

The Completed Circle

A Healers Personal Journey

San Diego, CA. – It was an oblique path that Josh Webber followed on the road to health and sobriety.

The reservation near Cutbank, Montana, where he was nurtured by his Spirit Lake Dakota Sioux mother and Blackfeet father was light years from the world that awaited him as he matured.

Mr. and Mrs. Webber overcame problems faced by those who endured the Indian boarding school era. His Father did not experience the Indian boarding school but studied and worked hard on his dad's ranch next to the Blackfeet reservation.

Both of his parents Don and Sylvia were also a product of the government's Relocation Program.

The plan was set up by the federal government, designed to entice reservation dwellers to seven major cities where

the jobs supposedly were plentiful.

Relocation offices were set up in Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Dallas. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) employees were supposed to orient new arrivals and manage financial and job training programs for them. Other BIA officials recruited prospective "Relocates" from many of the reservations around the country.

Josh's Parents overcame the cultural and emotional disruption that took a toll on many of their peers.

They have celebrated their Fifty Year Wedding Anniversary and are happily residing at Santa Ysabel.

Mr. Webber obtained a stable job with the Federal Aviation Administration as an electronic engineer. He first learned to repair electronic equipment while enlist-

ed in the U. S. Air Force during the Korean War.

In 1963 Josh's father was transferred to San Diego East County's Mounty Laguna and assigned to maintain the Radar Sites. The family lived just below the Radar Sites in a log cabin, now a tourist attraction and someone's summer home with a sign on the cabin saying, "The Nut Hut".

Josh attended kindergarten in Campo. His family then moved to El Cajon. it



Josh Webber



Don and Sylvia Webber just before Josh's birth in Montana

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Tribes Face Economic Gloom

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San Diego, CA – The Indian Gaming business is feeling the negative impact of the souring economy with many of the small Indian casinos facing closure. The average loss in income is between 20 and 30% according to some sources and in some cases even higher.

The immediate result is lay offs, reduction in advertisements and purchases of goods and services. This will cause a ripple effect, as the Indian gaming business is a multi million dollar business with not only the Native American benefiting. The manufactures, suppliers, shipping and hundreds of non-Indian workers will also feel the impact.

One thing you can bet on is that the government will not be bailing out the Indian casinos. The State Legislator and United States Congress can't even pass a budget to keep the economy running at the state and federal level. This is what you can call real accountability.

This may not be a bad thing as many Tribal groups were of the mind set that

they were above the rest of the world and that the casinos were immune to the economic trends. However, some tribal leaders were aware of the impact of the failing economy and began taking alternative action. Rincon, Pechanga and Auga Caliente are three that immediately come to mind. Although all three have professional management teams working for them the Tribal leadership provided the direction.

Many gaming tribe have diversified their assets to other businesses but will still feel the impact of the current economic crisis. Still other has built cash reserves and other resources to weather the crisis. However, many tribes lack the leadership to deal with the crisis at hand. In some cases the Tribal Councils actually "Micro Manage" the tribal casinos even though they hire managers. It is easy to identify the "Micro Managed" tribal casinos because they have an exceptionally high turn over of managers. The biggest reason for the high turnover is because the professional managers don't always go along with the political or self-interest decisions made

by the tribal leaders.

The new game in town is "Competition" and it will be brutal. Up to now the Indian casino have had the privilege of a 20 to 30% profit margin on the machines. This will change and in fact it is changing as this is bring written. Management and marketing will be of the utmost importance in wooing player away from other casinos.

Currently the drop of player is between 20 to 30%, which will drop even lower as the economy struggle to recover. It is going to be a player market with the casino doing everything they can to entice the players to visit their casino. Another major factor is the location of the casinos, as the driving distance will play a critical role in the player's selection of casinos.

A new web site, CALIE.ORG will provide free Indian casino players blogs that will be up and running on October 1st. CALIE.ORG is dedicated to the player views of the best Indian casino to play. We will keep you informed in our next issue of the changes in the Indian gaming world.

Actor Danny Glover and Congresswoman Diane Watson Highlight Congressional Black Caucus Panel on Cherokee Freedmen

Washington, DC — “It is past time for Congress to act,” said Diane Watson, addressing the Congressional Black Caucus’s (CBC) Annual Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. “The D.C. Court of Appeals has ruled that Cherokee officials cannot discriminate against the Freedmen in violation of the Treaty of 1866 and 13th Amendment,” Watson said. “Congress must step in to enforce the treaty rights of the Freedmen.”

And Congress did step in today, passing a bill authorizing housing funds to Indian tribes but exempting the Cherokee Nation from participation if it denies funds to the Freedmen.

“We are happy that Congress provided some enforcement to the treaty rights of the Freedmen to participate in the housing package, but it is only a small step towards equality and unfortunately only impacts about 10% of the Cherokee Freedmen,” said Freedmen’s lead counsel Jon Velie, also a panelist at the CBC conference.

Mr. Velie explained that despite the D.C. Court of Appeals direction that tribal officials could not violate the treaty, Cherokee officials have ceased processing Freedmen citizenship applica-

tions, freezing enrollment at 2,800.

“23,000 or 90% Cherokee Freedmen are denied their treaty guaranteed citizenship rights and therefore cannot participate in the housing package. The bill does nothing to ensure the rights of these people. While the bill accurately details the horrible state many Indian people are encountering and the need for housing to prevent homelessness and protect families, the vast majority of poor and needy Cherokee Freedmen will be left to fend for themselves as the housing and financial crisis hits their communities.”

Danny Glover, actor and activist, praised the long relationship between Indian and African American people, citing the tradition of Indian people taking in escaped slaves during the early days of America. He referenced that his character in the movie *Lonesome Dove* was a buffalo soldier based on a Seminole Freedmen. Mr. Glover stated he participated on the panel out of deep respect for and in memory of his Choctaw grandmother. He expressed his profound disappointment in the actions of the Cherokees and the other four tribes (Seminole, Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw) that have denied the descen-

dants of former slaves equal standing in their tribes.

Marilyn Vann, lead plaintiff of the Federal suit and Band Chief of the Freedmen Band of the Cherokee Nation and President of the Descendants of the Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes, told the stories of Freedmen who held offices in the Cherokee Nation throughout history, stories of current Freedmen, like Ruth Adair Nash whose most prized possession is her Cherokee Membership and voting card issued to her in 1975. Ms. Vann also told of Charlene White, an elder Cherokee speaking Freedmen from Tahlequah, Oklahoma, capital of the Cherokee Nation, who relies on tribal health benefits to combat her diabetes.

Moderator Wayne Thompson declared that the 1866 treaty is the law and the U.S. must hold Cherokee officials responsible. But it is not just about the law, he said, it is also about morality and justice. Mr. Thompson said 148 years ago the Cherokee Nation went to war against the U.S. with the Confederacy to preserve slavery and lost. Today, the slave-holding aristocracy of the Cherokee Nation cannot continue its Jim Crow segregation policies.

Allen Mitchell, a Creek Freedmen

told the story of losing his citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the implementation of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act in the 1970’s.

Cherokee citizen David Cornsilk told the audience the Cherokee leadership has not always been racist, but the current administration has lost its Cherokee ways. Mr. Cornsilk said he was saddened by the actions that have been taken against his Cherokee Freedmen brothers and sisters. He told the story of Molly, the slave who was adopted by a Cherokee family in the 1830’s. Molly was given her freedom and given a Cherokee name and despite her skin color was taken in as a Cherokee. Molly had a large family, who was also taken into the Cherokee community as free people. When a white lady claimed Molly and her family as her property, Cherokee Chief White Path declared she was Cherokee and fought off the slavers. Mr. Cornsilk helped Cherokee Freedmen Lucy Allen win a lawsuit in the Cherokee’s highest Court – a lawsuit seeking reinstatement of Freedmen descendants in the tribe -- before it was dissolved by tribal officials and replaced by a new court and packed with new judges by the current Chief.

San Diego, CA — September 23, 2008 – Viejas Casino has received top rankings in several categories in the 2008 Best of Southern California Gaming Reader’s Choice Awards. Readers of the Southern California Gaming Guide™ ranked Viejas #1 in the following categories: Best Dealers, Best Bingo and Best Entertainment & Concerts. In addition, Viejas Casino ranked #2 in Over-all Slots, Penny Slots, Poker Room and Blackjack and #3 in the categories of Luckiest Casino, Best Fine Dining (for the Grove Steakhouse), Best Service and Best High-Limit Table Games.

“Viejas is proud to be so highly recognized in so many important categories by readers of the Southern California Gaming Guide,” said Viejas Tribal Chairman Bobby Barrett. “Viejas is committed to providing our customers with exciting gaming, dining and entertainment experiences, and we are truly honored to be recognized for these efforts.”

Viejas Casino Rakes in Top Votes in Gaming Poll

Viejas Casino, conveniently located east of San Diego at I-8 and Willows Road, features 2,000 slot machines; over 80 table games a 150-seat off-track betting facility; 700-seat bingo hall; and six delicious restaurants including the elegant Grove Steakhouse. Viejas comes alive almost every night with live entertainment at one of the three concert venues: the V Lounge, DreamCatcher or Concerts in the Park, featuring local, regional and national acts. For more information, visit www.viejas.com or call 1-800-847-6537.

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Tribal View of a Day at the Beach

by Roy Cook, Opata-Oodham, Mazopiye
Wishasha: Writer, Singer, Speaker

La Jolla, CA. – Hazy history and cloudy days of soft sighs for those that we remember. For many years, all too often, the Kumeyaay are categorized by "they were" or "have been in the past", some other term that says they are not a part of this social context.

There are information and socially conscious booths that offer delights and distractions in anticipation of this 9/12/08 event. Prominently located is Yvonne Trotter, Ipai, and basket maker from Mesa Grande. She has a very nice selection of Ipai and Kumeyaay pottery and baskets. She relates that the inspiration for some of her designs comes from the baskets made by her mother and grandmother. I share with her how many years ago on Santa Ysabel, we boys would go over to Christina Osuna Bresford's place and eat peaches from her orchard. Christina was a very popular and sought after basket maker as was her mother. Our conversation demonstrates the continuity of culture within our Indian community.

There has been a missing part in the hearts of our local Tribal people and it has caused distress. Realizing that the ideal situation is one in which people do look to their own self-reference and awareness for their identity, as opposed to the established definitions provided by singular cultures. Tribal people



Yvonne Trotter Ipai Basketmaker

accomplish this by instilling values in our youth and perpetuating the continuity of culture.

That this is a day of hope and celebration on an occasion for long overdue recognition of the Kumeyaay people was prominent in the minds of many attending this event. That said let me report of the living continuity of the Ipai and Tipai people once again returning to the shore and cliffs 'of holes'.

The tribal term for La Jolla is Mat Kulaahuuy or place of caves. This local language descriptive term was quickly Europeanized phonetically into La Jolla. Now we hear it referred to, including in the speeches this day, as the jewel in San Diego's finest city.

The mayor and other elected officials and representatives from institutions were there and Artist Lynn Reeves hugged Mary Coakley and called her "the angel" behind the map art project. The map, in colored

cement, had brass fish ranging from yellowtail to anchovies and was created by artists Lynn Reeves and Rick Sparhawk. Sycuan donated \$55,000 to the project.

This is an event to acknowledge the richness of the shore

and our responsible consciousness to the next generation. These cultural values have been the bedrock of Tribal cultures. All judgments and decisions are traditionally tempered in the tribal community with consideration as to the seventh generation.

Louis Guassic, Ipai from Mesa Grande, is on the City of San Diego Kellogg Park organizing committee and he has been primarily instrumental for securing the Bird Singers. Rickie Labrake from Sycuan is the Tribal spokesperson for this segment. He called up John Christman, Lead Bird singer with Steve Wallace and two young singers to demonstrate our tribal commitment to the continuity of our culture.

Additionally, he invited all representatives of the local 21 Bands of Indian Nations. Attending are representatives from: Barona, Viejas, Sycuan, Jamul, San Pasqual, Santa Ysabel, Mesa Grande, Campo, Manzanita. Many responded to his request for women dancers to accompany the Bird singers along with Miss Kumeyaay and Little Miss Kumeyaay.

This afternoon event was a fine opportunity to see old friends and marvel over the next generation of local tribal people. The more things seem to change the more they seem to be the same. This is our uplifting hope of the day, the continuity of culture. We shall continue to endure as tribal people.



Louis Guassic,
Organizing Committee



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Completed Circle

Continued from page 1

was during these formative years that his life started to show signs of stress. He attended 1st and 2nd grades at Lexington Elementary School in El Cajon. Josh attended 3rd grade at Lakeview Elementary School when the family moved to Lakeside, CA. It was there that he experienced his first bout with social problems. He was expelled from the public school for being hyperactive and went to a private school. Through his training and education, Josh has learned that these labels can be possibly misdiagnosed for kids needing to fit in socially.

Now that Josh is healing he is appreciative of the many people who have unselfishly intervened in his life. One such person was Mrs. Albert, who took her own private time after 4th grade class to help him catch up to that grade level. "Her unconditional positive regard and belief in me still stays in my heart today" He says with warm, conviction...

In spite of the hardships that he experienced, Josh always managed somehow to temporarily sidestep personal adversity by excelling the area of his God given athletic abilities. Hyperactivity can be a plus on the wrestling mat, baseball and football fields. His years of throwing the baseball earned him a scholarship to Grossmont College. It was also around this time his

life was nothing less than chaotic.

Still, with a desire to rise above his circumstances he completed ten months in the Air Force and was honorably discharged, but not without a bit of drama.

The charge of damaging a car window while drunk resulted in his being sentenced to four years at the Maximum Security Sioux Falls Penitentiary. This sentence was ultimately reduced to six months through the intervention of Governor Janklow and a commutation of the sentence.

Between the ages of 16 through 22 he admits he was a poster child of a life spinning out of control. Without knowing anything about alcohol and drug abuse, he was at the mercy of practitioners in an emerging area of the study of rehabilitation.

It was from the ages of 22 through 29 that alcohol/drug rehabs became quite common in his life. He recalls "At twenty-nine there was a moment of clarity through out my being. Sitting under a street light on a curb I called out to the God of my understanding to help me.. I took everything I learned in the rehab era and put into action tools for recovery."

All of those who have been and will be helped by Josh Webber can feel grateful that on the night of April 12, 1988 Josh Webber's spiritual consciousness replaced the need for drinking and drugging.

Warner Community Resource Center

Warner Community Resource Center (WCRC) is located in the very rural mountains just northeast of San Diego. Some beautiful surrounding areas of Warner Springs are Julian, Santa Ysabel, Ramona and Sunshine Summit. Suzy Carroll and Myrtle Cassell founded WCRC in 1999. These two magnificent strong women had a vision to help our rural community members and their families. The program was started with a Healthy Start grant. Some years later the WCRC became a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

Currently and for the past year Program Specialist Lee Ann Mangels has been providing some much needed programs for the elderly, single parent families as well as low-income families and for the Warner Union School District students. Lee Ann started at the WCRC on welfare to work program. She is a working single parent who needed and used many of the programs offered through the community resource center, before becoming employed there. She now is the Program Specialist and often runs the resource center on her own. She loves her job and is determined to help anyone, anytime with whatever need may arise. Some programs the center currently offers are: monthly commodity food program, monthly senior-food-for-a-week program, counseling

(tribal and non-tribal), AA meetings, election poll, craft classes, parenting classes, Flex Your Power information, food & clothes closet for emergency food and/or clothes, meeting place, internet access, Warner Native Pride meetings, Girl Scout meetings, Inspiring Wellness Group, medical & dental referrals, help applying for Medi-Cal and/or Healthy Families.....and a few more. As well as being a liaison for her rural community Lee Ann also participates as a co-advisor for the Warner Girl Scout Troop, co-advisor for the Warner Native Pride Club and secretary for the Warner PTCC. The WCRC exists solely from grants and donations...and fundraisers. This is a small glimpse of the ongoing and new classes, services and activities that the WCRC offers to anyone within the 432 sq. mile school district boundaries. The Warner Springs area is a surrounded area of 7 tribal reservations. The WCRC offers all these programs, services and activities to whomever are in need - tribal and/or non-tribal. We are all here to help each other. If you would like more info please contact Lee Ann Mangels @ (760) 782-0670.

WCRC Program Specialist
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An Alaska Native speaks out on Palin, Oil, and Alaska

By Evon Peter
evonpeter@mac.com
9/8/2008



Evon Peter

My name is Evon Peter; I am a former Chief of the Neetsaii Gwich'in tribe from Arctic Village, Alaska and the current Executive Director of Native Movement. My organization provides culturally based leadership development through offices in Alaska and Arizona. My wife, who is Navajo, and I have been based out of Flagstaff, Arizona for the past few years, although I travel home to Alaska in support of our initiatives there as well. It is interesting to me that my wife and I find ourselves as Indigenous people from the two states where McCain and Palin originate in their leadership.

I am writing this letter to raise awareness about the ongoing colonization and violation of human rights being carried out against Alaska Native peoples in the name of unsustainable progress, with a particular emphasis on the role of Sarah Palin and the Republican leadership. My hope is that it helps to elevate truth about the nature of Alaskan politics in relation to Alaska Native peoples and that it lays a framework for our path to justice.

Ever since the Russian claim to Alaska and the subsequent sale to the United States through the Treaty of Cession in 1867, the attitude and treatment towards Alaska Native peoples has been fairly consistent. We were initially referred to as less than human "uncivilized tribes", so we were excluded from any dialogues and decisions regarding our lands, lives, and status. The dominating attitude within the United States at the time was called Manifest Destiny; that God had given Americans this great land to take from the Indians because they were non-Christian and incapable of self-government. Over the years since that time, this framework for relating to Alaska Native peoples has become entrenched in the United States legislative and legal systems in an ongoing direct violation of our human rights.

What does this mean? Allow me to share an analogy. If a group of people were to arrive in your city and tell you their people had made laws, among which were:

1. What were once your home and land now belong to them (although you could live in the garage or backyard)

2. Forced you to send your children to boarding schools to learn their language and be acculturated into their ways with leaders who touted "Kill the American, save the man" (based on the original statement made by US Captain Richard H. Pratt in regards to Native American education "Kill the Indian, save the man.")

3. Supported missionaries and government agents to forcefully (for example,

with poisons placed on the tongues of your children and withheld vaccines) convince you that your Jesus, Buddha, Torah, or Mohammed was actually an agent of evil and that salvation in the afterlife could only be found through believing otherwise

4. Made it illegal for you to continue to do your job to support your family, except under strict oversight and through extensive regulation

5. Made it illegal for you to own any land or run a business as an individual and did not allow you to participate in any form of their government, which controlled your life (voting or otherwise)

How would this make you feel? What if you also knew that if you were to retaliate, that you would be swiftly killed or incarcerated? How long do you think it would take for you to forget or would you be sure to share this history with your children with the hope that justice could one day prevail for your descendants? And most importantly to our conversation, how American does this sound to you?

To put this into perspective, my grandfather who helped raise me in Arctic Village was born in 1904, just thirty-seven years after the U.S. laid claim to Alaska. If my grandfather had unjustly stolen your grandfathers home and I was still living in the house and watching you live outdoors, would you feel a change was in order? Congress unilaterally passed most of the major US legislation that affect our people in my grandfathers' lifetime. There has never been a Treaty between Alaska Native Peoples and the United States over these injustices. Each time that Alaska Native people stand up for our rights, the US responds with token shifts in its laws and policies to appease the building discontent, yet avoiding the underlying injustice that I believe can be resolved if leadership in the United States would be willing to acknowledge the underlying injustice of its control over Alaska Native peoples, our lands, and our ways of life.

United States legal history in relation to Alaska Natives has been based on one major platform - minimize the potential for Alaska Native people to regain control of their lives, lands, and resources and maximize benefit to the United States government and its corporations. While the rest of the world, following World War II, was seeking to return African and European Nations to their rightful owners, the United States pushed in the opposite direction by pulling the then Territory of Alaska out of the United Nations dialogues and pushing for Statehood into the Union. Why is it that

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San Diego Indian Center

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4-H youth demonstrate water conservation, Oct. 8 "Nevada 4-H youth go green"

Las Vegas, NV – 4-H youth celebrate the first annual 4-H National Science Day with a demonstration of how well hydrogel polymers absorb water and can be used in environmental applications.

What: 4-H National Science Day Demonstration
When: Wednesday, October 8, at 4 p.m.
Where: University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Lifelong Learning Center
8050 Paradise Road, LV 89123 (Windmill & I-215)
Contact: Tera Robinson, 4-H youth program coordinator, 257-5524

"This new national science experiment is a good opportunity for 4-H youth to get excited about science and demonstrate science principles that teach the importance of water conservation," said Karen Hinton, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension dean and director.

Under the supervision of water scientists, 4-H youth will demonstrate how well hydrogel polymers (long molecule chains that grab onto water molecules) absorb water (1) from a disposable diaper; and (2) from potting soil in an experimental soaker. A short discussion will follow about the effectiveness of this technology in environmental conditions, such as indoor and outdoor gardening.

This national science initiative—an activity of National 4-H Week, Oct. 5-11—hopes to inspire the 6 million 4-H members to explore scientific careers, and in turn, make a difference in their communities.

House Resolution 1390 recognizes 4-H National Youth Science Day because "the need for science education, especially outside the classroom, is crucial to our country's ability to remain globally competitive."

Youth or adults interested in gaining greater skills in Nevada's science, engineering and technology (SET) program, may contact Tera Robinson, 4-H youth program coordinator, 257-5524, or robinsont@unce.unr.edu.

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension is an outreach arm of the University that extends unbiased, research-based knowledge from the University—and other land-grant universities—to local communities. Educational programs are developed based on local needs, sometimes in partnership with other agencies and volunteers. For more information about University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, please visit the website at www.unce.unr.edu or call (702) 222-3130.

John Gomez Opposes HR-2963(Issa)

In a letter to Chairman Dorgan Senate Committee on Indian Affairs John offered a letter as testimony in opposition to HR 2963 (Issa) which would transfer land in Riverside and San Diego Counties to the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians.

Excerpt of letter

Dear Chairman Dorgan and Committee Members:

Over the years, since, Congressman Issa first introduced legislation to transfer land into trust for the benefit of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, I and hundreds of others have sent in and faxed letters, sent numerous emails, and made countless calls in opposition to such an action. The submitted correspondence and phone calls expressed not only our opposition to the proposed legislation, but included requests that I and others who oppose the bill be allowed the opportunity to meet with and/or testify to your Committee in opposition to the bill. In spite of all our efforts, to date, we have never been afforded the opportunity to testify.

Therefore, I respectfully request that

you once again accept this letter as my testimony in opposition to HR 2963 (Issa) which would transfer land in Riverside and San Diego Counties to the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians. I respectfully request that this letter be submitted and accepted into the official record of hearing on HR 2963.

Where we once looked to Tribes to protect and preserve such resources, the recent actions of Pechanga tribal officials to impact and/or destroy such resources in the pursuit of the almighty dollar requires a new tact. Therefore, we must look to your Committee as the last line of defense to protect and preserve the invaluable archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources of all the Luiseno people.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Gomez, Jr.

View entire letter at indinavoices.net

San Diego, CA -- Dr. Rita M. Cepeda, President of San Diego Mesa College, was among a group of experts that addressed 15 journalists and Fellows selected to attend the Hechinger Institute on Education and the Media's "Covering America, Covering Community Colleges" Fellowship Conference. The conference, held September 14 to 17 at Columbia University in New York City was presented by the Hechinger Institute on Education and the Media.



The "Covering America, Covering Community Colleges" Fellowship promotes quality in-depth media coverage of education issues related to community colleges. Fifteen journalists are selected each year to travel to the Teachers College campus. During the residency they study these important institutions that struggle with high expectations in their communities and states, and yet receive little media attention.

Dr. Cepeda participated in a panel of community college presidents and lead a discussion on workforce issues, working directly with three Fellows who are doing major projects looking at immigration issues, and another specializing in workforce issues.

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Guest Speaker: Ruben R. Garcia, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration



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AIR Banquet 2008

By Roy Cook

The American Indian Recruitment, AIR Program, 14th year Fundraiser and Banquet at the Sycuan Resort September 25, 08 is a fabulous, superbly attended success! Gathered tonight are elegant ladies, polite gentlemen, generous sponsors and Tribal tables of council members and proud relations. Randy Edmonds and his wife Bonnie along with Connie Greybull and others are at the SCAIR table.



Louis Guassic makes the event opening welcome for Sycuan Chairman Danny Tucker. From 6 to 9pm there is a well-coordinated program of Traditional cultural recognition and significant recognitions and achievements in the academics and Tribal communities.

Additionally there is a moving tribute to a point of light mentor and part of the AIR program, Crystal Roberts. Jamul Indian Village and the Meza Family Memorial Scholarship are acknowledged with respect and appreciation.

Many attendees

have come to expect and appreciate the efforts of the Raffle Queen, Eleanor Miller, Traditional Kumeyaay pottery, baskets, gift baskets along with sports memorabilia and Pendleton blankets encouraged many to check their tickets at the many raffles this evening. There are good times and great prizes for all attending!



Student award scholarships, mentor award of the year and the community leadership award of the year were sandwiched in between the raffles. Seriously, Natlia Orosco introduced Bonnie Buchanan and Devon Lomayesya introduced Brenaya Batey as the two recipients of the Student award scholarships for 2008. Dr. Michelle Jacob from USD, in Plains regalia, introduced the mentor of the year, AEA Cowen Alex.

Finally, Dwight Lonayesva announced the community leadership recipient, Vickie Gambala

SDUSD Title VII Indian Education. He acknowledged her many years of encouragement and support to the AIR program. She said, "Osio, I am a Cherokee from Oklahoma. Both my sons, daughter and granddaughter are here tonight and I am very happy each time my family is together. I have been with the San Diego School District for 25 years and I always appreciate the support and participation of my Title VII Indian parent committee. All our efforts, volunteers and partnerships like AIR and SCAIR are for the future success of our Indian children. Wado, thank you."



We have had a great year with the AIR Program. We have directly served 108 students and over 200 overall participants (students and mentors) within this one-year. Some of our AIR students are from distant Reservations over 51 miles away. AIR has served Indian students representing 11 of the 17 Tribal Bands in San Diego County. We appreciate our community partners for this last year and look forward to our 15th year of challenge and success for our Indian Students. Best of all, our Indian Children appreciate your support! Mehan, thank you.



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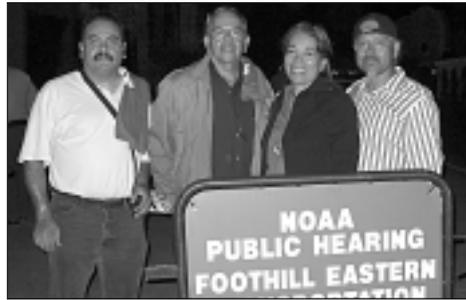
Protest Against Toll Road Through Acjachemen Sacred Site

By Norrie Robbins

Don't even ask me what the Federal Government is doing in the middle of this story. A private developer wants to build a toll road at the border between Orange and San Diego County. The toll road would skirt Camp Pendleton, go through a sacred site, a wilderness reserve, a California state park, and affect the best surfing site in Southern California. Denying the permit was a no brainer for the California Coastal Commission. But that didn't stop the special interests from putting pressure on the Governor and bringing in the Dept. of Commerce to try to jump start the project. That's the short version.

"The proposed toll road violates the California Coastal Act, several endangered species acts, and at least two other laws designating San Onofre as a state park and to always remain either a state park or open space area even if Camp Pendleton is closed. Also note, San Mateo Campground was mitigation (compensation to the public) for the loss of the beach to build San Onofre nuclear power station. Donna O'Neil Land Conservancy was mitigation for the loss of land to the Talega development." That's the legal version according to www.caopenspace.org.

The Acjachemen (Juaneno) part of the story starts perhaps 9,000 years ago, when the watershed of San Mateo Creek



Members of the Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation at the hearing: from left to right are, Alfred Cruz Jr., Alfred Cruz, Sharon (Cruz) Casioce and Steve Casioce.

was the site of the village of Panhe. Indian people who were coerced into building Mission San Juan Capistrano lived there; their descendents are still being buried there. Ceremonies are still practiced there. For example, every year on the first Saturday in October, we meet there at 7:30 AM to participate in the Acjachemen-Tongva Pilgrimage in Honor of Ancestors. The Pilgrimage continues on during the day to 5 other village sites, ending at Puvungna, the Tongva sacred site where the Great Spirit gave breath to the two-legged. That site is now called Cal State Long Beach. Panhe, the ancient village site at the center of the current fight, is listed as part of a National Register District (the San Mateo Archaeological District, which encompasses sites ORA-22

and SDI-4284, 4535, and 8435.)

The other side of the story is being pushed by a private corporation, the Transportation Corridor Agency. The County of Orange has recently permitted the building of Ranch Mission Viejo, a development for 40,000 people. These people will want easy access to I-5. A straightforward route would move them along State Route 241, extend 241 as a toll road through Panhe, and connect onto I-5. They tried to get around the California Coastal Commission ruling by saying the road was needed for national security.

But they have run into a roadblock—thousands of people who love surfing at Trestles, camping at San Mateo campground, hiking in the Donna O'Neil wilderness reserve, visiting sites of modern cultural/religious practices, and studying the past as history or archaeology. Not only that, no one plans to stop fighting a group who wants to build right through a Cal State Park. To add spice to the fight, "the Marine Corps has publicly rejected the claim to national security, presumably because running a toll road through Camp Pendleton would inevitably impede, not improve, our military readiness," said Cal. State Treasurer Bill Lockyer at the hearing. A thousand people showed up Oct. 22, 2008 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds to tell the Dept. of Commerce that this was not their jurisdiction and we will fight forever to keep the land free of a toll road.

ANNOUNCEMENT

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Visit the Social Security website: <http://www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm>

This is something to put in your files for when you apply for Social Security down the road. It is NOT just for retirees, BUT anyone who has served on active duty prior to January 2002. FYI - this benefit is not automatic, you must ask for it!

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August 28, 2008

An Open Letter to Barack Obama Symbolism Alone Will Not Bring Change

By LEONARD PELTIER

I have watched with keen interest and renewed hope as your campaign has mobilized millions of Americans behind your message of changing a political system that serves a small economic elite at the expense of the peoples of the United States and the world. Your election as president of the United States, where slaves and Indians were long considered less than human under the law, will undoubtedly constitute a historic moment in race relations in the United States.

Yet symbolism alone will not bring about change. Our young people, black and Native alike, suffer from police brutality and racial profiling, underfunded schools, and discrimination in employment and housing. I sincerely hope your campaign will inspire some hope among our youth to struggle for a better future. I am, however, concerned that your recent statement on the Sean Bell verdict, in which the New York police officers who fired 50 shots at a young man on the eve of his wedding were acquitted of criminal charges, displays a rather myopic view of the law. Until the law is harnessed to protect the victims of state violence and racism, it will serve as an

instrument of repression, just as the slave codes functioned to sustain and legitimize an inhuman institution.

As I can testify from experience, the legal institutions of this nation are far from racial and political neutrality. When judges align with the repressive actions and policies of the executive branch, injustice is rationalized and cloaked in judicial platitudes. As you may know, I have now served more than three decades of my life as a political prisoner of the federal government for a crime I did not commit. I have served more time than the maximum sentence under the guidelines under which I was sentenced, yet my parole is continually denied (on the rare occasions when I am afforded a hearing) because I refuse to falsely confess. Amnesty International, South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Dalai Lama of Tibet, my Guatemalan sister Rigoberta Menchu, and many of your friends and supporters have recognized me as a political prisoner and called for my immediate release. Millions of people around the world view me as a symbol of injustice against the indigenous peoples of this land, and I have no doubt that I will go down in history as one of a long line of victims of U.S. government repression, along with Sacco and Vanzetti, the Haymarket Square martyrs, Eugene Debs, Bill Haywood, and others targeted by for their political beliefs. But neither I nor my people can afford to wait for history to rectify the crimes of the past.

As a member of the American Indian Movement, I came to the Pine Ridge Oglala reservation to defend the tradi-

tional people there from human rights violations carried out by tribal police and goon squads backed by the FBI and the highest offices of the federal government. Our symbolic occupation of Wounded Knee in 1973 inspired Indians across the Americas to struggle for their freedom and treaty rights, but it was also met by a fierce federal siege and a wave of violent repression on Pine Ridge. In 1974, AIM leader Russell Means campaigned for tribal chairman while being tried by the federal government for his role at Wounded Knee. Although Means was barred from the reservation by decree of the U.S.-client regime of Richard Wilson, he won the popular vote, only to be denied office by extensive vote fraud and control of the electoral mechanisms. Wilson's goons proceeded to shoot up pro-Means villages such as Wanblee and terrorize traditional supporters throughout the reservation, killing at least 60 people between 1973 and 1975.

It is long past time for a congressional investigation to examine the degree of federal complicity in the violent counterinsurgency that followed the occupation of Wounded Knee. The tragic shootout that led to the deaths of two FBI agents and one Native man also led not only to my false conviction, but also the termination of the Church Committee, which was investigating abuses by federal intelligence and law enforcement agents, before it could hold hearings on FBI infiltration of AIM. Despite decades of attempts by my attorneys to obtain government documents related to my case, the FBI continues to

withhold thousands of documents that might tend to exonerate me or reveal compromising evidence of judicial collusion with the prosecution.

I truly believe the truth will set me free, but it will also signify a symbolic break from America's undeclared war on indigenous peoples. I hope and pray that you possess the courage and integrity to seek out the truth and the wisdom to recognize the inherent right of all peoples to self-determination, as acknowledged by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. While your statements on federal Indian policy sound promising, your vision of "one America" has an ominous ring for Native peoples struggling to define their own national visions. If freed from colonial constraints and external intervention, indigenous nations might well serve as functioning models of the freedom and democracy to which the United States aspires.

Yours in the struggle.

Until freedom is won,

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In Loving Memory



**J. PATRICK
PATENCIO**
"Boy Pots"
Passed Away

J. Patrick "Boy Pots", Patencio was an icon to many of us tribal elders as we are now kindly referred to these days. I don't want to make this an obituary but to reminisce of great times past. The "Boy Pots" band was it during the early and mid fifties. The band consisted of four members, Boy Pots, the Chacon brothers from San Manual and Ernie Siva from Morongo who later went on to earn a PhD in music. However, as far as we were concerned they were all PhD's and the greatest thing since high top shoes.

The band must have played on every reservation and Fiesta in southern California. I can remember traveling to the Los Coyotes reservation near Warner Spring, which was way out in the middle of nowhere and still is today. Yet, over 300 of us diehard fans from almost every reservation made the journey without a second thought, some beer and a bottle of

T-Bird and we were on the road. I also remember having to coast halfway down the Sage road on our way back to Soboba. You see all we were concerned with was getting to the dance and gave no thought of how we were going to get home after the dance without any gas.

Another time that is vivid in my mine was in 1953 just after P.L. 280 came into affect. A dance was being held at Soboba in an old hall that was left over from the Soboba Hospital. The hall wasn't that big and it was wall to wall with Indians bouncing around on dance floor, folding chairs lined the walls but no one was sitting and I swear the walls were vibrating.

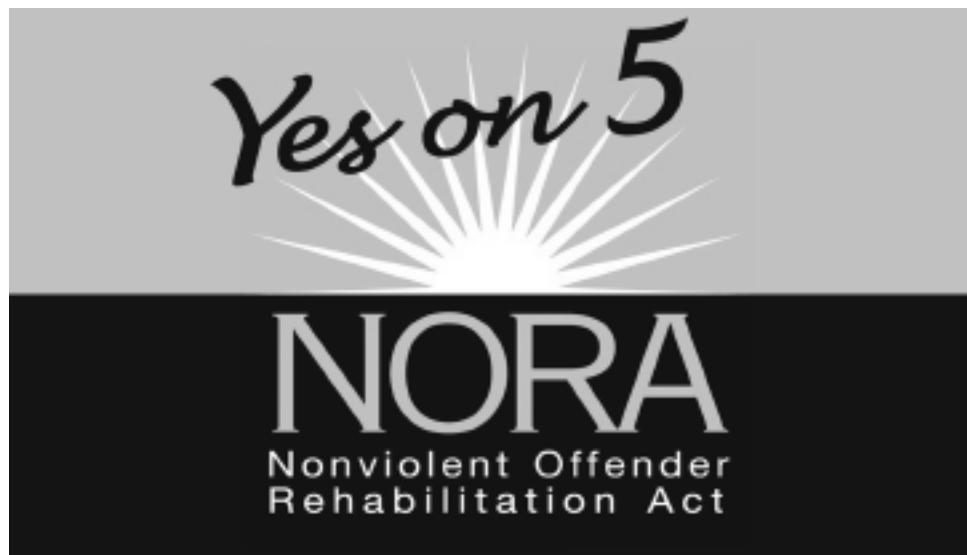
Anyway back to my story, the Riverside County sheriffs showed up because the Tribal Council called them to stop the dancing, as they were supportive of the new law, P.L. 280. I remember the sheriff coming into the dance hall and going up to the bandstand and telling "Boy Pots" to stop the music because the Riverside County ordinance prohibited dancing after midnight. Boy stopped playing and my uncle Leroy and my dad confronted the sheriff and told him that he didn't have any jurisdiction, where have we heard that before, anyway Leroy told Boy to play and he did and the sheriff again told Boy to stop and he did, this went on for about ten minutes and finally the

sheriff gave up and left. However, what was funny nobody left the dance floor and every time the music started they started dancing again. You see the Boy Pots Band didn't start playing until around 9 or 10 pm and played until the sun came up the next morning. It was a different time and the memories are great, thanks again Boy Pots we will always remember you and your music.

Ernie C. Salgado Jr.
Soboba Tribal Member
indianvoices@hotmail.com

Funeral Notice Rose Johnson Masters

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony community has lost a spirited, loving young woman. Please help us distribute this funeral notice throughout our native communities and please keep the Johnson-Masters family in your prayers.



Thousands Gather in Oakland for Fall Conference on Ending the Prison Industrial Complex

Opening night celebration tonight

Oakland, CA – “Even though imprisonment has not delivered a clear return on public safety and support for more prisons and police is faltering, for the first time, more than 1 in every 100 adults in the U.S. is in prison or jail. We’ve reached a tipping point,” said Rachel Herzing of Critical Resistance.

“We can either continue down the same road of more police, more prisons, more control, or we can follow the lead of public opinion and invest in the things that truly build safe communities. We are coming together in Oakland this weekend as people who have been in prison, family members, organizers, policy makers, researchers and others to strategize how to go down that new road,” added Herzing.

In 1998, thousands came together and launched what would become Critical Resistance – a national grassroots organization dedicated to ending the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC). The PIC is an expansive system of control that includes the use of prisons, policing

and surveillance to address what are social, economic and political problems.

Ten years later, Critical Resistance is bringing thousands to the Bay again for CR10, to assess the last ten years of struggle and to begin to map out the next decade of work.

The challenge facing us is immense. In the U.S., over 2.3 million people are warehoused in prisons and jails, with 700,000 people returning home from prison each year to communities devastated by racism, poverty and indifference.

From September 26 through 28, 2008, CR10 brought together communities, families, former prisoners, policy makers, advocates, and others in an unheralded 3-day workshop driven, entertainment filled, and solutions oriented weekend with the goal of unifying, reinvigorating, and mobilizing the movement in the US and across the world to end society’s use of prisons and policing as purported solutions to social problems.

The Opening Night Celebration took place on Friday, September 26 beginning at 6:30pm at the Scottish Rite Center, 1547

Lakeshore Dr. in Oakland and feature University of California Professor and author Angela Davis, All Nations Drum, Hank Jones of the San Francisco 8, Destiny Arts Youth Performance Company and many more. Some of the conference’s growing list of participants will include:

- The Jena Six families
- Professor Ruthie Gilmore, author of *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*
- Former political prisoner and Puerto Rican activist Lucy Rodriguez
- Co-founder of All of Us or None and long-time prisoner rights activist Dorsey Nunn

CR10 also serves as the venue for the release of The Justice Policy Institute’s new report: *Moving Target*, providing new data on the growth, impact, and cost of the Prison Industrial Complex (PIC) researched by one of the nation’s leading criminal justice think tanks. It will also discuss the fight against the PIC, and successes in curbing the growth of prisons, as well as alternatives to imprisonment that are gaining greater support.

“The challenge facing us is immense. In the U.S., over 2.3 million people are warehoused in prisons and jails, with 700,000 people returning home from prison each year to communities devastated by racism, poverty and indifference. The harm of what we call crime cannot be solved through the additional harm of policing, surveillance and separation from loved ones. Empowered communities, with decent housing, secure jobs, food security, healthy environments and high-quality education, are the real alternative to incarceration,” said Julia Sudbury, one of the founders of Critical Resistance.

For Nevadans, the Presidential Election Is Life or Death in a Much More Literal Way

September 2008.

This election could be a make-or-break moment in history for the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository.

Will the November 4, 2008, election doom the future of Nevada? That sounds ominous, I know, but this election could be a make-or-break moment in history for the Yucca Mountain Project. This is the ill-conceived plan to bury nuclear waste in Nevada’s Yucca Mountain. Everyone in this state knows the problems inherent in this project and should be on alert. But also this should serve as a “heads-up” to everyone in the country.

People are in a panic about how to solve the nation’s energy deficit problems and it’s easy to talk about building nuclear power plants as a solution. In the meantime, the Yucca Mountain Project controversy is never -- never -- mentioned. The fact is the only site ever seriously considered for storage of the inevitable deadly waste generated by nuclear power plants was Yucca

Mountain. Study after study has shown it is a hazardous location for storing nuclear waste for the millions of years the waste continues to emit deadly radioactive ions. Of the many drawbacks cited, one of the most frightening is that Yucca Mountain sits in an active earthquake zone.

Nevadans voted for George W. Bush in 2000 because he said he would not approve Yucca Mountain as the nation’s nuclear dump unless the “science was sound.” Now we know he didn’t mean it. Making Yucca Mountain scientifically sound would be like putting lipstick on a pig! Many experts (not being paid by the Government) have said that this is the worst place in the country to store this “stuff” but Nevadans in 2004 voted for George W. Bush again when he was actively trying to fast forward this project. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), which is in bed with DOE just accepted what we believe to be a flawed license application from this Administration’s energy department. The

time is now to say “Enough.” We must take this opportunity to rectify those mistakes. Barack Obama and Joe Biden are committed to stopping the Yucca Mountain Project in its tracks. Their opponents, on the other hand, want to build at least 32 more nuclear power plants. Every new power plant would increase the amount of waste that would have to be shipped across the country to Nevada. But, more alarming, is the fact that Yucca Mountain, even if it were perfectly safe for nuclear waste storage, is not large enough to adequately store the waste on record scheduled to be stored there.

Proponents of nuclear power plants like Sarah Palin are careful about how they talk about the subject. For example, at nearly every campaign stop over the past two weeks, Palin has touted John McCain’s plan to expand nuclear energy storage and reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel. “In a McCain-Palin administration

2008 Youth and Elders Art & Poetry Contest: “Someone Who Helped Me.”

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC) is pleased to announce the 2008 Youth and Elders Art & Poetry Contest. The contest, for youth and elders of any age who have experience in California’s court system, is intended to give them a voice by encouraging self-expression through the arts.

Original art, such as photography, collage, or painting, and poetry limited to one page are eligible for entry. Sculpture is not included. Entries will be selected for display and publication based on originality, presentation, and representation of the contest theme. This year’s theme is “Someone Who Helped Me.”

Selected art submissions will be displayed at the Beyond the Bench XIX conference to be held in San Francisco, December 10-12, 2008, and at next spring’s annual Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational Institute. Art works will also be published in Judicial Council, AOC, and CFCC printed materials. Poetry that has been chosen for publication will be made available in booklet form as well as online.

Entries must be postmarked Friday, November 21, 2008.

If you have any questions, please contact Ethel Mays by phone at 415-865-7579, or by e-mail at ethel.mays@jud.ca.gov.

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DATES *SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Each Wednesday the San Diego Inter-tribal singers: Terry Hinsley, Ben Nance, Richard Decrane, Frank Gastelum, Roy Cook and Tyler. We welcome any new faces to the drum. Appropriate songs are sung to the benefit of the dancers and at the requests of the dance instructors. It is a very nice experience to be at the drum again for the benefit of our American Indian children. Grass dance, shawl dance, round dance, crow hop, more shawl dance, women traditional,

more round dance and fun specialty songs are sung for the entertainment and instruction of the Soaring Eagles Dance Class dancers. Some are shy and reluctant but by the ending of the song, many are dancing! Wow, participation, that is the true measure of success. Everyone knows it is not easy but it is worth doing well and the satisfaction is in the achievement. Soaring Eagles Dance Class is at the same location and in addition to the American Indian Dance and regalia instruction there is a tutoring and summer reading program. Books are provided by the program to be checked out and reviews or stories to be submitted during the summer. People often ask why do we go to so many Pow wows. Where else can you get tired and sore cheeks from dancing and smiling all the time! Sincerely, we all appreciate the confidence and support of those

who help keep us on track and in the circle of life. The Red Road is often hard but the Creator is compassionate and never gives us more than we can endure. All you can get from too much of a good time is a warm fuzzy feeling and a real goofy smile. We will look for you on the Pow wow trail! Maybe we will see you and your younger relatives at these Soaring Eagles Dance Class free classes. They are coordinated by San Diego City School Indian Education Program (858) 627-7362 & Indian Human Resource Center (619) 281-5964.

FCC Upholds Fine for Failing to Serve People with Disabilities

The FCC upheld a \$25,000 fine against KUSI-TV San Diego for failing to provide adequate visual warnings to hearing-impaired viewers during its coverage of California wildfires.

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Election

Continued from page 12

we're going to expand nuclear energy, expand our use of alternative fuels, and drill now to make this nation energy independent," she said to cheers last week in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Now consider her speech very recently in Carson City, Nevada, near the proposed Yucca Mountain Repository, where the radioactive waste would be stored right in Nevadans' backyard. In this speech, Palin's remarks about expanding nuclear energy disappeared. Hmmm, I wonder why!

My main purpose in the five years I served as Executive Director of Citizen Alert, a 34 year old non-profit trying and succeeding in stopping the transport of the deadly nuclear waste, was to constantly remind people that this was not just a Nevada issue! Indeed, transporting nuclear waste is an issue that affects people across this country. Nuclear waste will not magically disappear from reactor sites and magically appear in Nevada! It will be traveling by truck, by train, and yes, even by barge. The Department of Energy (DOE) gives millions of dollars to "affected units of Government" here in Nevada. The purpose of these dollars is to do research to determine the impact of this project to Nevada counties and their inhabitants that will have waste transported through their boundaries on its way to Yucca Mountain. Maybe you all across the country should ask DOE: "Why not send some of those dollars to my county?"

Nevadans have consistently voiced opposition to this deadly project, though some have said they would think more

favorably if there were dollars attached. I believe in the world of McCain/Palin that would be considered "pork." The way the current Administration has been mis-spending our dollars I doubt there would ever be any kind of compensation for putting our lives and the lives of future generations of Nevadans to be put at such deadly risk And one has to ask what dollar amount would truly be adequate compensation to justify the harm this could do to our economy.

This past week we have witnessed the horrific sight of two trains crashing into each other in Southern California, killing many people and forever affecting the lives of others -- the families of those who did not survive and the memory of those who did.

The first thought that crossed my mind was gratitude that the freight train was not loaded with nuclear waste. The accident was believed to be caused by "human error." It's a tragic wake up call. When talking about transporting the deadliest substance known to man, there is absolutely no room for "human error." There really is no way to safely transport nuclear waste. Let's make sure there will never be an accident that would forever change the landscape of my town -- or yours. The link below is broken down by Congressional District so you can see how your hometown will be affected.

Again, the upcoming election is about many important issues -- not the least being the prospect of tons and tons of more deadly nuclear waste to be stored if we go ahead and mindlessly build nuclear power plants in a misguided attempt to solve our future energy needs.

Peggy Maze Johnson is a board member Citizen Watch.

Coming in November

An Exclusive Interview with Rose Red Elk

Professional singer/songwriter and storyteller from the Sioux/Assiniboine tribes Rose Red Elk will share her many accomplishments with us. This energetic woman is the winner of a Native American Music Award for the Spoken Word and holds three university degrees. A world traveler Rose Red Elk will share with us her concern and personal goal to share her culture's traditions with many other cultures, in hopes that one day there will be peace and harmony between the different nationalities of the world.



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UPTown View of the 702 • Edited by Kena Adams • 702-787-6365

Westside Turmoil

Las Vegas, NV. – Uptown Las Vegas or The Historic Westside is in serious jeopardy. Not only have the residents been encouraged (by the city) to leave but now local business owners are also being forced to either relocate their businesses out of city jurisdiction or being denied business licenses. In a tragic twist of irony it was desegregation that turned a thriving Jackson St into a wasteland. With integration the residents were allowed to go to the Strip and “White” Shopping areas. After integration the Historic Westside was never the same.

It went from working class folks to a poverty stricken ghetto, as some people might phrase it. Now here in 2008 many businesses have been discouraged by being denied permits, licenses, or any assistance from the City of Las Vegas. I remember how excited people were to have Ricky Barlow running for office. He grew up here and the Westside residents put their faith in him due to that fact. Now we are quite surprised in the amount of support he has for the Westside. Just in the last three

months we have lost more than 5 businesses. What more is it going to take place before the African American community unites and fights for what they have called their home for more than 50 years? Just showing up to the local meetings has more of an impact than you can imagine. There is power in numbers, and not money, but people, numbers of people. I encourage all residents and business owners whom love this area to become aware and stop allowing certain folks to demise our intelligence, we see the empty lots, and the number is growing.

Nation of Islam

As promised by Indian Voices, we said we would dedicate a portion of our section to Brother Duke (Mosque at Jackson and D Street). I did go visit the Mosque last Sunday. I was treated very respectfully, that is a definite attribute with The Nation of Islam, respect. Respecting whom you are your heritage, women and family. Indian Voices sends their condolences to the Nation for the loss of WD Mohammed. WD Mohammed was the son of the Nation of Islam founder.



November is Native American Heritage Month

This year the Las Vegas Indian Center will be participating in the Las Vegas Clark County Library District's Annual Native American Festival. We would like to invite you to come and enjoy the rich traditions of the Native American culture and to support our booth that will feature crafts by local Native Artist's! Hope to see you there!!

Where: Las Vegas Clark County Library District
1401 E. Flamingo Las Vegas, NV 89119

When: Saturday, November 1, 2008 11am - 4pm



For more information
call Karen: 647-5842



The Ron Brown Scholar Program

Ron Brown was the first African-American appointed to the Cabinet post of Secretary of Commerce and the first to serve as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee. At the time of his death in 1996, he was a figure of global prominence, respected for his intelligence, political savvy and leadership. The Ron Brown Scholar Program seeks to identify African-American high school seniors who will make significant contributions to society. Applicants must excel academically, exhibit exceptional leadership potential, participate in community service activities and demonstrate financial need. The applicant must be a US citizen or hold a permanent resident visa card. Current college students are not eligible to apply.

Each year, a minimum of ten students will be designated Ron Brown Scholars and will receive \$10,000 annually for four years, for a total of \$40,000. The recipients may use the renewable scholarships to attend an accredited four-year college or university of their choice within the United States. Ron Brown Scholarships are not limited to any specific field or career objective and may be used to pursue any academic discipline. More than 200 students have been designated as Ron Brown Scholars since the inception of the Program.

Ron Brown Scholars are selected in the spring prior to entering college. Applications are screened during the month of February by Ron Brown Scholar Program staff. In March, finalists are invited to participate in a weekend selection process in Washington, D.C. at the expense of the CAP Charitable Foundation. Finalists are interviewed by members of the Ron Brown Selection Committee and are expected to participate in several Selection Weekend activities. Scholarship winners are selected on the basis of their applications, interviews

and participation in Selection Weekend activities. Notification follows immediately.

Application Deadline: Nov. 1st, 2008
Students must be current high school seniors at the time of their application. First deadline for applications is:

November 1st - applications will be considered for the Ron Brown Scholar Program AND forwarded to a select and limited number of additional scholarship providers. Application materials must be mailed in one packet. Transcripts and letters of recommendation should not be sent under separate cover. Incomplete, e-mailed or faxed applications will not be considered. Due to the volume of applications received, the Ron Brown Scholar Program can only notify semi-finalists and finalists of their status in the competition. This notification will be made in March. Winners of the scholarship will be notified by April 1st and names will be posted on the Ron Brown Scholar Program web site.

Scholarship Conditions

Ron Brown Scholarships may be used to supplement benefits from the college or university a student plans to attend and from other foundations or organizations. Scholars may use the scholarship to cover the costs of tuition, fees, books, room and board, computers, health insurance, general living expenses and other college-related expenses. Scholars may request that all or a portion of the award be utilized each year of undergraduate study or deferred for graduate study.

Contact Information

Download the application:
<http://www.ronbrown.org/Apply/ApplicationDownload.aspx>

Ron Brown Scholar Program 1160
Pepsi Place, Suite 206 Charlottesville, VA
22901 Phone: 434 964 1588; Fax: 434
964 1589 E-mail: info@ronbrown.org;
Web site: www.ronbrown.org

Bill Pickett Invitational Finals Rodeo Returns to Las Vegas!

Las Vegas, is playing host to The Bill Pickett Invitational Finals Rodeo.

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Saturday, November 22, 2008
2 Shows: 1:30 pm (A Praise Rodeo)
and 7:30 pm
www.billpickettrodeo.com/lv
National Finals Assistant:
Lynn Dillard-Wright
702.755.3442 or 818.429.7228

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Alaska Native

Continued from page 5

Alaska Native Nations are still perceived as being incapable of governing our own lands, lives, and resources differently than African, Asian, and European nations?

Let me get specific about what is at stake and how this relates to Palin and the Republican leadership in Alaska and across this country. To this day, Alaska Native peoples are among the only Indigenous peoples in all of North America whose Indigenous Hunting and Fishing Rights have been extinguished by federal legislation and yet we are the most dependent people on this way of life. Most of our villages have no roads that connect them to cities; many live with poverty level incomes, and all rely to varying degrees on traditional hunting, fishing, and harvesting for survival. This has become known as the debate on Alaska Native Subsistence.

As Alaska Governor, Palin has continued the path of her predecessor Frank Murkowski in challenging attempts by Alaska Native people to regain their human right to their traditional way of life through subsistence.

The same piece of unilateral federal legislation, known as the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971, that extinguished our hunting and fishing rights, also extinguished all federal Alaska Native land claims and my Tribe's reservation status. In the continental United States, this sort of legislation is referred to as 'termination legislation' because it takes the rights of self-government away from Tribes. It is based in the same age-old idea that we are not capable of governing our people, lands, and resources. To justify these terminations, ANCSA also created Alaska Native led for-profit corporations (which were provided the remaining lands not taken by the government and a one time payment the equivalent of about 1/20th of the annual profits made by corporations in Alaska each year) with a mission of exploiting the land in partnership with the US government and outside corporations. It was a brilliant piece of legislation for the legal termination and cultural assimilation of Alaska Natives under the guise of progress.

Since the passage of ANCSA, political leaders in Alaska, with a few exceptions, have maintained that, as stated by indicted Senator Ted Stevens, "Tribes have never existed in Alaska." They maintain this position out of fear that the real injustice being carried out upon Alaska Natives may break into mainstream awareness and lead to a re-opening of due treaty dialogues between Alaska Native leaders and the federal government. At the same time the federal government chose to list Alaska Native tribes in the list of federally recognized tribes in 1993. Governor Palin maintains that tribes were federally recognized but that they do not have the same rights as the tribes in the continental United States to sovereignty and self-governance, even to the extent of legally challenging our

Tribes rights pursuant to the Indian Child Welfare Act. What good are governments that can't make decisions concerning their own land and people?

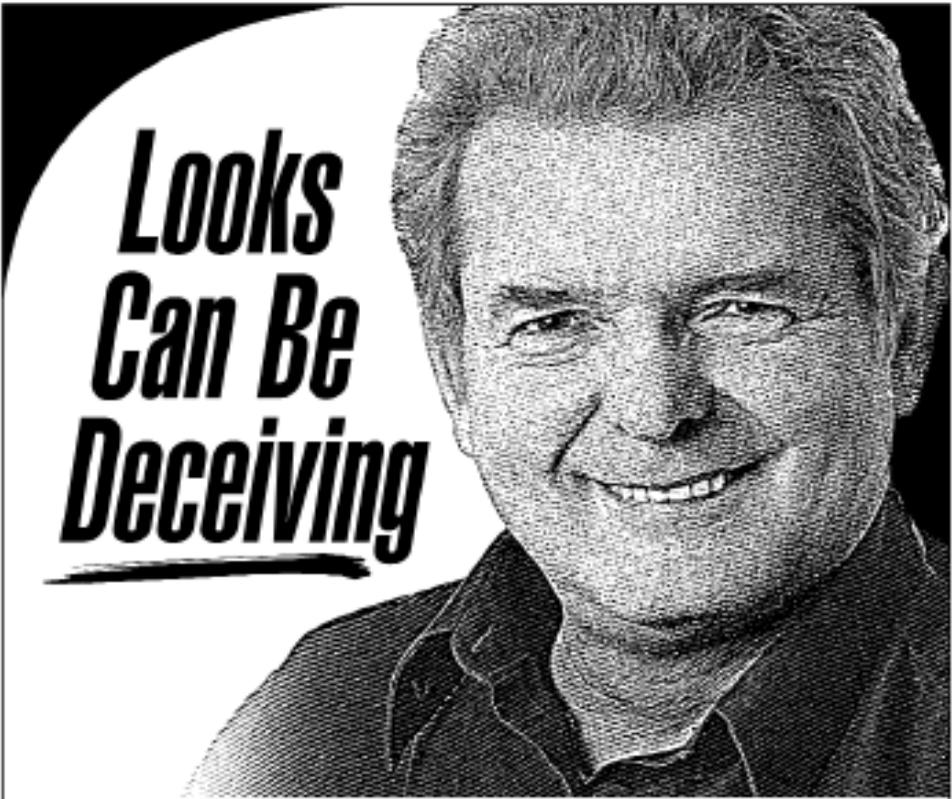
The colonial mentality in and towards Alaska is to exploit the land and resources for profits and power, at the expense of Alaska Native people. Governor Palin reflects this attitude and perspective in her words and leadership. She comes from an area within Alaska that was settled by relocated agricultural families from the continental United States in the second half of the last century. It is striking that a leader from that particular area feels she has a right, considering all of the injustices to Alaska Native people, to offer Alaskan oil and resources in an attempt to solve the national energy crisis at the Republican Convention. Palin also chose not to mention the connection between oil development and global warming, which is wreaking havoc on Alaska Native villages, forcing some to begin the process of relocation at a cost sure to reach into the hundreds of millions.

Our tribes depend on healthy and abundant land and animals for our survival. For example, my people depend on the Porcupine Caribou herd, which migrates into the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge each spring to birth their young. Any disruption and contamination will directly impact the health and capacity for my people to continue to live in a homeland we have been blessed to live in for over 10,000 years. This is the sacrifice Palin offered to the nation. The worst part of it is that there are viable alternatives to addressing the energy crisis in the United States, yet Palin chooses options that very well may result in the extinguishment of some of the last remaining intact ecosystems and original cultures in all of North America. Palin is also promoting off shore oil drilling and increased mining in sensitive areas of Alaska, all of which would have a lifespan of far fewer years than my grandfather walked on this earth and which would not even make a smidgen of an impact on national consumption rates or longer term sustainability. McCain was once a champion of protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and it is sad to see, that with Palin on board, he is no longer vocal and perhaps even giving up on what he believes in to satisfy Palin's position.

While I have much more to say, this is my current offering to elevate the conversation about what is at stake in Alaska and for Alaska Native peoples. Please share this offering with others and help us to make this an election that brings out honest dialogue. We have an opportunity to bring lasting change, but only if we can be open to hearing the truth about our situations and facing the challenges that arise.

Many thanks to all those who are taking stands for a just and sustainable future for all of our future generations.

*This essay is a personal reflection and should not be attributed to my tribe or organization.



**Looks
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Deceiving**

Almost 24 million Americans have a life altering disease, but you would never know by looking at them. Type 2 Diabetes is a challenge affecting millions. Current research is being conducted to evaluate an investigational oral medication for Type 2 Diabetes, but your help is needed. Profil Institute for Clinical Research is seeking volunteers with Type 2 Diabetes.

To qualify, you must be:

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- A non-smoker and otherwise healthy
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For your participation you may be compensated up to \$2,850 for time and travel, and will receive study-related medical care at no cost. Ten overnight stays and some outpatient visits are required.

For more information, call
619-409-1262

Profil

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Reservation Transportation Authority

Serving Southern California Tribes

In Southern California, Native American tribes, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) are taking an active approach to building relationships and improving coordination in transportation planning. Tribal governments established the Reservation Transportation Authority (RTA), a consortium of 24 tribes, in order to pool resources and more effectively coordinate on transportation issues. By working together in a regional organization, tribes have developed a greater voice to articulate their transportation needs. The benefits of this approach are exemplified by a planning study that will be conducted cooperatively by the RTA and Caltrans District 11 in San Diego County.

Reservation Transportation Authority
28860 Old Town Front Street, Temecula, CA.
Phone: 951-308-1442



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23333 Soboba Road
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San Jacinto, CA
(951) 654-2883

Directions:
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Exit, HWY 79 to
Ramona Expressway,
left to Lake Park,
right on Soboba Road.

HWY 215 South,
exit Ramona Expressway,
east to Lake Park,
right on Soboba Road.

HWY 215 North,
exit Ramona Expressway,
east to Lake Park,
right on Soboba Road.

