee's most troubled cases, after past allegations of bias by Republican members forced the panel to hire an outside lawyer last July to investigate the committee and its handling of the Waters case.

The committee's Republican chairman, Rep. Jo Bonner of Alabama, said the outside attorney, Billy Martin, requested the recusals. But Bonner said the recusals "are not based on any indication of any wrongdoing or inappropriate partisanship by the members."

Waters, a high-ranking member of the Financial Services Committee, was accused by the panel of trying to use her influence to obtain federal aid for a minority-owned bank where her husband is an investor.

During an investigation that has gone on for more than two years, Waters, one of the longest-serving African-American lawmakers, has consistently denied wrongdoing, saying her efforts were focused on helping a number of minority-owned banks that were in financial trouble.

Allensworth Global Cultural Family Fair

Allensworth Community Volunteer Association, WE CAN Foundation, Lula Washington Dance Theatre; Rhythms of the Village Production, Bless-ed Love, NAACP, (PAFF) Pan African Film Festival, KAOS, (HAFF) Healthy African American Families, Buffalo Soldiers and other community partners across the state invite you to join them in celebration and global cultural discovery at the Allensworth Global Arts Fair on 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 Gospels Festivals, The Allensworth Global Arts 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

Did You Know ...

Since the mid-16th century there have been small numbers of Black people resident in Ireland, mainly concentrated in the major towns, especially Dublin.

Many of those in the 18th century were servants of wealthy families. There were other Africans in Ireland who were not slaves, notably Olaudah Equiano (also spelled Olauda Ikwuano), who not only lived in Belfast, but wrote and self-published best selling accounts of his experience in and with slavery.

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Buying Freedom – The Truth about Jail Overcrowding

by Margaret Dooley-Sammuli

As sheriffs have readily admitted, county jails are not full of individuals who have been convicted of crimes, or even individuals thought to be of high risk to the community. Rather, they are full of individuals waiting for their day in court and too poor to afford California's high bail amounts. It is hard to overstate the severity of this injustice.

In October of last year, a new state law – the Public Safety Realignment Act (Assembly Bill 109) – took effect. Realignment makes fundamental changes to California's correctional system, shifting from the state to counties certain responsibilities for most people convicted of lower-level, non-violent offenses.

At the heart of realignment is the question of jail construction. Because the state will no longer take most people

convicted of lower-level felony offenses into state facilities, there is a common – but mistaken – perception at the county level that jail construction is essential.

Efforts to build new jails not only ignore the state prison expansion and overcrowding experience; they also turn a blind eye to the reality of jail overcrowding in California and to the new powers given to counties to better manage their jail populations. Rather than expand jail capacity, counties should be implementing evidence-based practices in managing both pretrial and sentenced populations.

Years before the enactment of realignment, the California State Sheriffs' Association bemoaned the fact that there is "no room for sentenced inmates" in county jails due to the rising pretrial detainee population.

California far exceeds the national

average of 61 percent for pretrial jail populations. More than 50,000 of the 71,000 Californians held in a county jail on any given day have not been convicted of a crime but rather are awaiting trial – 71 percent of county jails' average daily population.

High rates of pretrial detention are a threat both to public safety and civil liberties. People with financial resources are able to get out of jail and return to their jobs, families, and communities. People who are unable to pay for bail or raise the necessary collateral, however, must stay in jail awaiting a trial date that could be months away. Or, they may decide to accept a plea bargain as a means of getting out of jail. These results don't have to do with public safety, they have to do with wealth and poverty. People with money are able to buy their freedom while poor people cannot.

California cannot continue with this broken system. Reform is urgently needed.

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

Marine Vet Dedicates His Life to Mascogos Heritage

The Mascogos were Black Indians who were granted asylum by Mexico during US Slavery.

Philip "Scrappy" Gordon served his country for 8 years in the USMC. "Scrappy" is recognized by the current Mascogos of Nacimiento, Mexico, as one of their own. His mother still lives there. Mexico granted his ancestors land there, under the Foreign Colonists Act as part of the Treaty of Gaudalupe de Hidalgo. The Mascogos in return protected Coahila's northern border. This agreement dates back to 1850. His people were part of the famed Wildcat/ John Horse group. "Scrappy" is currently living in San Antonio, Tx. where he is attending to personal matters so that he can dedicate his life to his ancestors history. "Scrappy" has a wealth of historical research and access to valuable oral history. He intends to direct his future activism toward helping the Mascogos obtain dual citizenship (Mexico/U.S.) just like the Kickapoo Indians, who are the Mascogos neighbors and who also came to Coahila, Mexico about the same time, which was 1852. "Scrappy" says, "I remember when the Kickapoos got it, in the 1990's. They have prospered from this and now their history and culture has a better chance to survive. It will be a great day when the same thing happens for the Mascogos. After all the Mascogos contributed a majority of the members of the Seminole Negro Indian Scouts, a unit that won 4 Congressional Medals Honor, in Defense of their country, the United States of America.



(Pompey) Phil Wilkes Fixico, Seminole Maroon Descendant, Heniha John Horse/ Wildcat Band of the Texas Seminoles, Member of the Seminole Negro Indian Scout Association of Brackettville, Tx.

Are foreclosed homes causing blight in your neighborhood?

Let CPI know where they are.

Irresponsible banks are spreading blighted homes across San Diego. At the moment, we don't have an effective way to stop them or hold them accountable for the devastation their foreclosures wreak on neighborhoods.

San Diego's City Council is now considering a "Property Value Protection Ordinance" to fine banks that fail to properly maintain their foreclosed properties. Revenue from those fines could go to San Diego's local government to help recover costs of public services that have been diverted to these properties, like code enforcement, police and fire. The

banks could be fined up to *\$1,000* a day for every foreclosed home they fail to maintain.

A single foreclosure can cost up to \$34,000 for local government agencies. *That's because they're forced to absorb the cost of inspections, code enforcement, police and fire calls, unpaid water and sewage charges and trash removal fees. Altogether, unmaintained foreclosures in San Diego are costing local governments *hundreds of millions of dollars*.

This ordinance is a strong first step; it certainly won't solve the foreclosure crisis alone, but it's one way to fight back at the local level.

If there's a blighted foreclosed home in your neighborhood, let us know. Send an email to CPI organizer Norma Rodriguez and tell her about the problem: nrodriguez@onlinecpi.org.

We all can do SOMETHING about the foreclosure crisis - but we need to make our voices heard.

Center on Policy Initiatives, 3727 Camino del Rio South, Ste 100, San Diego, CA 92108 : (619) 584-5744

Prisoner Media Access Bill Passes CA Assembly

A bill introduced by Sf Assemblyman Tom Ammiano passed the CA Assembly at the end of January (for the fifth time) and will require the Department of Corrections to permit representatives of the news media to interview prisoners in person.

The bill forbids retaliation against inmates for participating in or communicating with a representative of the news media.

Governor's Pete Wilson, Gray Davis and Arnold Schwarzenegger have all vetoed similar bills over the past decade. The current governor Jerry Brown has not stated publicly what he will do if the Legislature passes the bill.

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National Underground Railroad Conference June 20-24, 2012 St. Augustine, FL

Escaping to Destinations South: The Underground Railroad, Cultural Identity, and Freedom along the Southern Borderlands

The National Park Service, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program is proud to present the 6th annual National Underground Railroad Conference in St. Augustine, Florida, June 20-24, 2012. This conference will explore how southern freedom seekers seized opportunities to escape slavery into Spanish Florida, the Caribbean Islands, Indian Territory, Texas, and Mexico.

The conference will also explore how

the Underground Railroad shaped the culture of southern freedom seekers, such as the Gullah/Geechee and Black Seminole communities.

Other conference topics include stories of southern freedom seekers during the War of 1812 and the American Civil War, in commemoration of the 200th and 150th anniversaries, respectively.

Gullah Geechee and Black Seminole descendants are particularly welcome to give presentations at and attend the con-

ference. The conference will culminate with a cultural festival highlighting traditional crafts, language, music, and foodways.

For more information about the Network to Freedom Program and Underground Railroad conferences, see <http://www.nps.gov/subjects/ugrr/community/annual-conference.html>, or contact Turkiya L. Lowe, Ph.D., at turkiya_lowe@nps.gov, 404-507-5830.

We Must Preserve and Protect Gullah/Geechee Culture

By Congressman James E. Clyburn

One of my proudest achievements in the Congress was authoring the legislation that established the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor and created a commission to help federal, state, and local authorities manage the Corridor and its assets. It took more than seven years of work to get the Bill passed into law, but today the commission is working hard on efforts to preserve and promote the nearly 400 year history of the Gullah/Geechee culture that is the core purpose of my initiative.

The sites, sounds and tastes of the Gullah/Geechee culture have been slowly vanishing along the coasts of North and

South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Stories and traditions of this fusion of African and European cultures brought long ago to these shores have been slipping away along with the marsh and sand that are disappearing because of the encroachment of developments and the pressures to assimilate into the "modern" world. Small enclaves of "Gullah," in the Carolinas, and



"Geechee," in Georgia and Florida, remain. There you find houses trimmed in indigo, which were and may still be believed to ward off evil spirits. There you hear talk of life before the "cumyias," those who are recent arrivals to the area and the problems brought by the "benyas," those whose roots can be traced back to plantation life. There you listen to traditional spirituals like "Kumbaya" (come by here) that most

Christians today continue to sing, although often in more familiar dialect. There you watch nimble hands weave gorgeous sweet grass baskets with a skill that has been handed down for generations. There you can enjoy the aroma and tastes of "hoppin' john," sweet potato pie, or benne wafers, all Gullah/Geechee specialties that have found their way into our modern culture.

These communities were developed by former slaves whose life on the Sea Islands began in indigo fields and on rice patties. When they were freed they gathered in isolated and remote villages that nurtured and sustained their way of life for generations. But a few years ago developers saw the potential to turn these small pockets of paradise into resort areas and as the roads and bridges came, this unique slice of history and tradition grew smaller and smaller. Consequently, today many landowners in these communities are being forced to abandon their native land, unique language and priceless traditions.

As a former history teacher and a vocal advocate of historic preservation, I believe the work of the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission is imperative to saving this rich culture.

The Gullah/Geechee way of life is an integral part of the Southern heritage, and I am committed to ensuring we protect and preserve it for future generations.

Black Indians: A Hidden Heritage

Black Indians: Revised. Expanded. Updated. The compelling account of how two heritages united in their struggle to gain freedom and equality in America—now updated with new content! This new expanded and revised edition was released January 3, 2012.

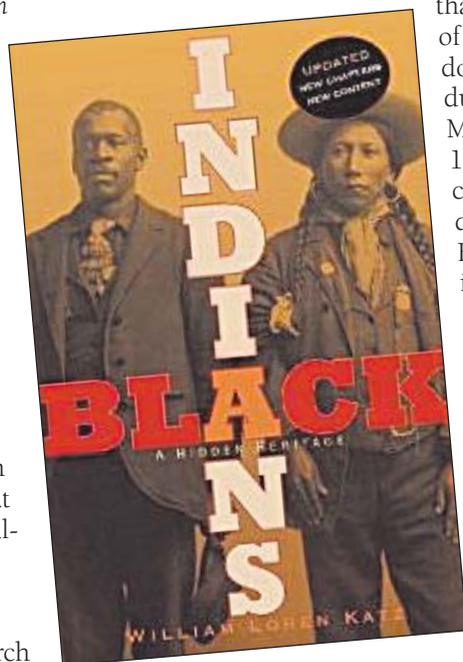
From the Zinn Education Project: "The expanded and updated edition of *Black Indians: A Hidden Heritage* brings the Native American and African American alliance that for four centuries challenged the European conquest and slavery into the 21st century with additional research and documentary and photographic evidence.

The new edition reveals the story of the African guides and translators of the colonial era who became valued contacts

with Indigenous peoples, examines the African and Indian alliance known as the Pueblo revolt of 1680 that ended Spain's rule of the southwest for a dozen years, introduces Francisco Menendez and the 1738 Black Indian community that defended its liberty in Florida against British incursions, and describes the Lowry Gang in North Carolina that fought the Civil War Confederacy and then battled the KKK.

This edition also provides new information on how western African American pioneer

women often took the lead in aiding Native Americans; the ironic role of the Black "Buffalo Soldiers" sent to fight the great Native American nations in the West, and those who refused."



Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Completes Final Stage of Management Plan Process

Michael Allen, NPS representative reported that a Federal Commission, known as the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission which has been working for almost four years to develop a Management plan to preserve the culture of the descendants of slaves along the Southeast coast is almost done.

The Gullah-Geechee Heritage Corridor Commission met Friday in Jacksonville, Fla., to discuss the final aspects of the plan and how it will be reviewed by the public for comment.

The commission plans to submit the plan to the Secretary of the Interior later this spring.

The Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission is developing a plan to preserve the sea island heritage in four states. The 400-mile corridor, established by Congress in 2006, extends along the Atlantic coast from Wilmington, N.C., south to Jacksonville.

The island culture known as Geechee in Florida and Georgia and Gullah in the Carolinas is threatened by rapid development.

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Let's Get the Parol Board Some Letters Today! Free Patricia Spottedcrow!!!

Letter Writing and Rally to Set Her Free in April 2012!!!! Parole Hearing April 17-20, 2012 at Hillside Community Corrections Center, OKC.

That's right, The Oklahoma Pardon and Parole Board has set an early date to review Patricia Spottedcrow's case for parole. It is on the April 2012 docket. Ms. Spottedcrow is the young mother of four who was sentenced to 10 years in prison for selling \$31 worth of marijuana.

1. Begin Writing Letters NOW to the Parole Board.

*You must show a valid return address on the front of the envelope

**You must write on the back: Patricia Spottedcrow, #622641, April 2012.

Sample:

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you on behalf of Patricia Spottedcrow, ODOC #622641 whose case is up for review on your April 2012 docket.

Ms. Spottedcrow's extremely harsh sentence did not fit the crime. She had no prior record or arrests and threw herself upon the mercy of the court, where in the court had none. Please consider the fact that Ms. Spottedcrow has made some significant positive changes in her life. Also know that she has a strong support system

in the community, in Oklahoma and around the world. This case was a travesty of justice to say the least, and I hope you will do the right thing and approve Ms. Spottedcrow's parole. Set her free.

Thank you.

YOUR NAME, ETC

To: Ms. Lynnelle Harkins, P.O. Box 7206, Moore, Oklahoma, 73153-1206; Mr. Richard L. Dugger, P.O. Box 21748, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73156; Mr. Currie Ballard, P.O. Box 839, Langston, Oklahoma 73050-0839; Mr. David Moore, P.O. Box 8395, Edmond, Oklahoma 73083; and Dr. Marc Dreyer, 2800 S. Yale Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74114.

2. Plan to stand in solidarity with Patricia on the date of her hearing. She is on the April docket but we don't have a specific date and time yet. When it is set we will plan accordingly.

Please help get Patricia FREE! The time is now. We need your help. Spread the word, spread the love.

And don't forget about the SPIRIT Fundraiser and meeting on March 3rd, volunteers and donations still appreciated. Call 405-471-7160 or 405-830-0636 for more information.

Mvto!

Society to Preserve Indigenous Rights & Indigenous Treaties; spiritwomenrwwk@yahoo.com
www.facebook.com/OKspirit;
www.myspace.com/oklaspirit

Kids Take Message of Peace and Respect to Congress

Peace Pledge Tour Goes to Washington D.C. – March 3-7

SAN DIEGO, CA – Mary Grace Feldman is only 11 but she has a clear idea of what it will take to make the world a better and more peaceful place. As part of Kids for Peace, Mary Grace has shared her passion for peace with her family and classmates and now she's heading to our nation's capitol with the DC Peace Pledge Tour to deliver a message to Congress. With their approval rating at the lowest point in history, leg-

Embassy, a local homeless shelter, a mosque and The White House. Even Tony Hawk, the 2009 Peace Hero and skating sensation, is cheering them on as he recently stated, "These kids are the real deal. I applaud the work they are doing!"

"We believe that if everyone followed the Peace Pledge, we would have a world of kindness, respect, unity and love. By getting the Peace Pledge into our schools, communities and out to the world, we can create the change! There is no better place to start this change than with our country's leaders in

The Peace Pledge states:

I pledge to use my words to speak in a kind way.

I pledge to help others as I go throughout my day.

I pledge to care for our earth with my healing heart and hands.

I pledge to respect people in each and every land.

I pledge to join together as we unite the big and small.

I pledge to do my part to create Peace for one and all.

islation stalled, and bickering at an all time high, Mary Grace thinks Congress could use a hand!

"It's something I've dreamed of doing," explained Mary Grace. "I want our leaders to know that kids can make a huge difference and if we work together, we can change the world!"

Kids for Peace members from all over the United States, from California to Rhode Island, will join together to present their Peace Pledge to Congress during the DC Peace Pledge Tour from March 3-7, 2012.

While the children come from diverse socioeconomic, racial and cultural backgrounds, their united message will be heard on The Floor of the US House of Representatives, at major US Memorials on the Mall, The US Holocaust Museum, The US Institute of Peace, The Kenyan

Washington D.C.," said co-founder and Executive Director Jill McManigal.

The idea to present the Peace Pledge to Congress was sparked by a comment made by a Congressman while visiting a San Diego Kids for Peace chapter event. Upon hearing the children recite the Peace Pledge, Congressman Bob Filner replied, "There are 434 other people who need to hear this. It's a message that transcends party lines. This is a message for everyone."

Kids for Peace, a non-profit that was established in 2006, has grown into a global organization with over 100 interconnected chapters that seek to cultivate every child's innate ability to foster peace through cross-cultural experiences and hands-on arts, service and environmental projects.

www.kidsforpeaceglobal.org

Leaders Unite Across Party Lines to Defend Constitution from NDAA

WASHINGTON, DC — In the first few weeks of 2012, at least six jurisdictions have enacted local resolutions opposing the military detention provisions of the controversial National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) signed into law by the president only a few weeks ago. Meanwhile, legislation to nullify the NDAA has been introduced in legislatures of several states from coast-to-coast, with a Virginia bill passing the House of Delegates 96-4 last week.

Concerns about NDAA detention pro-

visions transcend political party, ideology, and geography, and representatives in these diverse jurisdictions have stood up to resist an ongoing bipartisan assault on constitutional rights by federal officials. While a debate about the scope of the NDAA's potential abuses continues to distract congressional policymakers, who voted without realizing the law's terrifying implications, their counterparts in state and local governments are proving more conscientious, proactively acting on their oaths of office to defend the Constitution.

Ex-El Salvador Defense Minister Can Be Deported

MIAMI, FL – In a groundbreaking decision, a federal immigration judge has ruled that the former defense minister of El Salvador can be deported from the U.S. for his role in killings and human rights abuses during the 1980s.

The ruling by the Orlando-based judge, James K. Grim, marks the first time a 2004 law aimed at stopping human rights abusers from taking refuge in the U.S. has been successfully used against a nation's top military official,

according to the San Francisco-based Center for Justice & Accountability.

The judge found that the former defense minister, Gen. Eugenio Vides Casanova, can be deported for the torture of Salvadoran citizens, the 1980 killings of four American churchwomen and the 1981 killings of two Americans and a Salvadoran land reformer. Two of those who were tortured, Juan Romagoza and Daniel Alvarado, have also sued Vides Casanova for damages in U.S. courts

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.

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Brandie Taylor
Vice-Chair Woman
of the lipay Nation
of the Santa Ysabel
discusses the
evening with
Judith Meeks.



Community
Activist and
Change Agent
Judith Meeks
with Award Hero
Jackie Gmach.

Judith Meeks shares
a moment with
Edith Eva Eger, Ph.D.



This wonderful
celebration brought
Karen Vingeault a
Native Scholar and
an enrolled tribal
member of the lipay
Nation of Santa
Ysabel and Judith
Meeks together.

Union Bank and KPBS Honor Seventeen Local San Diegans at 14th Annual Local Heroes Awards

2012 has rolled out with an unambiguous "Let's get the World Right" spirit, especially in San Diego ...

While the election year fervor has the voting public stumbling and intoxicated with Potomac Fever, the grassroots community has chosen to abstain from the hypnotic toxin and is busy at the street level, educating, informing organizing and resurrecting our democracy.

The recent display of humanitarian appreciation by KNPR as part of their ongoing commitment to cultural diversity illuminated this spirit with their recent **Community Hero's Award Ceremony**. Yes folks they have even hooked up with a bank who is looking to make a difference by reinstating responsible banking.

The Inner City is blooming with spiritual inspiration fueled by divinely animated youth and the Hip Hop movement. Locally the San Diego tribes (those that are not preoccupied with disenrolling their members) are continuing their community outreach. Sycuan is making an increased effort in this area.

The Urban Indian community is leading the charge with educational forums to build esteem and awareness.

The Soaring Eagles continue to come together with the support of agencies, volunteers and stakeholders. The tipping point has been reached and this positive feel good virus is slowly spreading outside the zip code. Tree Huggers and Do-Gooders are coming out of the closet. "Si Su Puede"

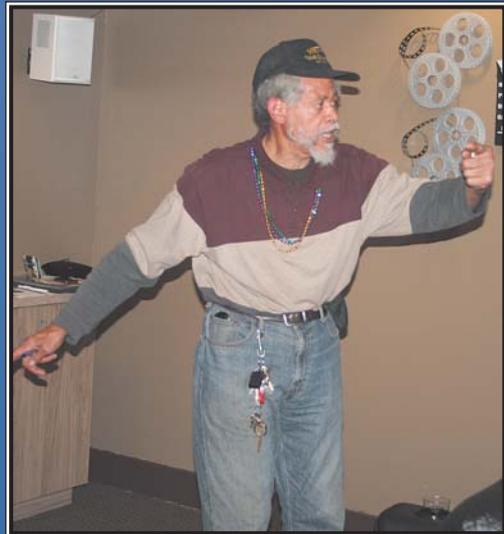
Young and old came out to support the KPBS Community Hero's featured here with Martha Logan and Murray Ramirez.



Bureau of Black Indian Affairs Continues to Grow



The Bureau of Black Indian Affairs had its fourth meeting in Downtown San Diego. It just happened to fall on Fat Tuesday so celebration was in the air as new members got acquainted with each other. From left to right: Becky Gaines, Dr. Carroll Waymon, Chuck Ambers, Serena Levis, Jesse Watson and wife, Judith Meeks, Tommy Jennings.



Chuck Ambers, curator of Casa del Rey Moro African Museum ... demonstrates some Mardi Gras dance moves showing the world that he is fully recuperating from recent hip surgery and ready to fully resume his role as community historian, educator and cultural resource.

Dr. Bruce Twyman, political scientist and author of *The Black Seminole Legacy and North American Politics* Attends Discussion Group



Bruce Twyman, author, was recently in San Diego to participate in a community forum discussing Indigenous history and promoting his new book at the home of Fanny Garvey.

Look Who's All Grown Up



The Durant/S. 35th St. neighborhood came out to celebrate with Ruben Pelham and his family in recognition of his 25th Birthday Day. Where does the time go? His Grandmother Eva and mother Mary, organized an event that included all of the family, friends and associates.

Music, games, food laughter and fun was the order of the day.

Ruben who works for Job Options Inc. looks forward to a promising future and enjoyed his day.



Master of Ceremonies
Randy Edmonds
Arena Director
Richard DeCrane
Eagle Staff Carrier
Henry Mendibles
Color Guard
American Indian
Warriors Association
Host Northern Drum
Green River
Host Southern Drum
Red Warrior

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
AMERICAN INDIAN CHAPTER

IIPAY MATEYUM 41ST ANNUAL POW WOW

Honoring Gwendalle Cooper

March 17th, 2012
SDSU Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center

Gourd Dancing 11AM
Grand Entry at noon

For Pow Wow or Vendor information contact:
Preston Chipps
pchipps@ipow.sdsu.edu
619.594.1691

Head Gourd Dancer
William Buchanan
Head Man
Skye McMichael
Head Woman
Melda Cadotte
Head Boy
Ral Christman Jr.
Head Girl
Cheyenne Faulkner

Parking is free but come early. There are other events happening on campus this day.
Special thanks to the SDSU President's Leadership Fund & the Viejas Band of the Kumeyaay Nation

The Right Medicine for California: Simitian Introduces Drug Redistribution Bill to Reduce Waste, Improve Health

SACRAMENTO, CA – Every year, more than \$9 billion in unused medicine and supplies are wasted in the United States. At the same time, studies show that more Americans are going without prescription drugs because of costs.

A new bill introduced by State Senator Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto) would address these two problems by making it easier for surplus prescription medication to be donated to uninsured Californians.

Senate Bill 1329 allows a greater number of health care facilities to donate surplus unopened, unexpired medications to Californians in need; permits non-profit community clinics and certain pharmacies to receive donated medications; and makes it easier for county boards of supervisors or county public health officials to initiate a drug redistribution program.

“Instead of throwing out perfectly good medicine, or worse, dumping it into our water supply, this bill will allow us to get it into the hands of people who need it the most,” said Simitian. “We’re preventing waste, preventing pollution, and helping Californians who are strug-

gling more than ever in a tough economy.”

Simitian will unveil his new legislation from 4:30 to 6 p.m. today at Stanford’s Haas Center for Public Service, 562 Salvatierra Walk, Stanford, California. The legislation will be introduced at a reception hosted by SIRUM (Supporting Initiatives to Redistribute Unused Medicine), a non-profit founded at Stanford that is dedicated to streamlining the medicine donation process.

“Since SIRUM was started in 2009, we’ve seen first-hand the difference we’re able to make when we put medicine that otherwise would be thrown away to good use,” said Kiah Williams, a co-founder of SIRUM, which has developed an online platform to connect drug donors and pharmacies. “We think we could make an even greater impact if we were able to expand the pool of suppliers and recipients and make it easier for counties to get involved.”

Senate Bill 1329 builds on previous Simitian legislation. Senate Bill 798, signed into law in 2005, allowed counties to establish a drug redistribution program; allowed skilled nursing facili-

ties and drug manufacturers to donate unused medications; and allowed county pharmacies to dispense the donated drugs to the underserved free of charge. The idea for the bill, from a group of Stanford medical students, was a winner in Simitian’s 2005 “There Oughta Be a Law” contest.

Since 2009, drug redistribution programs in Santa Clara and San Mateo County coordinated by SIRUM have helped thousands of uninsured patients and redistributed 230,000 pills with an estimated value of \$600,000. SB 1329 takes the next logical step and expands the program further.

“In the six years that have passed since the original legislation took effect, the drug redistribution program has more than proven its value,” Simitian said. “This bill takes that next step, and makes changes that will make it even more successful. At a time when the state and counties are strapped, and many Californians are struggling, this gets drugs that would otherwise be wasted to the people who really need them. It’s a clear win-win.”

Pala Band of Mission Indians Stands in Solidarity with Other Tribes in Opposition to Palomar College Tribal Burial Desecration

The Pala Band of Mission Indians stands in solidarity with the San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians, the Pauma Band of Luiseño Indians, and all who wish to stop Palomar College from disturbing ancestral tribal sites. The proposed construction of the college’s main road, which connects to its proposed Fallbrook campus and some three large housing and commercial projects, will undoubtedly create irreversible damage to an ancestral burial site that must be protected.

To excavate our ancestors without abiding by the law and protocol that applies to this particular project is deeply disrespectful and a violation of our rights as tribal people. The legal framework that is in place to protect our irreplaceable tribal heritage must be adhered to. Further consultation and cooperation with the tribes is necessary to prevent any further desecration to our ancestors. The Pala Band of Mission Indians will pursue legal action against Palomar College if necessary to protect a site so rich in historical significance and ensure that our ancestors’ remains are treated with the respect they deserve.

Chairman Robert Smith
Pala Band of Mission Indians

Persecution of Falun Gong

Falun Dafa (also called Falun Gong) is an advanced practice of Buddhist self-cultivation, founded by Mr. Li Hongzhi, the practice’s master. It is a discipline in which “assimilation to the highest qualities of the universe—Zhen, Shan, Ren (Truthfulness, Compassion, Forbearance)—is the foundation of practice. Practice is guided by these supreme qualities, and based on the very laws which underlie the development of the cosmos.” Master Li’s teachings are set forth in a number of texts, among which are included Falun Gong, Zhuan Falun, The Great Perfection Way of Falun Dafa, Keys to Diligent Progress, and The

Grand Verses.

The persecution of Falun Gong refers to the campaign initiated by the Chinese Communist Party against practitioners of Falun Gong since July 1999, aimed at eliminating the practice in the People’s Republic of China. According to Amnesty International, it includes a multifaceted propaganda campaign,[1] a program of enforced ideological conversion and re-education, as well as a variety of extralegal coercive measures, such as arbitrary arrests, forced labour, and physical torture, sometimes resulting in death]

Foreign observers estimate that since 1999, hundreds of thousands, and perhaps millions of Falun Gong practitioners have been detained in “re-education through labor” camps, prisons, and detention facilities for refusing to renounce the spiritual practice. Former

Chinese prisoners, many of whom are not themselves Falun Gong adherents have reported that Falun Gong practitioners consistently received the “longest sentences and worst treatment” in labor camps, and in some facilities, Falun Gong practitioners were the substantial majority of detainees. At least 2,000 Falun Gong adherents have been tortured to death amidst the persecution campaign, with some observers putting the number much higher.

Since 2006, there have also been persistent, but as-of-yet unproven allegations that the vital organs of non-consenting Falun Gong practitioners have been used to supply China’s organ tourism industry.[The United Nations Committee on Torture called for China to schedule an independent investigation into the allegations.

Raising Grandchildren

A free conference for grandparents raising grand children will be held on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Joe & Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Ave. Geared for the more than 24,000 grandparents in San Diego County who have primary responsibility for their grandchildren, the event will offer workshops, resources and networking opportunities. Free lunch will be provided and childcare is available upon request. For registration, call (toll-free): 855-238-5978. Additional information is available online: 21sandiego.org/grandparents.

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“Anpetu wast’e wagi yuha po” which means in Lakota
“Have a good day”.

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The U.S. Justice Department Opinion on Internet Gaming: What's at Stake for Tribes

Prepared for the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs February 9, 2012

As a completely unexpected gift to the states, announced two days before Christmas, the United States Department of Justice ("DoJ") declared that states are now free to legalize almost every form of Internet gambling, and not be worried about federal laws. This might not have been the intent – the ruling dealt with state lottery subscription sales – but the result will be an explosion of poker, instant lotteries and casino games on the Internet, run or licensed by the states. And, although the DoJ was careful to say the opinion is limited to intra-state gambling, there is now nothing stopping states from entering into compacts for online gambling with other states, and even foreign nations.

Many tribes, especially those with established landbased gaming operations, are worried that they might not be included in this coming proliferation of state-operated and -licensed Internet gambling. And they have every reason to worry.

Although tribes have the right to operate any form of gambling permitted under the laws of the state where the tribe is located, it seems likely that courts would limit that right to patrons who are physically on Indian lands. Tribes are not prohibited from taking bets from throughout a state. But that would be a privilege granted by a state, not a right. And, the state could not be sued for bad faith if it refused to let tribes accept off-reservation wagers. This puts tribes in the position of having to compete for a limited number of Internet gambling licenses, to be issued by not always friendly state governments.

The tests for Indian gaming seem clear, based on the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202, 107 S.Ct. 1083 (1987), and the declarations of Congress in the subsequent Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ("IGRA"), 25 U.S.C. §§2701-21 and 18 U.S.C. §§1166-68. First, what is permitted in the state? This is a shorthand for requir-

ing tribes to follow the public policy of the state toward specific forms of gambling. Second, tribes regulate, sometimes with, sometimes without, state or federal governments, but only if the gambling is conducted on Indian lands. Tribes in Nevada can operate casinos and sports books; tribes in Utah have none.

This limit on tribal gaming to Indian lands is particularly true with Class II gaming. So, if a state legalized Internet bingo or poker, tribes could also conduct those games online, and would not need a tribal-state compact. But players would

have to be physically present on Indian lands. There might be ways around this – proxy play for bingo has been tried – but that would not work with poker.

The argument for limiting Class III gambling to Indian lands is weaker. There is an express

exemption in IGRA for tribal lotteries from the federal anti-lottery statutes, 18 U.S.C. §§1301-1304 (IGRA §2720). But this only proves Congress intended to allow tribes to send lottery tickets across state lines and through the U.S. Mail. The lottery would have to be conducted pursuant to a tribal-state compact, and the statutes do not necessarily indicate Congress intended to allow sales off-reservation. Tribes also can clearly operate off-track betting ("OTB"), even though the races are taking place on non-Indian lands. But even though states have to agree to compacts allowing their tribes to operate OTBs, it is not clear that states would have to allow tribes to accept wagers from bettors who are not physically on Indian land. A majority of states allow remote betting conducted by state-licensed OTBs through Advanced Deposit Wagering ("ADW"), where players fund their accounts in advance over the phone or through the Internet. Even though a state might agree to tribal ADWs, that does not mean it had to.

I think courts would find tribes could demand compacts if states legalized Internet lotteries, casinos, sports betting and other Class III gaming. But, again, the bettors would have to be on Indian lands.

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This puts tribes in the position of having to compete for a limited number of Internet gambling licenses, to be issued by not always friendly state governments.

Ernest Salgado Sr.

October 16, 1920 – January 23, 2012

Ernest Salgado Sr. passed into eternal life on Monday, January 23, 2012 at his home on the Soboba Indian Reservation. His wife of 60 years, Fidelia succeeded him into eternal life. Mr. Salgado was born on October 16, 1920 on the Soboba Indian Reservation. He is survived by, two brothers and three sisters, Henry "Sonny" Bentiste, William "Billy" Bentiste, Francis Bentiste Arres and Alice Bentiste Helms from the Soboba Indian Reservation and Nelia Salgado Heredia from the Cauhilla Indian Reservation: Six children, Ernie C. Salgado Jr., Hemet, CA, Robert J. Salgado Sr., Soboba Indian Reservation, Richard L. Salgado Sr., Palms Springs, CA, Lorraine Salgado Masiel, Hemet, CA, Francis Salgado Diaz, Soboba Indian Reservation and Rose Salgado, Soboba Indian Reservation, 14 Grandchildren, 43 Great-grandchildren, 13 Great-great-grandchildren and numerous nephews and nieces.

He attended the Valle Vista elementary school in Hemet in the late 20's and Sherman Indian High School in Riverside and played on the schools championship baseball teams in the late 30's.

Mr. Salgado was a WWII veteran serving in the U.S. Army. During WWII

he served in five major combat campaigns including the Battle of the Bulge and the invasion of Normandy.



He was awarded the Bronze Star Metal and Silver Star Metal for bravery. He was also awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

He was a strong advocate and supporter of the American Indian Rights and education through out his life. As a tribal and community leader he served on the Soboba Tribal Council and was a Charter member of Ahmium Education, Inc., serving as the Vice-President of the Board of Directors since 1975. He was a life member of the California Indian Education Association.

A Catholic Rosary was held at the McWane Funeral Home in Hemet, CA at 7pm on Thursday, February 2, 2012. A Christian service was held at 9am on Friday, February 3, 2012 at the Assembly of God in Valle Vista, CA followed by graveside services at the Soboba Tribal Cemetery. A traditional tribal fellowship dinner was held at the Soboba sport complex after the graveside services.



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5. FUCODIDAN - A brown seaweed.
6. MANGOSTEEN - Native to the Sundra Islands and Southeast Asia.
7. SEABUCKTHORN - Native to the Sundra Islands and Southeast Asia particularly in the mountains of China and Russia.

exfuze itself literally means extracts fused together. An extract is a small particle that is the result of a sophisticated process that extracts all the beneficial components of the botanicals, leaving behind the indigestible parts of the plants. These statements have not been evaluated by FDA. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.

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 ANNIVERSARY BORDER ANGELS

Cesar Chavez Park, San Diego CA /Cesar Chavez Park, San Diego CA Holtville, Ca (Feb 2, 2012)
“Acceptance of all People” From Cesar Chavez Park with the “Hummingbird Aztec Dancers” to Holtville Cemetery. A wonderful night at SILVERADO RANCH with serenade from local cowboys. Ranch was wonderful, We will be back at SILVERDAO, with the BAJA BUGGS. Gracias

Holtville, Ca//Yuma, Arizona//Coachella, Ca (Feb 3) “Celebrating the Community” Day 2: We head to Yuma with Cesar Chavez cousin Ray, see where Cesar was born, then visit the remains of Adobe house (where Cesar grew up) We hear the stories of young Cesar and Richard. We see the school house, church, as well as field where Cesar was arrested for organizing. We head out of state and to Coachella, for meal, posada and hear assemblyman Manuel Perez as he proposes legislation to help out migrant brethren.

Coachella, Ca//Los Angeles, Ca (Feb 4) “Respect for Life/Environment” Day 3: Protest, Secure Communities ! as we let our voices heard at detention facility in Indio California. Coachella community, “Que queremos, Justicia, Cuando, Ahora! Que queremos, Reforma, Cuando, Ahora” We then head to Plaza Mexico in Lynwood and join our friends from COFEM, CASA JALISCO, Guatemalan Coalition and see old friends Bob Navarro, CHIRLA and others, all join a couple of hundred people as we continue to organize and “walk with Cesar”. GRACIAS JOSEFINA!

Los Angeles, CA//La Paz Ca (Day of Fast, Sunday Feb 5) “Non-Violence” Our group with members from Mexico, Texas, California, Massachusetts, Guatemala and elsewhere, fasts all day and reflect that Marcher and Border Angels own Mark Valdez (nephew of legendary Luis Valdez, teatro campesino) is on 4th day of his noble 10 day fast) We gather and head to LA PAZ (where Cesar is buried).

La Paz, CA //Delano//40 Acres (Feb 6) “Innovation” Delicious breakfast at Chavez Center, then an extensive tour and discussion throughout the

grounds of National Chavez Center at La Paz. Wow ! Armando meets us at UFW offices (50th anniversary, our prayers are with you Arturo!) We visit 40 acres and Josefina, Ruth, Norberto and others show us where Cesar organized. We learn of the 5 martyrs, we head to Casa Hernandez for Posada. Thanks Diane T, Sylvia and all.

Delano, CA//Modesto, CA (Feb 7) “Helping the Most Needy” As group gathers and reflects some of us return to our places of journey, I fly off to University of Louisville to organize with dreamers and May 1st coalition, return from Kentucky next morning to rejoin group. In Modesto our friends from EL CONCILIO give us POSADA. El Concilio, model agency of practicing Cesar’s principle, we celebrate a new one every day. Glad to once again visit with Concilio. Thanks Jose, Yamilet, Annett, and all ! SI SE PUEDE !!!

Modesto, CA//Stockton, CA (Feb 8) “Knowledge” We head to EL CONCILIO, headquarters in Stockton. Tour facility and community. See the work first hand The work is exemplary and as Micaela Saucedo from CASA REFUGIO ELVIRA in Tijuana. Annette offers posada, Gracias amigos.

Stockton, CA//Sacramento, CA (Feb 9) “Sacrifice” Visit legislators in Sacramento, we visit offices of Tony Mendoza, Gil Cedillo, Juan Vargas, Ben Hueso, Christine Kehoe and others ... Manuel Perez support is incredible and we plan to join them Saturday at

California Convention in San Diego Saturday night, I get invited to speak. I also meet former Lt Governor Cruz Bustamante as well as Ben Hueso. Dinner and head south ...

Escondido, CA “Little Arizona” (Feb 10) “Service to others” QUE VIVA RUFINO CONTRERAS ! RUFINO CONTRERAS, PRESENTE !!! (Feb 10, 1979) We visit day laborers in Escondido, even have someone from France join us as well as new group to partner, Latino fraternity form Cal State San Marcos. Work is slow for day laborers, they appreciate visit, food and items we deliver from Marcha including water, sleeping bag, some pasteries and more ... fellowship. Mark V continues fast.

Border Field State Park, (Feb 11) “Determination” We closed Marcha Migrante VII with a prayer from father Dermot @ Border Field State Park parking Mark ends fast, we say closing words, thanks to all. We will have more info and thanks to the many that joined and supported us. There is so much work to do. Cesar’s lessons continue as do the lessons of Dolores Huerta, Paul Chavez and Arturo Rodriguez. We must give our lives, to save it. Once again we face the most important elections of our lifetimes. UNITE ! RISE UP ! VIVA LA CAUSA! Enrique & Border Angels Family, gracias To all join us, tomorrow, or near future SI SE PUEDE ! borderangels.org

Ute Indian Tribe to Cancel All Leases, Business Licenses, Rights of Way and Access Permits with Non-Members Unless County Officials Refrain from Ongoing Jurisdictional Violations

The individual members of the Ute Indian Tribal Business Committee, Irene Cuch, Chair, Ron Wopsock, Vice-Chair, and Stewart Pike, Member, hereby clarify that the Press Release dated January 30, 2102 whereby it stated that it is “in the process of reviewing all ongoing leases,

business licenses, rights of ways and access permits, and agreements with non-members of the Tribe, unless the Uintah and Duchesne County Commissions and Law Enforcement Agencies cease and desist from further unlawful patrolling, arrest, prosecution and detention to its

Tribal Members” does not apply to those developers and operators who have Exploration and Development Agreements or other leases for the exploration and development of the Tribe’s oil and gas resources.

The Tribe will continue to honor those Exploration and Development Agreements and other leases for the exploration and development of the Tribe’s oil and gas resources. Oil and gas developers and operators conducting business on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation should rest assured that their leases, rights of way, business licenses, access permits and other agreements will

not be cancelled during the review process.

Cancellation of leases, rights of way, business license, access permits and other agreements applies to land and grazing leases and all non-Tribal business that conduct business with the boundaries of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation who do not honor, recognize or adhere to the Tribe’s regulatory authority, laws and requirements, such at the Ute Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance.

The Press Release dated January 30, 2012 shall continue to apply to all other non-members of the Tribe.



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East County Church Will Host Immigration Course

SANTEE, CA – The popular course “Immigration as a Moral Issue” is coming to East County. There will be six weekly sessions beginning on March 2nd, 2012 and ending on April 6th, 2012, from 6:30 to 8PM at Summit UU Fellowship in Santee.

The course starts with a worldwide look at migrants and refugees and then will focus on the economics and legal issues related to migration to the United States.

The migration of people—driven by economic, social, political and environmental factors—is taking place all around the world. Millions are currently in transit, in refugee camps, in detention centers, or living and working in places without full legal status and without access to social services or protection of civil rights.

The dignity of all the world's peoples is a core principle of Unitarian Universalism. Given the justice-oriented nature of UU faith, UUs are called to be leaders in the struggle for immigrant and refugee rights, and to view immigration not only as a legal issue but also moral issue.

“We are grateful to Mar Cárdenas and associates who are offering this class. Spiritually, morally, and politically, each of us is challenged to become better educated on the complex issues of immigration, in order to help our nation develop a more rational, ethical and compassionate response toward those who cross our borders to live and work as fellow members of our communities,” said Rev. Frank Placone-Willey, the minister of the hosting congregation.

The United States and other countries

throughout Latin America, Africa and Asia are employing harsher border controls coupled with more aggressive immigration enforcement. The numbers of immigrants and refugees in detention centers has swelled around the globe.

To begin addressing these problems, UU churches are becoming involved in a variety of ways.

In Arizona, where the numbers of migrant deaths is the highest along the U.S./Mexico border, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson (UUCT) adopted local humanitarian organization No More Deaths (NMD) as a ministry of the church.

NMD provides direct humanitarian assistance to migrants crossing the desert and to those repatriated back to Mexico by the Department of Homeland Security. UUs from around the country have traveled to Arizona to volunteer with NMD, and congregations have sent monetary and material donations to support their humanitarian work.

In December of 2005, a NMD volun-

teer and member of UUCT was issued a littering ticket while putting out gallon jugs of water for migrants near the border. He fought the ticket and was convicted by a jury in federal court for “knowingly littering,” and was required to perform 300 hours of community service and complete one year of probation.

In Phoenix, UU minister Susan Frederick-Gray announced a call to action to bring attention to the racist tactics of Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio, whose raids and checkpoints resulted in the deportation of hundreds of undocumented immigrants and spreading fear and hate in those communities.

“We are called to love our neighbor and welcome the stranger. In the face of fear, we stand on the side of love, not only with our words but also with our daily actions,” added Mar Cárdenas, one of the facilitators of the course.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the church's office phone - (619) 562-0833 or email UUFrankPW@aol.com Resources: <http://www.uua.org/immigration/re/moral/guide/index.shtml>

Power of Travel Coalition

Dear Power of Travel Coalition Member, NTTWDuring this election year, we have the opportunity to showcase the power of travel and raise its profile with policymakers across the nation. National Travel and Tourism Week (NTTW), which will be held May 5-13, 2012, provides a fitting occasion to shine the spotlight on our industry. To align with U.S. Travel's 2012 campaign, this year's theme is Vote Travel.

Last year, more than 70 destinations nationwide helped to stage the most successful NTTW yet! Let's build upon that momentum for this year and unite to champion the benefits of travel in more locations across the country than ever before.

Here are some highlights from Travel Rally Day 2011 to inspire your plans for this year.

Please commit to do three things now:

1. Host or participate in Travel Rally Day on Tuesday, May 8;
2. Use our resources to help you spotlight the impact of travel in your community; and
3. Build up the Power of Travel Coalition, the ever-growing grassroots army of travel employees who defend our industry when it's most needed.

Vote Travel The Power of Travel Coalition's

toolkit is designed to help you be a strong local advocate. Our resources include marketing and advocacy materials, templates and samples to help you communicate and social media tips.

Make this year's National Travel and Tourism Week, and the entire election year, a reminder that travel is a bi-partisan industry that can get America moving again.

Thanks in advance for making it happen in your community.

Place at end of Power of Travel article

The U.S. Travel Association is the national, non-profit organization representing all components of the \$704 billion travel industry.

U.S. Travel's mission is to promote and facilitate increased travel to and within the United States. For more information about U.S. Travel Association and its mission, please visit www.ustravel.org.

Sincerely, Roger Dow, U.S. Travel President & CEO U.S. Travel Association U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION TEL 202 408 8422 FAX 202 408 1255 1100 New York Avenue, NW Suite 450 Washington, DC 20005-3934

ustravel.org discoveramerica.com

Pala Rez Radio Expands Programming

Rez Radio 91.3 is very pleased to add to our program lineup a show that has been iconic on San Diego radio for over 25 years ... Reggae Makossa with Makeda Dread.

Pala is home to North County's most avid reggae fans as evidenced by the popularity of reggae music on Rez Radio. Since our inception a year ago this month, we've programmed reggae as part of our regular music mix and featured an hour of nothing but reggae every night of the week at 7. Pala's own Elijah Duro hosts the Rez Dub Reggae hour every Wednesday and Sunday.

Now reggae maven Makeda Dread takes over the Saturday evening reggae slot and expands it to three hours with Reggae Makossa ... 7-10p every Saturday night beginning 2/18/12 on Pala Rez Radio 91.3 FM and worldwide via live streaming from our website www.palatribe.com or www.TuneIn.com and the TuneIn.com Apple and Android apps (search: “Rez Radio”).

Email 91.3@palatribe.com to subscribe to either or both our Google Calendar program schedule and our daily e-newsletter. Like Rez Radio 91.3 on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @RezRadioFM.

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NEVADA NEWS

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Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference set for April 3-4 in Elko

CARSON CITY – Nevada Indian leaders and others will gather April 3-4 in Elko to discuss tourism promotion at the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference. About 60 participants from the western United States are expected at this event, now in its fourth year.

“Tribal tourism is an important part of what Nevada has to offer its visitors,” Lt. Gov. Brian Krolicki, chairman of the Nevada Commission on Tourism, said.

“Whether it’s fishing at Pyramid Lake or seeing ancient Anasazi artifacts at the Lost City Museum in Overton, these experiences attract a key travel market to our state.”

In addition, tribal tourism allows Nevada Indians opportunities to sustain and strengthen their cultural legacies.

“Nevada’s American Indians are utilizing tourism not just as a tool for economic development, but also as a way to tell their stories,” Sherry Rupert, executive director of the Nevada Indian Commission, said. “By opening our pow wows to the public, or displaying tribal artifacts in a museum setting, we ensure that our cultural legacy is carried forward.”

Rupert also serves as executive director of Nevada Indian Territory, a volunteer group that assists Nevada tribes with tourism promotion and the agency sponsoring the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference. Nevada is home to 27 federally recognized tribes, including the Washoe, Paiute and Western Shoshone.

Among the conference speakers are Leslie Kedelt, executive director of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) and David A. Leonard of the U.S. Small Business Administration. For information on the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference and to register, see www.nevadaindianterritory.com.

Nevada Indian Territory

At the western edge of the Great Basin lies a vast stretch of high mountain desert with sage covered hillsides, towering rock precipices and majestic mountain ranges. Indian Territory, Nevada, is home to three major Native American tribes: the Washoe, Paiute and Western Shoshone. For thousands of years their ancestors were the stewards of this land.

Indian Territory was one of the last major frontiers to be explored and settled by Euro-Americans. This land offered native people the ability to sustain ethnic identity longer than other parts of the country. Even through past tribulations, they have remained strong. The Washoe, Paiute and Western Shoshone tribes still comprise a culturally rich and distinctive ethnic group.

Today, the tribes focus their efforts on political and economic change. Tribal members look to the future with hope for a prosperous and environmentally aware society that understands the value of cultural diversity.

4th Annual Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference, April 3-4, 2012 Red Lion Hotel & Casino, Elko, Nevada

“Captivating the World through Tribal Tourism”

The Nevada Indian Territory in partnership with the Nevada Indian Commission and the Nevada Commission on Tourism is proud to host the fourth annual “Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.” This year’s conference will feature a spectrum of professionals in the tourism and tribal tourism industries who will provide strategies on how Nevada Tribes can share their rich

history and culture with visitors from around the globe!

You are invited to come and experience the full array of events planned for this year’s Tribal Tourism Conference, from the top-notch key note speakers and presenters, to the pristine beauty of the Ruby Valley; home to the Western Shoshone people, and the intriguing account of westward expansion inter-

preted at the California Trail Center. The 2012 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference has something to offer everyone!

A limited number of registration only scholarships are available on a first come first serve basis to Nevada Tribes who would like to attend.

Who should attend:

- Tribal Economic Development

Directors

- Tribal Cultural Resource Directors
- American Indian Artists
- American Indian Arts and Crafts

Vendors

- Museum and Cultural Center Staff
- Grant Writers

• Anyone who is interested in Tourism Opportunities!

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To guarantee special room rate, make reservation by March 19, 2012

Under Whose Authority?

A casino customer was detained by immigration officials for nearly a week, then released here in the U.S., despite his illegal status.

U.S. Border Patrol says a typical detention after catching someone in the U.S. illegally is 72 hours. But it varies depending on the case.

In this case the man, identified only as Sebastian, said he was wrongly detained for 6 days, earlier this month.

According to a Sycuan spokesperson, 26-year-old Sebastian was questioned for I.D. by security because he looked too young.

That is when the casino says Sebastian showed them four fake IDs, before presenting his Matricula Consular Card, a Mexican consulate card the casino says they normally accept no questions asked.

But in this case, Sycuan decided to call Border Patrol after suspecting that even

that card was false.

Sycuan also admitted that it is not their policy to call immigration officials, but that this was an exception.

While the Matricula card may get you into the casino, Border Patrol says, to immigration, it is not a valid form of documentation to be in the United States legally.

Border Patrol says Sebastian also admitted to them that he was here illegally, so they took him in.

He was processed and held by immigration officers for 6 days.

“Individuals can be held in the Border Patrol custody while they wait to see a judge, anywhere from two days up two weeks,” said Agent Steven Pitts with U.S. Customs & Border Protection.

“It all depends on bed space,” he said.

Sebastian was handed over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and released back in the U.S. where he is now fighting his case.

The ICE has contacted to find out why he was released in the U.S. and not to Mexico.

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Clean Energy Projects Creating Jobs, Boosting Local Economies on Tribal Lands

Last month in his State of the Union address, President Obama laid out his blueprint to move our country forward. Unlike others in Washington, it's clear that our President has a vision for Nevada and for America that will put Nevadans back to work and get our economy going again.

As part of that vision, the President emphasizes the importance of developing renewable energy projects and deploying clean energy technologies. I'm pleased that his administration recently announced new projects in Indian Country. In Nevada, these types of projects will save money by lowering energy costs, creating jobs, and helping businesses in these communities.

Specifically, the Battle Mountain Band of

the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada will receive nearly \$350,000 to determine the benefits and savings of installing a five-megawatt solar photovoltaic solar energy system. In addition to providing power for the Battle Mountain Colony, Nevada and California, this system would furnish jobs and revenue and create energy self-sufficiency for the Tribe.

Additionally, the Department of the Interior recently announced that it was fast-tracking the approval of a 350 megawatt solar project on the Moapa River Indian Reservation. That project would be among the largest utility-scale solar projects on tribal lands in the United States, and it

would enable the tribe to curtail its use of dirty and expensive diesel generators.

Clean energy development has long been one of my top priorities because a more diverse economy will protect our state from future economic downturns. I'm pleased that the Obama administration recognizes the importance of partnering with Tribal Nations to advance renewable energy efforts because tribal communities in Nevada have been hit particularly hard by the recession that began in 2008.

Nevada has incredible potential to lead the country and the world in renewable energy development, which is why I'm encouraged by each new project that har-

nesses the clean energy from the sun, wind and Earth. This solar energy system in the Battle Mountain colony is the latest project that will boost the local economy, help to build its energy infrastructure and spur Indian energy development.

The launch of Reid's official Senate Facebook page continues Reid's leadership in social media to ensure he's reaching Nevadans through modern communication tools. Nearly 50,000 users follow Reid's English- (@SenatorReid) and Spanish-language (@SenadorReid) Twitter handles. Additionally, Reid is a leader on YouTube (YouTube.com/SenatorReid), with hundreds of videos uploaded.

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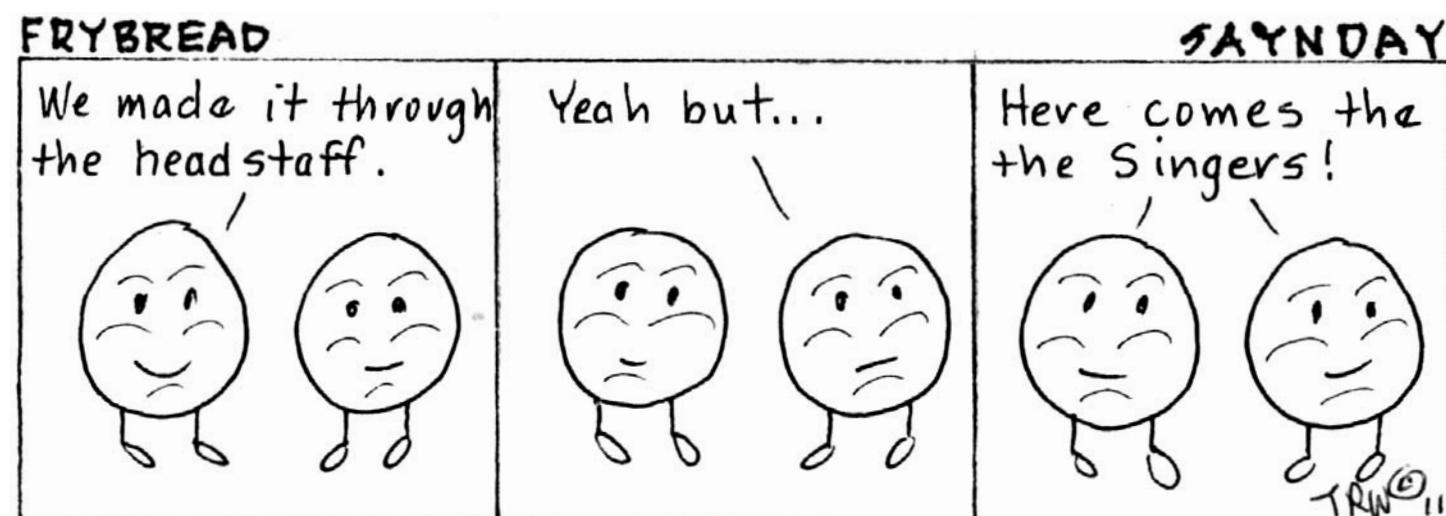
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ANNOUNCEMENT

Saturday, March 10
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LOCATION: McMillin Center, Liberty Station, Point Loma.

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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 sureños 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 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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*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.