



Numuwaetu Nawahana

Telling The People's News

Volume 12 Issue 2

Second Quarter

2018

Congratulations Graduates! Pyramid Lake High-Class of 2018



Steven Andy Perez, Valedictorian
 Tae New Moon, Salutatorian
 Terrence Fillmore, Salutatorian
 Sage Decker
 Jasmine Jenks
 Bernai Osuna
 Savannah Hinkey
 Brianna Crutcher
 Marianne Mott
 Trey Harry
 Alexandra O'Daye
 Tsotigh Phillips
 Matthew Wells
 Nichole McCloud
 Lylee Strawbuck
 Timothy Plummer
 Dariek Bill
 Brandon Henry
 Darissa Smith
 Lilyanna Sam

Pyramid Lake Tribal member named to national advisory board

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the appointment of **Mervin Wright, Jr.** to the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) that will assist the EPA develop partnerships with local governments to provide a more efficient and effective environmental protection program at the community, state, and federal levels. He has also been appointed to the Small Community Advisory Subcommittee, a subcommittee of the LGAC, that works with small communities and their environmental and public health issues.

"EPA's efforts to protect public health and the environment are most effective when the Agency works cooperatively with state and local governments," said EPA Director Scott Pruitt. "I look forward to working with the committee members on important environmental issues while developing stronger partnerships across states, tribes, and local communities."

Council member Wright has extensive knowledge of the environmental issues facing tribal governments in the West," said Alexis Strauss, Acting Regional Director for EPA's Pacific Southwest Region. "His many years of experience working on these issues are a tremendous asset."

Wright is currently the Environmental Manager in the Environment Department as part of the overall Pyramid Lake Tribe's Natural Resources Department. He serves on the tribal council and has served on committees that focus on tribal environmental issues. He currently represents the interests of tribes from Nevada

(Region 9) on EPA's National Tribal Caucus.

"I am pleased to serve on the EPA Local Government Advisory Committee," said Wright. "I am committed to our responsibility to protect the environment and to assure effective, logical, and scientific applications in the decision-making process."



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Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 P.O. Box 256
 Nixon, Nevada 89424-0256

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Submission of Articles Policy

Articles for publication must be submitted before the deadline currently set for **September 24, 2018**. Articles submitted *after* the deadline will not be published in the upcoming issue.

- Articles may be submitted as typewritten hard copy or in legible handwriting.
- Articles sent by email **must be** in a Word format.
- **Send all Photos at 100%**. They will be sized to fit the column format.
- **Do not use** Publisher for articles or ads because it is extremely difficult to convert to the newspaper's format. Please use Word instead.

Everyone is encouraged to submit articles about news you would like to share: new babies, birthdays and birthday parties, school events, sports, planned events, obituaries/memorials, etc., with or without photos.

Please note that photos printed on flyers or announcements may not always have the same quality as the original but submit them anyway.

Send to: Pyramid Lake Tribal Newspaper,
 P.O. Box 256, Nixon, NV 89424
 E-mail: tribalnews@plpt.nsn.us

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor are welcomed. They should be no longer than 250 words and must be in good taste. All letters will be edited for slander and/or libelous content that will not be allowed.

Each letter must contain the name, address and telephone number of the author to verify the authenticity of the writer. Unsigned letters will not be published. Pseudonyms, or fake names, are not allowed.

Letters addressed to specific individuals or offices will not be printed.

All letters must be original unless the letter is a reprint and is in the best interest of the tribal readership and the original source is identified as well as the sender of the letter.

Send to: Letters to the Editor:
 Pyramid Lake Tribal Newspaper
 P.O. Box 256, Nixon, Nevada 89424;
 E-mail to tribalnews@plpt.nsn.us.

Advertising Rates

Advertising space will be provided to any business, organization, or individual at the following rates:

- \$100/full page \$75/half page
- \$50/quarter page \$25/eighth page
- \$10/business card

All advertisements must be camera-ready and cannot be returned. Each advertisement must be paid in full by the deadline date for publishing.

Contact: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 Newspaper Advertisement
 P.O. Box 256, Nixon, NV 89424
 E-mail: tribalnews@plpt.nsn.us

Way to go Girl!

On a late Thursday morning, a young lady climbed up on her roof and began stripping away all the loose materials on that part of her roof damaged by the high winds.

Back at it again the next morning, she worked all day clearing that portion of her roof and finished it by evening.

Bright and early on Saturday morning, she and a friend worker began laying the tar paper and by noon they began nailing down the shingles.

Working all day Sunday, the roof was largely finished by the evening.

The finishing touches were completed on Monday and Tuesday.

Way to go Shelly!

Tribal Response Program



When asked if his program would have something to with restoring the the rock house overlooking greater downtown Nixon and if so, it would make a good story for the next issue.

Thanks for asking about this! Yes, my program would be the one overseeing and conducting assessments and cleanup of the Rock Building. Assessments of the building are scheduled for this summer/fall. I will definitely write an article about this for the next issue.

Please report any site on the Reservation that is contaminated with hazardous substances to the Tribal Response Program:

email at ravina@plpt.nsn.us or
 phone 775-574-0101, extension 10.

Also, please visit the PLPT Brownfields Website at plptbrownfields.org for more information!

**PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE
 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

July	1-3	Tribal Permit Fee Stations set-up at the Lake	
	4	Independence Day	
	6	Tribal Council Meeting	
	7	Pyramid Lake Triathlon	
	20	Tribal Council Meeting	
	August	3	Tribal Council Meeting
		17	Tribal Council Meeting
30 to 9/3		Burning Man Event	
September	1-3	Tribal Permit Fee Stations set up at the Lake	
	3	Labor Day	
	7	Tribal Council Meeting	
	9	Grandparent's Day	
	15	Walk In Memory, Walk For Hope	
	21	Tribal Council Meeting	
	28	Indian Day	



Mailing Address Form

Please clip and mail to: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Newspaper,
 P.O. Box 256, Nixon, NV 89424-0256

New subscription

Name: _____

Address: _____

Change of address

Name: _____

Address: _____

**Supplemental
 Food Resources
 Calendar 2018**

Commodity Foods: **July 9**
 8:30 am–1:30 pm **August 13**
 Nixon Gym **September 10**

Tribal Food Pantry: **July 17**
 11:30 am–1:30 pm **August 21**
 Nixon Gym **September 19**

Mobile Pantry: **July 24**
 8:00 am–9:00 am **August 28**
 Wadsworth **September 25**
 Community Bldg.
 Nixon Gym
 10:00 am –10:45 am

*Applications will be available on site.
 Bring your own bags.*

**PLEASE POST WHERE YOU
 CAN EASILY SEE THIS**

From the Natural Resources Department

The Clean Water Act and Rule Repeal

An EPA official recently reported during a conference call that a draft definition for the “Waters of the United States” (WOTUS) should be forthcoming by the end of June. However, there is very little public information about the process the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers are using for developing the new definition. The conference call was between the EPA headquarters and the Local Government Advisory Committee of which Pyramid Lake is a member. The EPA has been rescinding many of the environmental protections during the past 500 days of Trump’s administration and the importance of protecting tribal waters and waterways makes it an especially challenging time.

The federal register will post the proposed Clean Water Act for WOTUS and it should include a period for soliciting public comment. There are many questions regarding these proposed changes to the Act. For instance on June 7, Trump signed a resolution to allow mine waste to be dumped into waterways—in clear violation of the Act. It is possible that the new definition of protected waters may exempt the certain waterways as needed by mining companies—quite possibly negating the need for a Clean Water Act or Rule. Something we all need to watch for and prevent.

Cultural Places/Senate Bill 244

It is important that everyone recognize the many places on the reservation where cultural resources exist. Whenever anyone observes suspicious activity in culturally significant areas, please report it to the Pyramid Lake Police Department or the Pyramid Lake Ranger Department at (775) 574-1014 or the dispatch at (775) 574-0444.

The State Legislature passed Senate Bill 244 during the last session. This bill would tighten management control and procedural protocols when dealing with discovered and inadvertently discovered ancient burial places. An initial meeting at the Nevada State Museum (NSM) revealed that this process is a year behind so they are scheduling meetings with each respective tribe to obtain input to the proposed process and protocols. No impact on cultural resources is the goal, however there may be instances where formal consultation is required to resolve accidental archeological discoveries especially if ancestral human remains are involved.

Noxious Weeds

The Tribal Noxious Weeds program is continuing to treat identified noxious weeds. The program receives funding from a BIA grant and partially funded by a Bureau of Reclamation grant that requires the Tribe to identify the many non-native invasive noxious weeds on the Reservation—as many as seven different types of plants. The primary plants identified and treated include salt cedar (tamarisk), tall white top (perennial pepperweed), Russian olive trees, scotch thistle, curly dock, purple loosestrife, diffuse knapweed, and medusahead.

The program includes more than seven non-native invasive species to assure that one plant does not begin to infest non-treated areas. We intend to treat as many weeds as possible. The

infested areas are at the bottom of the river system when high flows and flooding occurs and seeds that are distributed throughout the flood plain corridor. The goal is to gain control and maintain control through constant treatment.

Illegal Open Dumping

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and the Environmental Department continue to deal with the illegal open dumping throughout the Reservation. The Tribe had established its Solid Waste Program in the 1990s and until that time, open dumping was an accepted practice throughout the Reservation.

However, the Solid Waste service now provides curbside pickup and transfer station operations. The service is necessary to prevent

environmental pollution and to promote responsible tribal community stewardship. It is up to each of us to assure the Reservation lands are clean and safe.

The Tribe adopted Title 50 Illegal Dumping Ordinance effective on July 1, 2003. Any new illegal open dump discovery leads to an investigative report to determine the place of origin. It is a violation under Title 50-02-50 under the Tribal Illegal Dumping Ordinance for the responsible party.

Each Reservation resident is encouraged to establish a Public Utility District Solid Waste account to participate with the curbside pickup. The demand for solid waste services must correspond with responsible tribal governmental fiscal support.



NIXON

It is obvious that Nixon is the trouble spot. The Tribe will be identifying viable and reasonable solutions to address the inconsistency with waste disposal at the Nixon transfer station.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supports the Tribe to cleanup any open dumps and prevent the pollution and illegal open dumping. As an important component of the Department’s responsibility, public education and outreach to inform Tribal residents of the environmental protection issues that face the tribal communities. The tribal resources may be limited with extending hours of operation to the Nixon transfer station and the Tribe may consider further limiting unimproved roads to the Nixon transfer station. The Tribe appreciates any constructive feedback as we seek solutions to illegal open dumping. Report any illegal open dumping to the Pyramid Lake Police Department at (775) 574-1014 or the dispatch at (775) 574-0444.



Tribal Museum and Visitors Center

As the weather started warming up, we began to see a lot more visitors at the museum. Beginning on May 1st, the museum will be open on Saturdays throughout the summer months and part of the fall season.

There have been a number of tour groups and schools that included the Cultural Landscapes Tour, US Fish and Wildlife, Brazilian Public Health officials, Squaw Valley Water Quality training group, Tahoe Expedition Charter School, the Sierra Expeditionary Charter School, as well as our local Nixon Head Start and the Pyramid Lake Jr./Sr. High School.

Professional development has been occurring on different levels. Billie Jean attended the Rural Roundup Conference in Tonopah, the Tribal Tourism Conference in Lake Tahoe, and the American Alliance of Museums Conference and Expo in Phoenix. Billie Jean and Jackie also attended the Advanced Native American Museum Studies Institute at the University of California, Berkeley. In the fall, both staff members will attend the International Conference for Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums in Prior Lake, Minnesota. Scholarship offers are used as much as possible to assist in the expenses associated with staff development. Meetings have also been held with professionals from the University of Nevada to collaborate on new and exciting projects for a digital story map and virtual reality programming.

In May several events were held at the museum. On May 18th, a Native Archery exhibition was offered by **Mike O'Daye** and his family. It was held during the Pyramid Lake War Memorial holiday and there were many local community members and others who participated in the event.



On hand to view the archery exhibition was **Ray Stands, Florence Nez, Gladys Hicks and Jennifer John.**

On May 29th, the **Pyramid Lake Story Circle** was held at the museum. The Story Circle was coordinated by the Artrail project that is sponsored by Washoe County and Burning Man. Interviews were conducted with local community members and tribal staff.

An Environmental Justice program and the Great Basin Water is Life film showing was held on May 30th.

Native Song Nights were held on April 20 and May 30. We will be taking a summer break and will resume the Song Nights again in the fall.

The Song Nights features very special as songs are shared as well as its origin or a story of each song. It is with great pride to acknowledge all of the singers who put forth their sincere energy that bless the people in attendance. There were four monthly Native Song Nights from February to May. The singers included: **Heidi and Dean Barlese, Vernon Rogers, Charlie Johns, Wakan Waci Blindman, Paula Wright, James Painter, Shannon Hooper, Christie Trejo, Michaela King, Emileigh Mason, Mary McCloud, Raquel Arthur, Marlin Thompson, Norman Harry, Nick Cortez, Mike Davis, Jr., Curtis Sam, Jeanette Allen, Bruce Sanchez, Nikwich Wright, Winston Sam, Billie Jean Guerrero, the Lovelock Youth Handgamers, and the Yerington Youth group.**

In addition, there were a several singers from other



The **Numu Tookwasu Veterans Group** came by to pick up the **Veteran's Totem Pole** for the **Sacred Visions Powwow**. Pictured are **Bob Tilton, Ralph Burns, Stan John, Andrew Pardo, Ken Paul, and Dustin Barr.**

tribes but we didn't get their names. Nonetheless, we all experienced a humble and awesome healing.

The **Numu Book Club** continues to read "As Long As the River Shall Run" by Martha C. Knack and Omer C. Stewart. The book is an ethnohistory of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. As the book reveals our history is full of conflicts and we are fortunate to have a reservation because politics in the early years attempted to prevent the Pyramid Lake Paiutes from having any land or the lake. Excerpts from the book describe the contentious relationships with neighboring whites. As whites settled in Paiute territory, "There was an attitude of Indian-hating pervading all Nevada which turned the American propensity for violence directly against the Paiutes" (p. 56). "Laws against trespassers were not enforced for the prime farming lands, pine-nut groves, grazing, and fishing. A twentieth-century federal court estimated that two-thirds of the aboriginal Paiute population was killed during the contact period" (p. 83). "Another major concern of the agents was for Indian children to attend schools. They believed that while adult behavior could be changed only by force, children were more malleable in their character. If trained in 'civilized fashion' at a young age, Paiute ways could be changed in one generation" (p. 98). As a result Paiute children were sent to a boarding school in Grand Junction, Colorado. Abandonment of the reservation status was supported by local interests and corrupt agents seeking the Paiute's land for their own use. "During the first 20 years of the reservation's existence, newspapers, local interests, and their elected officials in the state legislature and the governor's mansion had called for the abandonment of Pyramid Lake Reservation: Indian agents concurred, some scheming for the own private profit, others claim naively that it would benefit the Paiutes" (p. 138). "It seemed that the forces against the reservation were numerous, powerful, and persistent, while those supporting it were few, weak, and sporadic. Paiutes stood firm and uniform in their outcry against any attempt to take the last of their lands and their bounteous lake away from them. But they were powerless and unheeded" (P. 139). "In 1884, the military once again removed large numbers of fishermen from the lake, but they did not dislodge the squatters, since they had no specific order concerning land trespass" (p.191). Ironically, Anaho Island was proposed by one of the agents to be a goat farm! The Pyramid Lake and Walker River Indian Reservations were considered for

abandonment, so that Paiutes might move to Malheur in Oregon or to other places.



We have more books on the history of the Pyramid Lake Paiutes available in the Museum Gift Shop. Also the Gift Shop has new items, including bedspreads, earrings, a new selection of scarves, and more. Remember the upcoming birthdays and other special events. There's a perfect gift for everyone on your list.

There will be an official **20th Anniversary Celebration** on the opening of the museum in August. The original grand opening was held on August 26, 1998 and the museum has been open to the general public since then. We are in the planning stages of holding a community event to celebrate the completion of the building. The construction of the building started in 1976 with a local labor force, however the construction was halted after funding ran out. The rock structure was abandoned for over twenty years until the tribe received a grant to complete it in the 1990's. The design is incredible with the high-pitched roof, thick wooden beams, and amazing rock masonry. We are looking for local people who worked on the first and second phases of construction for stories of that experience. In addition, we are interested in hearing from the



Museum Dedication Ceremonies, August 26, 1976

planning committee who cleaned and prepared the building for the first grand opening. Also, there are present and past Tribal Council members who may remember the special circumstances of construction and dedication. Please contact the museum staff with your special memories, photos, or other information. Everyone is encouraged to be a part of the 20th Anniversary Planning Committee. Contact the museum staff for more information.

Congratulations to all of the 2018 Graduates. May all of your hopes and dreams come true!

Arlan Tobey is fixing the outside landscape on the museum grounds and doing a great job.

We have other on-call Attendants who regularly fill in as needed, and give information about the tribe to museum visitors. We appreciate the support and encouragement from **Shirley Kaneshige, Christina Wentworth, Hailee Dunn, and Janine Winnemucca-Tom**. We welcome our new Summer Youth Worker, **Gabriel Frazier**. The grounds are looking great, inside and outside, so please stop by to look around.

Saa a' Mu Ponedooa!

Billie Jean Guerrero, Museum Director
Jackie Cawelti, Museum Attendant

Historical Tidbits in Sports History

Stewart Indian School opens as Carson Indian School in 1908. One of Stewart's earliest women basketball teams included **Katie Frazier**, later the first woman ever inducted into Stewart's Athletic Hall of Fame.

According to ex-Stewart Boosters Club president Walter Johnson, the best over that 34-year period were **Earl Dunn, Roger Sam, Larsen George, Bobby Sam, Cordell Edsity, Ed Yazzie, Danny Lee, and Max Wellington**.

Stewart Indian School's Earl Dunn set the state high school scoring record with 46 points against Fallon High School. In another game, Dunn alone outscored Reno High, 29-28.

Later, Dunn would be the only Nevadan on the all-Indian team, **First Americans**, which toured the United States in the 1950's. Dunn, a long-range sharpshooter who was considered Nevada's Jim Thorpe because of his boxing, baseball, and basketball expertise, had a basketball career that spanned from the 1940s through city leagues and Indian tournaments into the early 1970s.

In 1963, the Pyramid Lake All-Indian Invitational Basketball Tournament was founded by Earl Dunn. The tournament, later renamed the **Earl Dunn Memorial All Indian Invitational**, remains the area's most important All-Indian basketball tournament competition. In 1971 the **First Stewart Hall of Fame** class is inducted, including Earl Dunn.



In 1972: State's longest basketball game is decided in *fifth* overtime by Fernley's **Bob "Bro" Dunn's** 15-footer with five seconds remaining. Fernley wins the March 1 Northern A Zone play-off game over Gabbs, 95-93.

In 1981: Pyramid Lake girls, led by **Wiggy Darrough's** 39 points in two tournament games,

to win Nevada State B League title, beating Austin, 36-20. Pyramid Lake becomes first all-Indian girls team to win the crown. Pyramid Lake girls was the first Nevada Indian team to win a championship with an undefeated record 9-0.

In 1987: Pyramid Lake boys opened their season by ending Virginia City's 93-game winning streak, the nation's third-longest. The Lakers cap 17-4 season with 85-69 win over Wells for Nevada B State championship. **Daryl Wayne**, snubbed by Division II coaches and left off all-league team, responded with 81 points, including 36 against Wells, at state tourney. Wayne is named first-team all-state the next week. Coach **Randy Melendez** is state Coach of the Year.

In 1988: Pyramid Lake boys, behind **Bennett Nutumya's** 26 points, win second straight B title with 69-56 win over Wells. Game attracts more than 2,000 spectators to Carson High gym. Pyramid finishes the year 20-0 with 23-game winning streak. The Lakers also scrimmaged and beat eventual Northern AAA Zone champion Hug earlier in the year.

In 1990: Pyramid Lake's **Weylen Johns** is B State Player of the Year after a state-best 34.0 scoring average. Pyramid is 6-14 and has only five players. Johns, a 5-8 senior scored 52 against Eureka....

—Excerpts from *Reno Gazette-Journal*

Transportation Planning News

The Transportation Planning office continues to work on priority projects such as the Sutcliffe Drive flood repair. This repair has taken several months to get planned out and implemented and we are glad to say that it is in the final stages of repair. Currently, the only work that needs to be done is the placement of the cement headwalls which will secure the drainage system from erosion for years to come.

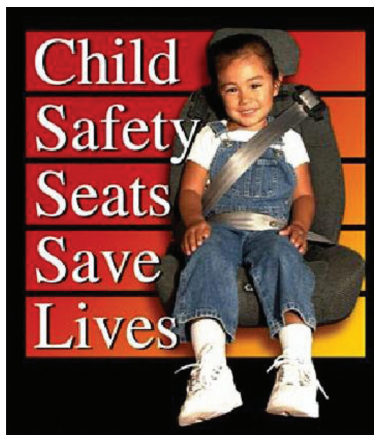


Original damage after the flood.



Current repairs in progress.

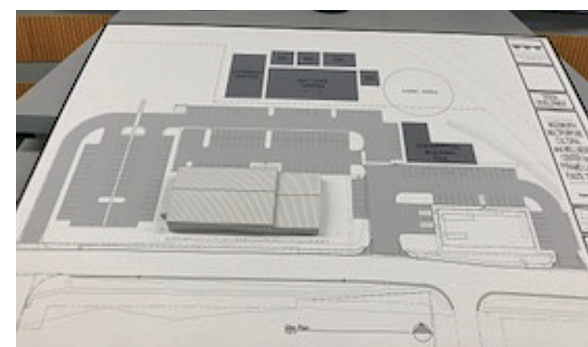
The Transportation Safety Coordinator is working to push out to the community the Child Car Seats aquired through a BIA Transportation Safety Grant. We have infant seats, convertible seats and boosters seats available as well as information and assistance with proper installation of the seat. This program has gained momentum over the year and we are confident that we will reach our grant required goals by the end of the fiscal year.



If you need a seat or know someone who does please contact the Transportation Planning office at (775) 574-1000 ext. 1107.

The Wadsworth Bypass Project is still on the list of priorities and the Transportation Planning Team is currently working on the new Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant which is a federal grant formally known as TIGER to fund

the construction of the approximately 3 mile



stretch of by pass road. We are currently shovel-ready with this project and hope that this years efforts prove to be successful.

The Wadsworth Gym project is also still being worked on and its progress has been moving forward steadily. Seeking funding options and leveraging partnerships to get the project to completion is challenging however, we are moving closer to the reality of a new Multi Purpose Cultural Center in the Wadsworth community.

Cursive reading a problem!

It was reported at the last meeting of the State Historic Records Advisory Board that the Dept. had to turn away some job applicants because *they cannot read cursive writing!* Many old records important to proving tribal rights, cultural knowledge, and notes on historical Indian lifestyles are written in cursive.

It is true that the correct techniques of penmanship, cursive or printing, are not taught in the schools anymore. Teaching the basic fundamentals to hand write is disappearing so students are not asked to spend the time practicing penmanship when they could be fighting dragons on their Xbox. An unfortunate sign of the times.



CALL 811. Wait. dig.

Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Planning a project that requires digging? Whether you're a homeowner or professional excavator, every digging job requires a call - even small projects like planting a tree - so be sure to:

- **Call 811** at least two working days before starting any digging project to get underground utility-owned lines marked
- Wait for the site to be marked
- Respect the marks
- Dig with care

**It's free.
It's easy.
It's the law.**



From the Business Office

The Economic Stimulus Distribution payments have kept the staff in the Business Office, Enrollment Office, and Tribal Secretary extremely busy. We began accepting applications on April 21st, and have continued to process forms at a steady rate these past couple of months. At this time, nearly all adult distribution payments have been made,

The first batch of payments to minors who have turned 18 years of age were also made in early July. Please note that payments for minors who turn 18 will be made on a quarterly basis. Going forward, the deadline for submission of minor's trust distribution applications are quarterly, beginning on June 30, September 30, December 31, and April 30. Remember, all tribal members have up to six years to claim these funds if circumstances prevent you from accepting the funds at this time.

In June, the Tribal Council approved an investment management policy, secured the investment management services of Breakwater Investments, and have placed the minor's trust funds into a diversified portfolio of investments. The minor's funds will now begin to grow for our younger tribal members.

The successful access and distribution of the economic stimulus funds from the Tribe's

PL 101-618 settlement funds opens the way for future tribal investments in economic development projects using these funds. In terms of process, potential economic development projects will be submitted and reviewed by the Tribal Planner/Business Office and insure it is consistent with the Economic Development Plan.

Generally, any use of the funds requires the project to establish long-term profit making and employment opportunities for the Tribe and its members.

If the project meets the requirements outlined in the Economic Development Plan, the project proposal goes to the Economic Development Committee. The Economic Development Committee will review and make recommendation for funding to the Tribal Council for final approval.

The EDP fund formula allocates percentages to be spent toward the seven strategic economic development plan goals identified in Vol. 1 of the EDP, called elements: Recreation and Fishing (25%), Good Governance and Education (20%), Tribal Enterprises (15%), Industrial and Commercial Development (15%), Tribal Entrepreneurship Development (15%), Agriculture and Ranching (5%), and Energy (5%). Further, only 10% of funds may be

withdrawn in each of these categories per year. This enables the Tribe to provide seed money to eligible projects, and utilize the funds as leverage to secure other investments or grants for development. This spending cap also ensures the funds will be available over long term.

The Tribe, and its business corporation, NUMU INC, are engaged in strategic planning and some very promising discussions regarding potential development opportunities around solar energy, commercial housing, and industrial park development.

Business development decisions are based on numerous factors including timing, financing, human resources, land/water requirements, infrastructure, partnerships, and of course, the needs and vision of the Tribe.

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe was recently designated an Opportunity Zone, a national designation based on nominations made by the Governor's Office, that gives investors incentives to invest in development projects on the Pyramid Lake Reservation.

This will be significant when the Tribe begins to create financing packages for economic development opportunities in the future. The Tribe is poised for a bright economic future.

—Debbra Harry



Fracking for the Ruby Mountains?

The U.S. Forest Service is considering opening up 54,000 acres of the Ruby Mountains to oil and gas development, a move that will permanently alter and destroy this unique Great Basin Mountain Range.

Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke is applying pressure to the Forest Service to agree allowing the leasing of lands to the oil and gas industry, essentially privatizing the mountains.

The Ruby Mountains are a source of water for the nearby Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge. It's forest are a vital refuge for fish and wildlife.

It is also the traditional lands of the Western Shoshone where they historically hunted and fished to support their cultural lifestyle.

As reported in the 4th quarter issue of *Numuwaetu Nawahana*, the Department of the Interior is staffed with top-heavy with former employees of the oil and gas industries.

Almost all of the Administration's decisions to turn open public lands to the energy development companies have been faced with lawsuits.

It's likely the protection of the Ruby Mountains will end up in the courts also.

Current Job Listings Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, June 26, 2018

Position	Salary	Posted Date	Closing Date
Maintenance Worker II	\$11.25/hour; temporary (NTE 40 days); non-exempt	June 25, 2018	July 10, 2018
Accounting Clerk	\$10.20–\$10.72/hour; part-time (30 hrs/week); non-exempt	June 22, 2018	Open until filled
Librarian	\$11.25–\$11.82/hr; part-time (10 hrs/week); non-exempt	June 22, 2018	July 8, 2018
Background Investigator	\$16.61–\$17.46/hr; full-time (40 hrs/week); non-exempt	June 13, 2018	Open until filled
Court Bailiff	\$13.67–\$14.36/hr; part-time (30 hrs/week); non-exempt	June 5, 2018	Open until filled
Water Quality Standards Specialist	\$34,563.61–\$36,313.42 per annum; full time (40 hrs/week); exempt	June 4, 2018	Open until filled
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$23.37–\$24.55/hr; full-time (40 hrs/week) non-exempt	May 31, 2018	Open until filled
Language In-School Instructor	\$13.02–\$13.68/hr; part-time (20 hrs/week) temporary (NTE 120 days); non-exempt	May 17, 2018	Open until filled
Permit Sales Clerk Three positions open	\$8.81–\$9.26/hr; part-time; seasonal (20 hrs/week); non-exempt	Ma7 17, 2018	Open until filled
Probation Officer	\$16.61–\$17.46/hr; full-time (40 hrs/week) non-exempt	May 2, 2018	Open until filled
Court Assistant Tribal Court	\$10.71–\$11.25/hr; full-time (40 hrs/week) non-exempt	April 19, 2018	Open until filled
Van Driver/Kitchen Aide	\$7.25–\$7.62/hr; part-time (30 hrs/week); non-exempt	Feb. 23, 2018	Open until filled
On-Call Museum Assistant	\$9.72–\$10.20/hr; (on-call as needed); non-exempt	Feb. 9, 2018	Open until filled
On-Call Accounting Technician	\$13.02–\$13.68/hr; temporary (90 days); non-exempt	Jan. 6, 2018	Open until filled
On-Call Child Care Provider	\$10.20–\$10.72/hr; part-time; (up to 29 hrs/week); non-exempt	Nov. 8, 2017	Open until filled
On-Call Retail Worker I-80 Smokeshop, Nixon Store, Marina	\$9.71–\$10.20/hr; (on-call as needed); non-exempt	Ongoing	Ongoing
On-Call: Various Departments	Call for details	Ongoing	Ongoing

Academic Achievement Recognized

Wadsworth, NV – The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and the Consolidated Higher Education Program sponsored a community event to honor and recognize the academic achievement of students who graduated this year. The Graduation Recognition Event was held at the Wadsworth Community Center.

Many of the graduates were unable to attend the celebratory event. Those who were able to attend were **Trey Harry** and **Tsotigh Phillips** from PLHS; **Melody James**, Reed High School; **Britney Light**, Fernley High School; **Galen Barlese**, Fort Lewis College, Durango, Colorado; and **Sierra Gotcher**, University of Nevada.

Other students recognized were **Rose Ruiz-Auguello**; **Narae Wadsworth**; **Emily Kinsey-Shaw**; **Michael Sam**, Yerington High School; **Savannah Trujillo**, University of Nevada.

All PLHS Graduates are featured on page one of this issue.

Featured speaker was Paula Wright, a member of the Consolidated Higher Education Committee. She offered a brief background on her educational journey. She earned her GED from PLHS in 1992 after her grandmother passed. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the American Indian College of the Assemblies of God in Phoenix, Arizona, majoring in Ministerial Studies with a minor in Cross Cultural Studies. She attained a grade point average of 3.6 and graduated Magna Cum Laude that she described as extremely difficult while taking care of her family at the same time. She returned home and later enrolled at the University of Nevada in their Extended Studies Program and completed the prescribed course work in Library Science.

“A familiar teaching of the Cui-ui Ticutta is to learn at an early age to become an industrious member of the family and community. Like the ant, one helps the collective group to gather food, build, move sand grains, and lead others. When one ant does not cooperatively work, the others ostracize by dragging him away from the group.

“Rabbit Girl was lazy. She ignored her mother and auntie’s yells to wake up, get up, and help me! When it was time to eat, Rabbit Girl was the first to eat. She greedily ate the gathered food. One morning her mother said to her, “If you don’t get up, the ants will get you.” She didn’t listen. She went back to her cozy spot under the big sagebrush where the sun warmed her fur. Her eyes closed and she went into a deep slumber.

“Here come the ants. They crawled on her searching for her belly button. Quickly the ants began to pull out her guts; dragging her guts far to the ant hole. Rabbit Girl woke up and felt her belly. She cried loud. Her mother quickly came to her side. Rabbit Girl cried, “What happened to me?”

“The moral of this story became a familiar song we sing today: Kammu Si, Kammu Si, Tamme ticu, Kammu Si, yooahoo’ tsa, yooahoo’ tsa (translated rabbit guts, rabbit guts, let’s eat rabbit guts, fat girl, fat girl).

“Now that you have reached this milestone in your life by earning your high school diploma, an Associate or Bachelor’s degree or the long-awaited Master’s degree, or maybe you finally finished the coursework for vocational training,



Britney Light: To Truckee Meadows Community College to study the social sciences.



Melody James

Tonight the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe honors and recognize your achievement.

“Graduates, please rise. I encourage you to continue to be a life-long learner. Learning will take you from your comfort zone; learning will bring you to a place where challenges will either defeat you or allow you to become victorious. Choose victory.

“You will always have critics to downplay your achievement, but know this, you earned your way to success to enter into a competitive world equipped with knowledge and experience. Stay close to your Creator every day and watch doors open unto you. Don’t give up when times get tough. Always move forward in a good way.”

Anthony Sampson, Consolidated Higher Education Coordinator, works tirelessly to assist students in securing funding for their respective academic and vocational studies. **Trevor Black** provided a catered dinner of Carne Asada, beans/ rice, and other delicious side dishes. **Michelle Smith** created the beautiful decorations for the evening.

Other members of Consolidated Higher Education Committee are **Leona Collins**, **Harriet Brady**, **Linda Ely-Rodriguez**, and **Billie Jean Guerrero**.

Editor’s Note: Unfortunately we didn’t get all the information about the graduates before press time. We apologize.



Galen Barlese: Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration



Sierra Gotcher: Bachelor of Science in Biology, minor in Chemistry.



Trey Harry



Tsotigh Phillips

Pyramid Lake High School Graduates Twenty Students

On the evening of June 8, 2018, Pyramid Lake High School graduated the 20-member Class of 2018.

The evening of celebration began with the procession of candidates accompanied by the music of the drum group, **Echo Sky**.

Terrence Fillmore's grandfather played the Honor Song for the near capacity crowd.

Ralph Burns, grandfather to Bernai Osuna, shared the opening and closing prayer with the graduates, family, friends, and staff.

Following **Principal Chapin's** welcome, **Tribal Chairman Hawley** and School Board Vice-Chair, **Billie Jean Guerrero**, shared inspiring words to support the theme, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.

Co-Valedictorians **Terrence Fillmore** and **Tae New Moon** spoke to their classmates about the importance of working hard to achieve more than some people think we are capable of achieving.

In addition to his high school diploma, **Steven (Andy) Perez** graduated with his Associates from Western Nevada College on May 21, 2018. Andy is the third PLHS graduate in two

years to earn this status! Andy spoke about the part that resilience played in meeting the goal of becoming a college graduate while in high school. He also expressed a great deal of gratitude to those that encouraged him to keep going when he was feeling the challenge to be too great.

Marty Barlese was honoured to accept the class invitation to be their Keynote Speaker. We enjoy his words of wisdom, spiced up with some humor!

Terrence Fillmore was awarded a scholarship by the Veterans for his essay submission.

Following pulling her name out of a bucket, Mrs. Novotny announced that **Nicole McCloud** was the lucky winner of a college survival basket. She was one of the many seniors that were given an entry for each college acceptance letter that they received.

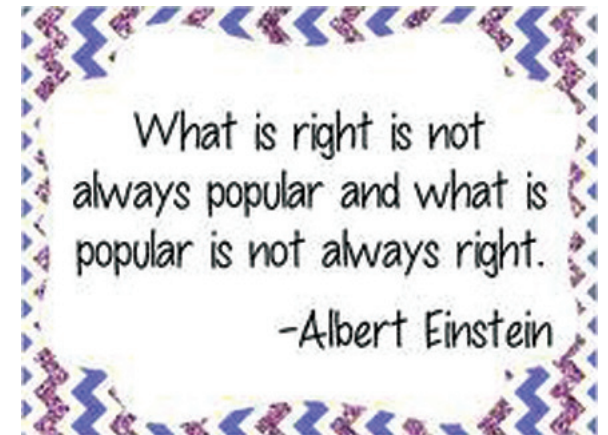
Following a fun tradition, the graduates and audience were treated to a presentation of the graduates as little guys and as high school students. Many blushed and many giggled to see graduates then and now. Truth be known,

there were a few tears shed as families faced the reality that their child or family member, are entering a new chapter of their life.

Congratulations to the Class of 2018!

A special shout out goes to all of our staff for helping to put out a nice dinner, great decorations, and a tasty dessert.

—Submitted by PLHS



Yerington Paiutes vs. Big Oil Company

In what has been described as a potential “seismic change in federal Indian law” the Yerington Paiute Tribe is suing Atlantic Richfield Corporation in tribal court over damages to their property including the danger to the tribal members’ health.

Atlantic Richfield Corp. is a subsidiary to British Petroleum (BP), a multinational oil company worth more than \$150 billion, and it could be forced into a tribal courtroom to defend itself against pollution-related claims.

Atlantic Richfield says tribal court isn’t an appropriate venue for the case and wants it dismissed. Tribal officials allege water polluted with radioactive material, arsenic and other contaminants are from the old Anaconda copper mine.

Central to the tribe’s claim is the Wabuska drain, an agricultural ditch, that crosses 1.7 miles of the tribe’s property on its way from the Anaconda mine site to Walker River.

In 2013, BP and Atlantic Richfield reached a \$19.5 million settlement with non-Indian neighbors of the polluted site, a settlement that included medical monitoring. Tighe said that non-Indians were paid for the very same damage the tribe is suing for but “they just don’t want to pay for the (same) claims to the tribe.”

The lawsuit was filed last August 18 before Tribal Judge Sandra Pickens. Atlantic Richfield lawyers requested Judge Pickens to dismiss the case because the mining operations itself isn’t on the reservation. Richfield’s attorney Kenzo Kawanabe said that by allowing the tribal court to hear the case would set an unprecedented expansion of tribal authority and a threat to companies operating mines hundreds of miles away from tribal land.

“Think about that, it would be a seismic change in federal Indian law. The tribe could also enact and enforce laws concerning off-reservation mining,” said Kawanabe.

Pollution from the mine are decades old. Anaconda Co. bought the mine in 1951 and merged with an Atlantic Richfield subsidiary in 1977

Continued on page 11

ELDER FALL PREVENTION

Pyramid Lake Tribal Health Clinic
775-574-1018

Yoga is a mind and body practice that combines physical postures, breathing exercises and relaxation.



Chair Yoga is an excellent alternative!

Yoga is generally safe; but like any exercise, you need to put your safety first.

- If you have health concerns, talk with your health care provider before beginning.
- Talk with your yoga instructor regarding your health and physical limitations.
- Listen to your body.
- Avoid overstretching as older adults are at higher risk of developing strains and sprains.
- Work with your instructor to modify or avoid

5 SEATED YOGA POSES YOU CAN DO IN A CHAIR



Seated Cat and Cow



Seated Forward Fold



Chest Expansion



Seated Pigeon



Seated Spinal Twist

Green Mountain at Fox Run

FitWoman.com

\$20.00 Gift Cards for Elders that attend two (2) Chair Exercise Classes -

Classes: the third (3rd) and (4th) Wednesdays of each month.

Cultural & Language Program News

The Pyramid Lake War Memorial Eagle Staff Sobriety Walk/Run was established to honor our ancestors who fought in the Pyramid Lake Wars. We wouldn't have our homelands if they hadn't made that sacrifice. Our Paiute relatives came from all directions back then and they still come today, as we pay homage to our warriors.

I'd like to thank the **Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe**, the **Veteran's**, the **Emergency personnel** (fire, police, emt's), the **Clinic Staff**, **Betty Aleck**, **Adrian Tom**, **Vinton Hawley**, **Nicholas Cortez**, **Brenda Henry**, **Gina Wadsworth**, **Mervin** and **Teresa Wright**, the **High School Unity Group**, **Carla Eben**, **Angie Dunn**, **Pyramid Lake Fisheries** (for the fish), **Susie Albright**, **Collet Auguh-Dunn** (the Cook), **Donna Barlese**, **Stacia Johnson**, **Diane Scott**, **Dean Barlese**, **Robert Lowery** (more cooks), **Pyramid Lake Maintenance**, **Shawn Pancho**, **Clark Abel**, **Lela Leyva**, **Della John**, **Randy Hunter**, and **ALL** those who participated or brought food. And those many, many others who who helped along the route.

We had participants from Susanville,



Coleville, Fort Bidwell, Yerington, Schurz, Fallon, Reno, and other surrounding communities. There were 168 registered participants. But, there were more who did not register. The top finisher was a young man from Yerington, **Kutoven Stevens**. This was the 3rd year in a row that he finished first.

In April, the **Pyramid Lake High School** had their Youth Conference and I was invited to give a presentation. I sang some songs, told a story, and talked about how our Paiute language connects us all. I reminded the youth how important it is to introduce themselves by also identifying who their parents and grandparents are because most people will ask, "Who are your parents, who are your grandparents."

I also had the opportunity to teach and play a couple games of Handgame with the youth at the annual **Environmental Youth Camp** in June

In July, youth will be coming into the Cultural program for language, and I am busy planning curriculum. The youth will be taught the words and simple sentences. I try and incorporate all aspects of our culture into the curriculum. I believe that it is important for our youth to know who they are and where they come from.

I will have a couple youth workers this year, and I hope to inspire them to keep learning and perhaps one day, they will be able teach the culture and language. We will continue to visit

Daycare, and spend time with the youngsters, and the elders whenever we get a chance. They will learn about audio recording, archival work, and curriculum development.

Language Books/CD's have been developed from previous years and are available. There are language videos on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMYV3qij0Nshajovzsap-phA>. Never stop learning.

We need fluent speakers willing to commit to teach at our planned community classes in Nixon and Sutcliff. **Ralph Burns** continues to teach community classes in Wadsworth on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM, and we are very grateful.

Buckberry season will soon be upon us. Everyone is invited to go out to pick the berries. **Florence Glazier** is willing to teach the art of making jam and if enough is picked, we will be able to make buckberry pudding.

Currently, we are offering to teach any one interested, especially the youth, all about Handgame. We meet in Wadsworth on Thursdays at the Handgame shade at 7:00pm. If you're



interested in learning, come play a game or two. **Nikwich Wright**, the 4-H Coordinator will be having Handgame sessions in Nixon. Currently, date and time is still being planned.

Be on the lookout for other cultural events that are currently being planned, as I am working to add more cultural activities into the program, and as we all know, our Paiute language is intertwined into it all.

Penakwa nu Ponedooa

Heidi Barlese, Cultural Program Coordinator



Niyakwe

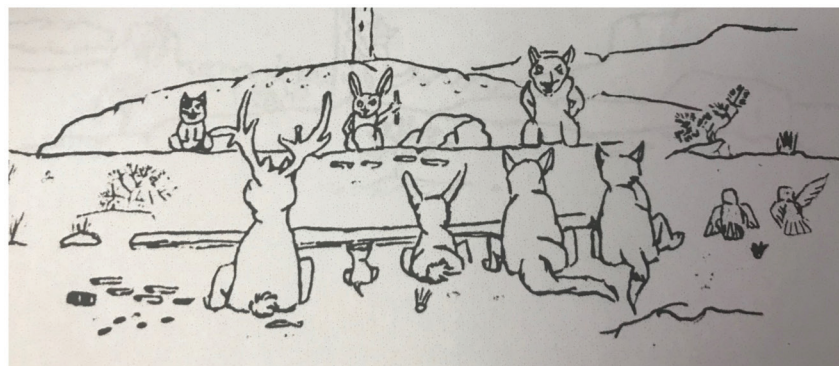
What: Youth Handgame Practice

When: Thursdays @ 7:00-9:00 PM

Starting June 21, 2018

Where: the Haba (shade)

Wadsworth Powwow Grounds



We will be teaching the youth how to play Handgame. Our goal is to organize a team and enter Handgame tournaments in the area. If your children are interested, bring them over for a couple of hours of play.

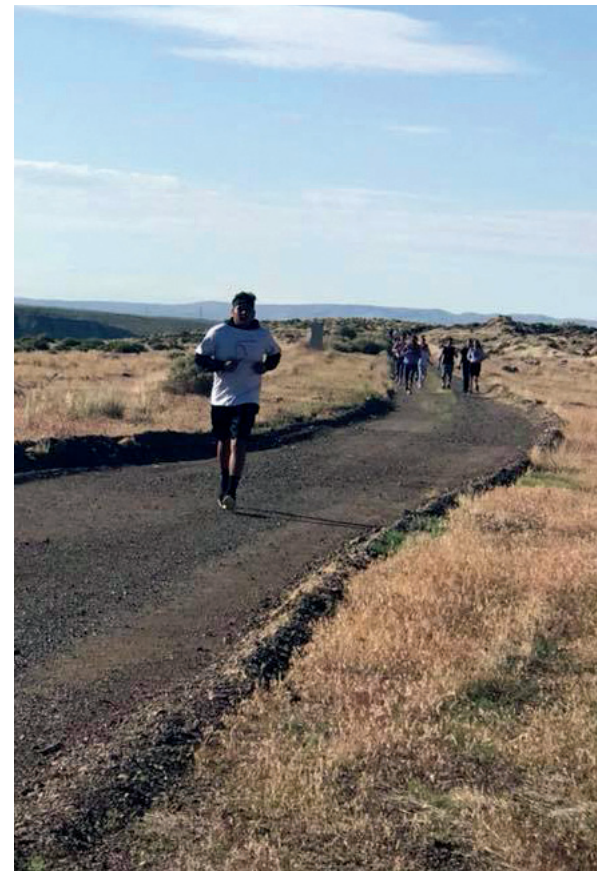
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Cultural Program: 775/574-2403

Eagle Staff Run

Friday May 18, 2018

Results

2018 War Memorial Eagle Staff Run 8.12 Miles (13.03571 km)			
Place	Time	Name	Home
1	1:05:40	Katoven Stevens	Yerington
2	1:07:24	Chaz Williams	Ft. Bidwell
3	1:10:35	Isiah Rios	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
4	1:12:09	Dep Auguh	Pyramid Lake
5	1:12:10	Marc Mattaroccia	Reno
6	1:16:31	John Lockwood	
7	1:17:25	Phillip Davis	Pyramid Lake
8	1:20:26	Johnny Williams	Pyramid Lake
9	1:20:41	Shaun Pancho	Pyramid Lake
10	1:21:39	Caroline La Croix	Fernley
11	1:23:02	Delmar Stevens	Yerington
12	1:23:47	Wayne Roberts	Carson
13	1:24:02	Brian Davis	Pyramid Lake
14	1:24:17	Gina Dini	Walker River
15	1:24:47	Amber Torres	Walker River
16	1:25:47	Trish Conner	Pyramid Lake
17	1:26:15	Dana Thomas	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
18	1:27:09	Nolan Berreman	Fallon
19	1:27:18	Anthony Berreman	Fallon
20	1:28:54	Dayann Harrison	Pyramid Lake
21	1:30:30	Kaelyn Robinson	Coleville
22	1:34:12	Ethan Wadsworth	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
23	1:35:20	David Delasoya	Hopi
24	1:36:03	Tsotigh Phillips	Pyramid Lake
25	1:36:04	Zayden Lee	Pyramid Lake
26	1:37:40	Warren Quinn	Pit River
27	1:38:28	Jason Lopez	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
28	1:39:19	Tyler James	Pyramid Lake
29	1:39:20	Chris Mathus	Sparks
30	1:40:20	Candace Birchum	Walker River
31	1:40:43	Arden Davis	Pyramid Lake
32	1:43:41	Darrell Wadsworth	Pyramid Lake
33	1:43:45	Tallala Ketchum	Fallon
34	1:45:23	Makiala Hicks	Fallon
35	1:45:23	Jada Anastasio	Fallon
36	1:46:34	Starla Serawop	Pyramid Lake
37	1:50:36	Leann Mandell	Coleville
38	1:51:05	Monica Hernandez	Coleville
39	1:51:09	Carla Molino	Pyramid Lake
40	1:52:37	Nathan Williams	Fallon
41	1:52:37	Cylynce Hicks	Fallon
42	1:53:22	Tami Harrison	Pyramid Lake
43	1:55:03	Tracey Wells	Pyramid Lake
44	1:57:07	Chayanna Lucas	Pyramid Lake
45	1:57:08	Noah Sarabia	Pyramid Lake
46	1:57:09	Alizah Lara	Pyramid Lake
47	1:57:55	Olivia Lara	Pyramid Lake
48	1:57:58	Reynon Mix Tapija	Pyramid Lake
49	1:58:10	Spencer Wasson	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
50	1:59:02	Kim Hooper	Fallon



Yerington lawsuit, *continued from page 9*

before closing the mine in 1978. Local businessman Don Tibbals bought the property along with a former employee housing area known as Weed Heights. Tibbals sold the mine, except for Weed Heights, to Arimetco in 1989 that went bankrupt in 2000 and subsequently abandoned the site.

The mine property then became the concern for the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection.

When BP acquired Atlantic Richfield in 1999, it also acquired the liability for what Anaconda left behind—some 100 tons of uranium and other contaminants in the soil and water.

“They own the legal responsibility for running that contaminated water through that (Wabuska) drain,” said attorney Tighe. “They have been running toxic sludge through that thing forever, on (tribal) property.” The tribe also claims the company is responsible for the contaminated dirt used on construction sites for tribal housing in Yerington.

Kawanabe argued the tribe’s complaint should go to a federal judge who would have jurisdiction under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), a federal law known as Superfund. “The Tribe is really claiming injury to its natural resources ... That is a CERCLA claim. Suits alleging CERCLA activities can only be heard in federal court.”

The mine qualifies as a Superfund site under Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rules although state officials have resisted such a designation.

In 2016, after years of resistance, Republican Governor Brian Sandoval accepted the designation. However, after meeting with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, he reversed his decision and accepted a deferral agreement that averted a Superfund listing in favor of state oversight.

Atlantic Richfield is seeking an injunction in federal court to block the tribal court from hearing the case. BP gained notoriety several years ago after a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico that is still recovering.

BP has cut off supplying bottled water to the tribal residents after the lawsuit was filed.

Tribal Recreation News

Spring Day Camp with Artist Ben Aleck with two of the youngsters who participated in learning the various techniques of drawing and painting. A mural painted by the participants is on display in the Nixon Gym.



During the month of April when the students were on Spring break, the Tribal Recreation Program was fortunate to have artist Ben Aleck come and work with the young students. Approximately 25 students took part in the Art Camp.

Ben Aleck is our own Pyramid Lake Paiute tribal member and resides here in Nixon. He attended the California College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, California. He graduated in 1972 with a Bachelor in Fine Arts Degree majoring in Painting. He currently works in mixed media using water base paint, ink, dyes and natural materials. His art subjects are statements concerning cultural and environmental issues.

Ben has participated in several group shows in Nevada and other Western states. His work has been shown at the Oakland Museum, the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC, the Stewart Museum and the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno.



The design he chose to work with students is Pyramid Lake in the different shades of blue and of the mountains surrounding the lake. The top and bottom of the art work has the boy and girl designs of the cradleboard. Each student worked on different sections of the boards. You can see the boards on display on the stage of the Nixon gym.

The Tribal Recreation Program would like to thank Ben Aleck for sharing his passion for art with the students in our Spring Day Camp. They will forever remember the experience when they see their art displayed for all to see.

Pyramid Lake Trout Camp

On April 21st and 22nd the **Pyramid Fly Company** in collaboration with the Tribal Recreation Program held a Pyramid Lake Trout Camp for Tribal members. Over 45 people of all ages attended the learning sessions. The first day consisted of classroom instruction, fly tying and casting lessons. Fly fishing is an angling method in which an artificial "fly" is used to catch fish. The fly is cast using a fly rod, reel and specialized weighted line.



Casey Anderson of the Pyramid Fly Company and his fly fishing friends worked with the group. All of them wanted to give back, as the poster stated, "Come and learn how to fish one of the premier trophy trout lakes in the world, and its right here in your own back yard!" Casey is a fishing guide here at Pyramid Lake.

The second day was spent at Block House Beach with actual fly fishing. A barbeque lunch was served on both days. It was a good day as everyone fished using the knowledge and the "fly's" they prepared the previous day. There were a lot of nice items given away, caps, fly rods to the kids, and many other items.

Special thanks to Casey Anderson and Pyramid Fly Company for putting this together. Also special thanks to the donations from **Traeger, Dun, Postfly, Rising, Smith, Scientific Anglers** and **Pigfarm Inc.** companies to name a few and others as well! The event was fun and successful. We have some regular fisherman change over to become fly fisherman! In the future, we would like to have a Fly fisherman Club for students, times and dates will be announced.

Summer Day Camp 2018

The Summer Day Camp will start on July 2 and end on July 26th. Camp will start at 9:00 a.m. daily and end at 12:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Snacks will be provided and lunch will be served by the Summer Food Program at Pyramid Lake High School. Transportation will be provided by Pyramid Lake High School Transportation Department.

Please see schedule for transportation below:
Nixon students will meet at the Nixon Gym at 9:00 a.m.

Wadsworth students will be picked up at New Community Center at 8:30 a.m.

Sutcliffe students will be picked up at Desert Flower and Jigger Bob at 8:25 a.m.; and at Pakwe @ Fire hydrant at 8:30 a.m.

For more information or to sign up, please call Tribal Recreation at 775/574-2409.



Smoke Hazards from Wildfires

Wildfire season is upon us and the smoke generated from wildfires can travel several of miles depending on the location and weather conditions.

Wildfire smoke is a combination of fine particles, water vapor and gases. Exposure to these particles can cause health problems to people with heart and lung disease and can make healthy people feel sick. Common symptoms include watery eyes, a runny nose and chest discomfort. Factors that affect a person's vulnerability to smoke impacts include the concentration of the smoke, duration of exposure to the smoke, and the individual's susceptibility to the smoke.

You can protect yourself from wildfire smoke by taking precautionary measures beforehand:

Prepare your home by replacing and/or cleaning HVAC filters as directed by the manufacturer. For people with heart and lung disease, talk with your health care provider and have a proper amount of medication on hand.

When wildfire smoke is an immediate threat: Avoid rigorous outdoor activity and stay inside when possible, preferably in a tightly closed air conditioned building. Set home and or car a/c to re-circulate.

When seeking safety indoors, it is important to keep indoor air as clean as possible by making sure to close all doors, windows and vents to prevent wildfire smoke from entering the building. If you have an evaporative (swamp) cooler that brings outside air in, turn it off and close up the vent. Use fans for cooling that recirculates indoor air.

Reduce indoor air pollution sources: burning cigarettes and candles, gas/propane and wood burning stoves and furnaces. Avoid vacuuming to eliminate dust in the air for the time being—a great time for some take-home pizza!

The use of an air purifier with a true HEPA air filter can help to remove some of the fine particles from the air. It is recommended that you do NOT use an air purifier with an ozone generator as this can be harmful to your health.

If you have heart disease or a respiratory illness, follow your health care provider's advice to prevent and treat symptoms.

Check airnow.gov for current air quality conditions and future forecasts.

For more information on air quality issues and or concerns, please contact the PLPT Tribal Air Quality Program (775) 574-0101 ext. 18

—Tanda Roberts



Flora Greene Lived a Full Life for 101 Years



A month after her 101st birthday, Flora Greene passed away. Her death was attributed to natural causes due to her advanced age. Flora was the oldest living member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. She was featured in the January 2017 issue of *Numuwaetu Nawahana* as being the first person to receive the new Tribal Identification Card.

Flora was born on February 17, 1917 to Joe and Bessie (Winnemucca) Greene "in the bushes somewhere in Nixon". She was the middle child of 5 children: Ella Esmania, Martin, Scott, and Pike Greene. She attended Stewart Indian School and her various work assignments included the kitchen and the laundry. She graduated from Stewart in 1936.

When she returned home she went to work at Abe and Sue's store. In time, she gave birth to her only son, Gilbert (Gilly). Gilbert and Trena presented Flora with three grandchildren: Erica, Clinton, and Miranda. Later, her family added three great-grandchildren: Chyann Minoletti, Russell Miller and Dashina Greene.

The Pyramid Lake Jr/Sr High School Leadership Class selected Flora to honor her at the Elder Recognition Day held on March 15, 2011. Flora was unable to attend due to recent surgery so the students held their honor ceremony in her stead. Ralph Burns offered a prayer for her health, Tom Yellowcloud sang the Honor Song and Cody Poafpbitty sang a round dance song. A pouch made by Rachel Dixon and beaded by Briana Quartz was presented to Flora at her home.

Flora was a foster grandparent for ten years at the Nixon Headstart until she retired in 1990. She was skilled in doing beadwork, making quilts, pouches, moccasins for babies and dancers. She was called "the doll maker" by a number of people.

Over the 100 years Flora was a witness to countless changes to reservation life as well as the outside life around her: the Great Depression, World Wars; cars, farm equipment; man walking on the moon; telephones; indoor plumbing and electricity; the advent of television, and the whole range of computer-generated items. She suffered along with the Tribe during the many struggles to keep their land and water. And she enjoyed the accomplishments made by the Tribe over the years.

She is survived by her granddaughter Miranda, grandson Clinton Greene, great-granddaughter Dashina Greene, and great-great-grandson Gilbert Davis. She was preceded in death by her son Gilbert and granddaughter Erica Greene. She also leaves behind many friends at Pyramid Lake and elsewhere.

Walker River Paiute Wins Miss Indian World

Taylor Susan, a 25-year-old White Mountain Apache and Walker River Paiute, was crowned Miss Indian World at the 2018 Gathering of Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 30. The Nevada visitors who attended the event loudly cheered when her name was announced.

A veteran of the pageant world, Taylor previously held the Miss Native American University of Arizona (2014) and Miss Indian Arizona (2015). Her older sister, Ashley, is a former Miss Native American USA.

Her mother, Anne (Willie), held the Miss University of Nevada-Reno, Miss Indian Nevada and Miss Indian America.

Taylor wants to focus on three goals during her reign. "First, inspiring our people to spend quality time with our elders because it's important for us, as Native peoples, to learn all that we can about our cultural teachings and our cultural knowledge. And, to pass it on to our current and future generations. We have an obligation to really identify who we are in today's society as Native people.

Her second goal is to pursue higher education. "I truly believe that all indigenous people on this earth are dreams that our ancestors had dreamt. Even though we're not on that same battlefield, by utilizing higher education as a toll, we continue to protect our people in classrooms and courtrooms and through modern day medicine."

The third goal is to promote spiritual,



emotional and physical balance and health.

Taylor will be graduating from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree in political science. She intends to pursue a master's degree in chemistry.

Court sides with Havasupai, upholds ban on uranium mining in Grand Canyon



Havasupai tribal members protests in front of Canyon Mine located near the South Rim of the Grand Canyon. Rick Tilousi, left, a former tribal chairman, has been protecting his people and lands for over 40 years. Photo by Grand Canyon Trust

GRAND CANYON, Ariz. — A coalition of Havasupai tribal members and environmental groups breathed a brief sigh of relief as the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, California handed down a verdict Dec. 12: the 20-year moratorium on new uranium mines was upheld.

The group had filed suit with the court more than a year earlier to save the moratorium put in place in 2012 by Barack Obama's administration.

The National Mining Association had previously sued in a lower court to overturn the ban, which was put in place amid concerns that groundwater for millions might become radioactively contaminated. The ban also considered the effect on Native American cultural sites and views from Grand Canyon National Park.

In its ruling, the court determined the ban should remain in place, stating "withdrawal of the area from new mining claims for a limited period will permit more careful, longer-term study of the uncertain effects of uranium mining in the area and better-informed decision making in the future."

Carletta Tilousi, a Havasupai Tribal Council member who has been a vocal opponent of uranium mining near her ancestral home, traveled to Washington D.C. to reiterate the tribe's opposition to any changes to the recently-upheld ban.

"What happens to that Red Wall-Mauv Aquifer and springs happens to the Havasupai," Tilousi told the House subcommittee on energy and mineral resources, referring to the aquifer that is responsible for Havasu Creek, the tribe's sole water source.

"I am here to tell you that uranium contamination in the aquifer will not only poison my family, my Tribe, ancestral lands, and me, but also millions of people living downstream," Tilousi said. "Opening up this area to uranium and other mining would be tragic and an environmental nightmare."

The Department of Agriculture recently suggested revisions to the 20-year mining ban, although it did not suggest revoking it.

Although there was cause for celebration after the verdict, the court also ruled against Havasupai and a coalition of environmental groups, allowing Canyon Mine to re-open.

The tribe had sued to keep the mine from operating until an updated plan of operation was put in place, including consultation with the tribe. Canyon Mine, which sits in the shadow of Red Butte, a sacred mountain to the Havasupai and other regional tribes, was first approved 1986. Although the mine went dormant after uranium prices plummeted in the early 1990s, the U.S. Forest Service approved its reopening in 2013 without an updated plan of operations.

The tribe argued that the Forest Service granted permission to resume mining operations without consideration of new developments and technology, violating its legal obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act to consult with the tribe concerning the irreparable harm the mine will have on the sacred site and implementing measures to prevent damage.

"We are disappointed that the judges ruled against the common-sense argument that a 29-year-old permit to mine uranium on public lands doesn't need to be reviewed and updated with new information," said Roger Clark, program director for the Grand Canyon Trust, who joined the lawsuit with the Havasupai Tribe.

"They dismissed compelling new evidence of water contamination and ignored a whole new generation of citizens who were born after the Forest Service decision, but who now have to live with its consequences."

Richard Hughes, who represented the tribe in both lawsuits, said the Ninth Circuit court's ruling is likely the end of the road. The only court that can overturn its ruling is the U.S. Supreme Court.

Technology News

Servers are what runs the Tribal computer infrastructure. When you log into the computer with your credentials you connect to a server. When you check your email you are connecting to a server that houses all of your messages. Right now we have over 20 servers running throughout the Tribal infrastructure.

These range from the two previously mentioned, to information stored and accessed by the Tribal Court, to the video that is recorded and saved on the Police Server.

Many of our Tribal operations are dependent on these servers being operational and performing to the best of their capability and allowing day-to-day operations to be completed.

Servers such as the Finance server, Email server, and the Phone server are critical to ensure that the Tribe has the ability to move forward in our Vision and Mission Statement. Some of the servers are physical computers but many of them are virtual.

This means that one physical computer (or node as they are called) with expanded memory and processing power and an array of hard drives share these resources with many servers in a software environment that is called virtual.

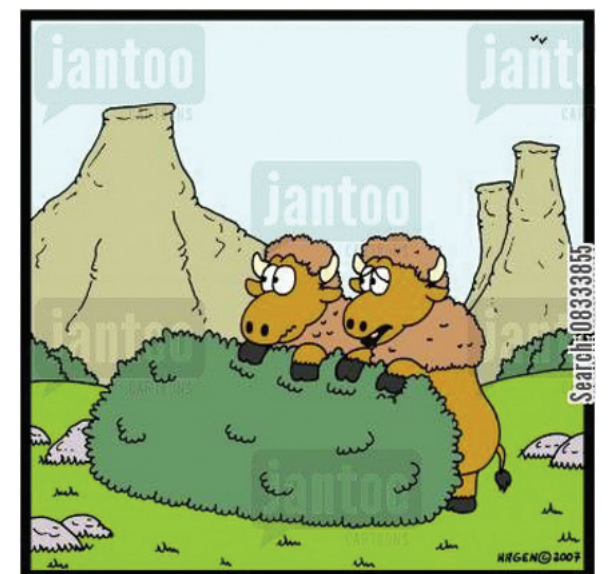
Our main datacenter in the Nixon node houses all of these virtual servers in the IBM system. In our IBM system, we have three identical nodes that run the virtual servers.

I would like to inform you about a current project that is being planned. The Technology Department in conjunction with the Business Office recently submitted a grant to bring the Fiber Optics to a number of homes in Nixon, Sutcliffe, and those along the Truckee River.

Using the existing Fiber optics we will expand to the homes for Internet connectivity. Due to our large service area that we have to provide for, we are also planning on using other methods (radios, antennas) to bring Internet service to the homes that are far away from the fiber optic lines.

Our plan is to make sure that every home in these communities has access to the ever-growing importance of Internet communications. Please take note that at this point it is dependent on receiving the grant and I hope to give you great news in the next article.

Steven Wadsworth
Information Technology Technician



Oh my, the Indians ate everything!
There's nothing left of Jack...

Nevada's Clean Open Spaces Threatened by Sen. Heller's Plan

Dean Heller, currently seeking re-election as Senator, is planning on introducing a bill that would strip protections from potentially dozens of designated wilderness study areas in Nevada.

Wilderness study areas began in 1976 under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. It ordered an inventory of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land that had "wilderness characteristics"—5,000 acres or more of interrupted natural land with "outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation." The inventory identified about 100 areas covering more than 5 million acres in Nevada that became wilderness study areas. The law also ordered BLM to recommend whether the study areas were suitable for designation as permanent wilderness.

Heller plans to introduce his bill "within weeks" so that the Republican-controlled Congress could rapidly approve the legislation and have it signed into law by their President. He is expecting political blowback from conservationists and wants the bill to move while his Republican party still controls the Congress.

Heller told the Lander County Commission of his plan during a February 8 meeting. "When Dean drops this bill, all hell is going to break loose," Heller aide Andrew Williams said, according to a transcript of the meeting.

Williams told the county commission that Nye, Eureka and Elko counties are already on board and that the Interior Secretary Zinke pledged support, and Senator Lisa Murkowski, (R-Alaska) chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, promised Heller a hearing.

"That's kind of what the push is here, is that I think Dean sees that right now we have a Republican majority in Congress. And we have an ally in the White House. That if there's any time to get this done, it's going to be now," said Williams.

Under federal law, only Congress has the power to convert a wilderness study area to full-fledged wilderness or "release" it back to a less-protected status that would allow mining and other energy development uses. In the meantime, BLM is required to manage the wilderness study areas to maintain their wilderness character.



Heller said that his bill would help rural Nevada communities increase economic development and public recreation access. "If it is (designated) wilderness that is fine. But if it is not (designated) wilderness then put it back to public use," he said.

In a letter of support, Lander County urged Heller to include not only the 2.5 million acres of wilderness study areas in Nevada, but also *all 12.6 million acres* in the western United States. In addition to Lander County, Mineral, Nye, Eureka and Humboldt issued letters or resolutions of support.

"We just don't have the full access for all the things we need," said Lander County Commissioner Patsy Waits. "Wilderness areas, they are fun to hike sometimes but we don't need that many of them."

Heller said that wilderness areas are public lands but they're not available for public use, like mining.

The Senator's plan represents a "radical

departure" from the "Nevada model" for public lands. The key to the Nevada model is an approach that builds consensus between local development interests and conservationists.

"Nevada actually has done the best job by far of any state in addressing its wilderness study areas," said Paul Spiller of The Wilderness Society. He said Heller's plan would ignore the consensus approach.

"It boggles the mind to understand why you would abandon a successful approach and adopt a failed approach," said Spiller.

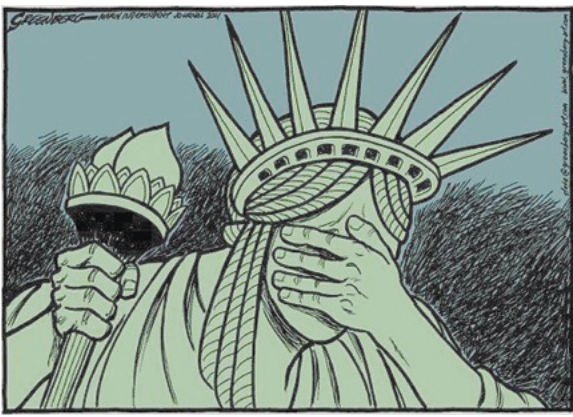
Heller said he feels strongly about his bill because "extraordinary restrictions" placed on wilderness areas "simply aren't in the best interest of most Nevadans in rural Nevada."

During the past two years Heller has voted strictly down the Republican line. He gave a promise to protect Planned Parenthood but voted against it. He also voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act and voted in favor of the highly questionable Tax Reform Bill.



Senator Dean Heller and friend

While the public's attention was focused on the Trump Administration's treatment of immigrant children, House Republicans quietly unveiled their 2019 budget proposal that calls for \$537 billion in cuts to Medicare, \$1.5 trillion in cuts to Medicaid, and \$4 billion in cuts to Social Security over the next ten years. These massive budget cuts are to reduce the trillion dollar debt in the national budget that is occurring because of the tax cuts to the wealthiest 1% of the population.



Dear Readers,

In the past issues of *Numuwaetu Nawahana* this column has been writing about all the stupid stuff coming from the whitest of all White Houses and there was (and is) no shortage of material. But now F-T wants to take away our sovereign status as Indian nations.

Trump doesn't care about Indians—it's the sovereign status he doesn't like. If he tries such a move, all sorts of complicated problems will result—plus it will only prove *once again* he is an arrogant ignoramus.

There is the history of treaties with Indians—every one of them broken by this country—but are upheld by the courts because of the Jay Treaty of 1795. The Jay Treaty was between the United States and Great Britain. Article III of the Treaty includes the rights of Indians and that is the basis for most Indian court claims both domestic and international.

Trump's highly questionable reasoning could be based on a number of things. For one thing he doesn't like Indian people having something he doesn't have—a special status protected by treaties, and the rights to our lands, free education, free medical care, and self-government. Our ancestors fought and died to preserve the right for us to live as Indians, on our land, and continue our culture and lifestyle. And we've had to continue that fight because someone is always trying to take it away from us.

Like Trump—who doesn't know about Indian treaty history nor does he care.

He thinks he can take away our sovereign status by simply declaring us a race of people like all the other peoples in this country. But it will only start another racial problem confronting his alleged presidency and he will lose, *bigely*. Besides we are a race of people according whatever questionnaire we fill out: census bureau, medical forms, educational applications, driver's license forms, etc. And a damn proud race at that!

So, be on alert because we'll be under attack again by just another white guy who will end up just like that other white guy named Custer—beaten by Indians...

The Immigration Horror of separating children from their parents began last summer, months before Trump and Attorney General Sessions made their "Zero Tolerance" policy.

There is no law that allows that policy. Trump and Sessions just made it up!

In October 2017, it was reported that 4,100 children were in custody. Then this year on May 25, the Health and Human Services (HHS) official, Steven Wagner, told Congress *they lost track* of nearly 1,500 migrant children allegedly placed with sponsors. On May 29, HHS said it had a total of 10,773 children in its custody—up 21% from April when it had 8,886.

It wasn't until the public heard about the almost 2,000 youngsters, including babies, when they became "outraged". It's been almost a year and what has happened to all those kids since last fall? And their parents?

It is a misdemeanor crime to cross into this country illegally but the immigrants are being charged with a felony. Just last month, before attorneys *were allowed* to help the immigrants, the parents went to court and were told that if they pleaded guilty, they would get their kids back. Not true. Many were deported without their children.

Little 5 year olds, unable to speak English, have faced a judge who asked them, "Why did you come to this country?" They don't know. They just know their parents took them on a three-month walk of over 1,000 miles to get here.

Many immigrants are Indians from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. (See photo below of Indian boys from Guatemala.) They come here to escape physical abuse and death but Attorney General Sessions said that domestic abuse and gang violence doesn't qualify for asylum "under federal law"—ignoring a 2016 decision from the Justice Department's Board of Immigration Appeals that said an abused woman was eligible for asylum. Many of the immigrants face abuse and death if deported and the government admits it, but "the law is the law."

A July 6 report: The military is "releasing" immigrants serving in the armed forces. Military service is one step closer to becoming a citizen.

Then Sessions called upon the Defense Department to allow its attorneys to help prosecute the immigrants after civil rights attorneys got involved with the immigrants; there are attorneys



available for fired immigration employees opposing the policies; and the major airlines, United, Southwest, Delta, and American are refusing to fly immigrant children to cities for incarceration.

Now Trump has appointed Ronald Mortensen, from Utah, to serve as assistant secretary of state for the population, refugees and migration division. Mortensen is a fellow at the Center for Immigration Studies that is considered a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The public outcry and subsequent demonstrations protesting the separation of kids from their parents: "*That's not who we are as a country*" was met with: "*Yes, it is*" by many Indian people. Since the turn of the century, many Indian kids were taken away and sent to boarding schools to essentially "kill the Indian, save the man"...

The habitually incoherent Trump said, "Separating families at the border is the fault of bad legislation passed by the Democrats."

Clearly the Dreamers are in limbo as to their citizenship future. The Dreamers are children who came to this country as babies or very young children by their illegal immigrant parents. The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals



Actual Dr. Seuss cartoon from 1941 criticizing America's policy on denying European Jews safe-haven during the Holocaust. Note the slogan on the Mother's shirt.

(DACA) program would allow those children to remain and eventually become citizens. But Trump cancelled that program and blamed the Democrats again.

"*I offered a deal that was so good you can't refuse, right, like the mob pictures. I will give you a deal that is so good, you can't refuse. I made a deal. I gave a deal so good, they could not refuse. And I did it because I thought they were going to refuse. And they did. And they are getting killed (politically) now by the DACA recipients. They are getting killed.*"

The Don "Corleone" Trump will support DACA only if Congress gives him \$25 billion for the border wall and allow dramatic cuts in legal immigration. Only 39 Republicans supported "a deal so good..."

Health care should be an important issue for the Trump administration but it is not. While in Las Vegas on June 25 to support **Dean Heller's** re-election bid, Trump reflected on

Senator McCain's vote against the Republican's plan to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and said, "It's all right, because we've essentially gutted it anyway." Then he quickly added, "Just remember, if you see [premiums going up], it is the Democrats fault."

Another Trump rhetorical whiplash. He's proud to have "gutted" the country's health care system but don't blame on him. Health insurance premiums are rising for those over 60 and those needing long-term care after the repeal of the individual mandate for insurance, the expansion of skimpy short-term plans, and the cut-off of the law's cost-sharing payments.

Trump and the Republicans have delighted in undermining the ACA regardless of who gets hurt primarily because it was a President Obama achievement of a Republican idea.

Indian healthcare services will have serious problems if any one of three Republican plans to repeal ACA passes in Congress. The **first plan** would leave traditional Medicaid alone but would convert the Medicaid expansion monies into block grants to the states. Medicaid

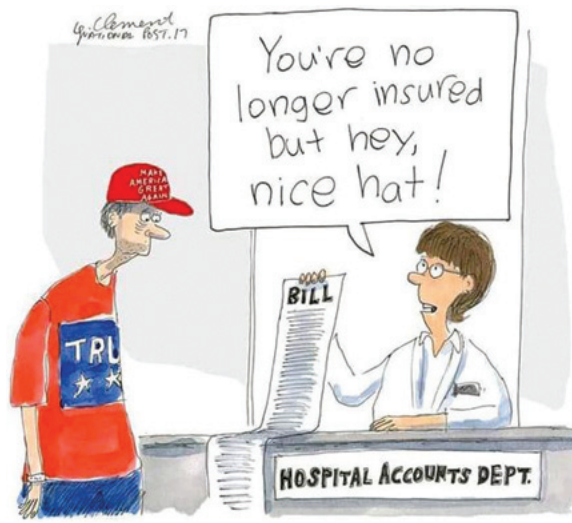
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expansion under ACA has become an important resource for the Indian Health Service system. Medicaid provides coverage for most IHS patients and it is often a difference between treatment and no treatment especially for those in need of expensive or long-term care.

The **second plan** would balance the federal budget with deep cuts in the entitlement programs including Medicaid. It would put a cap on the grant amount the states would get but give them “more power to tailor their Medicaid programs to meet the unique needs of their populations.” This would be particularly critical for Indian health programs because the federal government now reimburses states 100 percent for patients served by facilities within the IHS system (contract care). Under this proposed system the states would spend less and federal reimbursement for Indian health care would drop as well.

The **third plan** involves a work-plan rule. Medicaid is a state-federal partnership but under this plan the state could write the rules on what is considered acceptable work in order to remain eligible for health care funding. The Trump



administration was urged to grant exemptions for Native Americans from any state work rules because the federal government has an obligation to deliver health care based on a political relationship* and that state work rules would be “potentially devastating.” Many Indian people have limited access to employer-sponsored coverage due to a lower employment rate and those working often are employed in low-wage jobs that typically do not offer health coverage.

Nearly a million Indian people are more likely to be uninsured than the rest of the population and Medicaid helps to fill the coverage gap.

Indian people could sit back and watch Trump world implode but please don't do that. Whatever happens will affect the Tribes. The Republican's president has allowed this country to become a major embarrassment here at home and overseas. Even the soon-to-retire House speaker Paul Ryan has warned his Republican cohorts that if the Democrats win the mid-term elections they will hold Trump accountable (gasp!) for his scandals and misdeeds and their lack of responsibility to mind the checks and balances of the federal government.

Trump has spent millions traveling to his golf resorts; tells an average 6.5 lies a day; insult world leaders and their countries; rescind laws that protect the citizens and environment; publicly disrespects former presidents, and commits moral vandalism on the immigrant children.

Remember that when you vote this year.

*The Snyder Act of 1921 provided federal responsibility for Indian health care and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 1976 formed the legislative authority for today's Indian Health Service.



As the Trump World Turns

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau asked why his country was considered a

“national security risk.” Trump replied, “Didn't you guys burn down the White House?” (That was the British during the War of 1812.) Trudeau was miffed and reasonably insulted at his country being considered a security threat. The British, on the other hand, were delighted to have received a pardon on their historical arson charge.

After granting a pardon to the late boxer Jack Johnson, Trump said he was considering granting a posthumous pardon to Muhammad Ali. That prompted his family to say thanks, but no thanks. The Supreme Court overturned Ali's criminal conviction nearly 50 years ago.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) met with Trump in June to discuss its preparedness for the upcoming hurricane season. But Trump wanted to talk about his skill in negotiating airplane deals. “We saved \$1.6 billion on Air Force One. Can you believe it? I got involved in the negotiations.” The military could not explain where Trump got his figures nor could they back up his claim.

New York Times reporter Julie Hirschfeld Davis wrote: “Depressing sight at (a May) Trump rally in Nashville: adorable young boy, probably my son's age, pointing iPhone at me & other reporters & snapping pix while screaming ‘FAKE NEWS!’ A child who will grow up believing a free & fair press is the enemy, a bad thing, to be mocked & hated.”

Housing Secretary Ben Carson is being sued

for suspending the fair housing rule signed by President Obama. Carson, an African-American, suspended the rule requiring federally funded housing projects to end segregation in residential communities. Carson has criticized federal efforts to desegregate federal housing as “failed socialist experiments”.

Mike Mulvaney who is the director of the Office of Management and Budget has repeatedly had his budget slashing requests rejected by Congress. However as the interim chief of the Consumer Protection Bureau he has found the opportunity to dismantle the Obama-era watchdog agency as an example of government overreach. “There are lots of targets of opportunity over there for Mike. He's like a mosquito in a nudist colony,” said Marc Short, Trump's legislative affairs director.

U.S. Ambassador to Estonia, James D. Melville Jr. resigned over Trump's controversial comments about U.S. allies in Europe. A career diplomat for 33 years, he has served under six presidents and 11 secretaries of state. Estonia is a Baltic country on the southern coast of Finland and has borders with Russia and Latvia.

The Legal Aid Program funds were quietly cut by Trump last month suspecting that the program would be used to help the immigrants. However, a California couple decided to use an Internet fund-raising account to raise \$1500 to help pay for an immigrant's bail—within 24 hours, they raised 15 million!

The new 1040 tax form is postcard size and more complicated. It omits some popular deductions and requires several worksheets to complete. Republicans have quietly imposed a new tax on churches, synagogues, hospitals, colleges, orchestras, and other historically tax-exempt organizations that to begin paying a 21 percent tax on some types of fringe benefits they provide their employees. This will force thousands of groups to begin filing returns and paying taxes for the first time.

China has awarded Ivanka Trump seven new trademarks on a broad collection of businesses including books, housewares and cushions.

Around the same time, Trump vowed to find a way to keep China's major telecommunications company, ZTE, in business. The company has been sanctioned for violating U.S. laws.

Trump-like Tweets are becoming popular with Health and Human Services officials. Dan Diamond reported, “These are not faceless trolls but midlevel political appointees at HHS who help shape the agency's communications strategy” and are now using a page out of Trump's tweet playbook. Their actions raises questions if they're violating the Hatch Act that bans most federal personnel from bringing politics into the workplace.

PRUITT RESIGNS! The controversial head of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) submitted his resignation on July 5. With 15 separate investigations going on about his questionable policies and behavior, he is finally giving it up. His total denial about doing anything wrong baffled a lot of people, inside and outside the hallowed halls of government. What probably convinced him to resign was a school teacher who confronted him in a restaurant and strongly suggested he resign or he might end up in jail. *His replacement isn't any better*—a highly successful lobbyist for major coal companies—it's not likely the EPA will get back to protecting the environment...

New Trump Bill Hot Air?

On July 1, a bill being prepared by the White House, ordered by Trump, would declare America's abandonment of the fundamental World Trade Organization rules. The bill would give Trump a license to raise U.S. tariffs at will without congressional approval and international rules be damned.

As stunning as the concepts of the new legislation, the new acronym is even more so. The bill is entitled the United States Fair and Reciprocal Act or the US FART Act.

It is doubtful that Congress would approve of the FART Act because it's nothing but a bunch of hot air emanating from the White House and the blowhard who lives there. GAS-X anyone?

Pyramid Lake Water Fight David vs. Goliath

Part one of a two-part series

Competition for water in the West became fierce battle by the 1970's and tribes have historically been given the short end of the stick. "Water is our lifeblood. Without it, our homeland is useless, our people will die, and we will cease to exist," tribal leaders have pointed out more than once. While opening up the West to the white settlers and development, the federal government led the way in taking Indian water and giving it to the whites.

So it was for good reason many tribes didn't trust the Departments of Interior and Justice to protect their water and land rights. But the courts had forced the Departments into a new and protective position with a particular case in Nevada affecting the Pyramid Lake Paiutes. It had dramatized the historical role of the trustee as really a robber of Indian rights.

There were political and legal backdrops to that history, all of them familiar to tribes that were trying to protect their water rights. Under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, the federal government, specifically Congress, is charged with conducting all affairs with Indians. New states joining the Union were required to accept a congressional reminder that Indian lands within the state "shall remain under the absolute jurisdiction and control of the Congress of the United States."

Faced with political pressures, the government acted more as the agent for white interests than as a protector of Indian property. With the connivance of the Department of the Interior, tribes were cheated and robbed, their assets were mishandled and subjected to fraud, and it became a habit *not* to inform the tribes of developments and agreements made in their name.

Compounding the injustices was the conflict of interest within the Department of the Interior. While the Bureau of Indian Affairs was charged with the responsibility to act as the trustee, other Department agencies, including the Bureau of Reclamation (BuRec), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the National Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service had often appropriated Indian lands and resources for their own projects and trampled on Indian rights. Having more support than the BIA, it was easy for those agencies persuade Interior's Solicitor and the Justice Department to side with them and not the Indians. And the BIA found it politically expedient to let the Indians lose.

Although the tribes were unable to protect themselves and suffered losses without due process, their water interests occasionally did surface in significant legal cases: *Winters v. United States* in 1908, *United States v. Ahtanum Irrigation District* in 1956, and *Arizona v. California* in 1963. Winters established a doctrine which held that when an Indian reservation was established, it also reserved whatever water "may be reasonably necessary, not only for present uses, but for future requirements." It ruled that treaties were "not a grant of rights to the Indians, but a grant of rights from them—a reservation of those not granted." The Indians, not the government, had reserved the water and like the land, it was their property. The tribes had a paramount and first-



priority right, ahead of any rights a state might have, to all the water necessary for a reservation's purposes.

In theory, that would appear to be the answer to the tribes' water problems. But most tribes whose water rights were already taken or being threatened, waging a long, complicated, and costly water rights case on their own was beyond their means or capability. And the tribes didn't trust Justice to initiate Winters' Doctrine case for them because it was the government that did little to stop the theft of their water.

In the 1960's the fate of Pyramid Lake, owned by a small group of Northern Paiutes, suddenly became too big a national scandal for the government to ignore. Since 1905, the lake and the tribe had been threatened with wanton destruction.

The federal government in 1859 set aside the lake and the lower Truckee River for the tribe because the lake was their major support of life. Through the years, federal courts confirmed the lake as the Indians' property, and the tribe kept it unspoiled and productive.

In 1905 the Reclamation Service of the Department of the Interior built Derby Dam across the Truckee River that diverted half the river flow away from Pyramid Lake and to a government irrigation project constructed for white settlers. No one considered what would happen to Pyramid Lake, the reservation, or the people



once the water was diverted. No one consulted the Indians or asked them for the water. No one, not even the BIA, told them that their water was going to be taken.

When Nevada's political leaders asked Congress to authorize the irrigation project, Interior did not defend the Tribe's water rights. Faced with the conflict between the Tribe and the irrigation project, the Department's lawyers turned their backs on the Tribe. The irrigation project later became known as the Newlands Project.

The devastating results at Pyramid Lake were as dramatic as they were predictable. By the 1960's, the water level had dropped more than eighty feet since the construction of Derby Dam. Its shoreline had receded an average of ten feet a year; Lake Winnemucca, fed by overflow from Pyramid Lake, had entirely dried up and disappeared. Pyramid Lake's length had shrunk by several miles, and its surface area had contracted by more than fifty square miles. The pyramid was now 365 feet above the lake and became land locked. Anaho Island seemed destined to lose its famed pelican rookery once coyotes and other predators if the island also became land locked. Sandbars clogged the mouth of the lake and the fish could no longer swim up the Truckee to spawn. In 1938 it was discovered that the giant Lahontan trout had disappeared from the lake and the prehistoric cui-ui were facing extinction.

The future of the Pyramid Lake Paiutes was clearly jeopardized. In the mid-1950's, they decided to initiate a fight to save their lake because the alternative was unthinkable.

"It is a matter of life and death, not just a question of getting what rightfully belongs to us," tribal chairman, James (Buddy) Vidovich told the people, "It may be a long, hard fight."

To the Pyramid Lake Paiutes, that was nothing new because their fathers had waged a long, hard fight for their existence in the past. They faced death every time whites encountered them and the creation of their reservation in 1859 failed to give them security. So in 1860 they fought back and won but were then outnumbered by a larger army

and were forced to flee. Colonel Frederick W. Lander, an Indian superintendent, negotiated a peace and the Tribe returned to their lake and reservation.

But there continued to be were other struggles. They resisted missionaries, government agents, and teachers who tried to stamp out their religion and culture. Unable to follow seasonal rounds of hunting and gathering beyond the borders their reservation, they were forced into the white man's cash economy for their necessities and some went to work for whites.



Another long fight in 1865 began against the white squatters who settled along the lower Truckee River on the reservation's only irrigable land. That struggle, waged in the courts and Congress, lasted nearly a hundred years and ended in partial victory for the Tribe in the 1950's. The community of Nixon became their tribal headquarters as they began preparing to fight for their lake and their lives.

The tribe's principal rival for Truckee water, the Newlands Project, was originally planned by the government to irrigate 232,800 acres from the Truckee and another 137,000 acres from the Carson River. With the available supply of water and the agricultural capability of the soil the project was grossly over-estimated by the Reclamation Service because the project never had more than 50,000 to 65,000 acres under irrigation after fifty years.

Many people at Newlands were sympathetic to Pyramid Lake but they argued bitterly that they and their families had acquired legal rights to the water, and it was too bad if there wasn't enough water for the lake as well. Carl F. Dodge, a Nevada state senator, reflected the whites attitude when the Tribe began their fight. If the water was more valuable for keeping Pyramid Lake alive than keeping the project farms producing, "then let them buy the water rights and take them over. All I can say about it is if they feel that way, money talks."

The farmers were no longer the only users of the project's water. Over the years, excess "tail water" drained off farms and built up existing marshes that became a habitat of ducks and other waterfowl that attracted gun clubs. Other waste waters created a partly irrigated pasture that was used as a common grazing area.

In 1948 the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service made a pact with the irrigators on the Newlands Project and Nevada's Fish and Game Commission to create the Stillwater Wildlife Management area (a public shooting ground) and the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge (a protected area) and the BLM also agreed to develop and improve the pasture. Once established, both the government's wildlife area and the pasture became recognized "users" of Truckee water. The effect was to provide water for Stillwater ducks and project cows at the expense of Pyramid Lake and the Tribe.

In another development, Lahontan Reservoir, a large storage lake built by BuRec, ironically had begun to thrive as a recreational area for boating, fishing, and swimming by the whites.

That development plus other water users on the Truckee and Carson Rivers would further complicate the Tribe's fight. The number of users had increased since 1905 and an Indian fight for water could threaten all the users and unsettle many of the recognized rights on the two rivers.

However, those rights on the Truckee River were firmly established in 1944 by a federal district court decision known as the Orr Ditch decree. Interior and Justice represented the Tribe and actually worsened the Indians' position by permitting the legalization of Pyramid Lake's destruction. The Winters' Doctrine had been in existence for many years and the government had the opportunity to use the Doctrine to insist on a court grant of adequate water for the lake.

But the government *did not* asked for water for the lake and none was given. The decree gave the Tribe a right to only a meager amount of water providing it would be used only for irrigation or stock and domestic purposes. That amount of water was based on how much land they had under irrigation. Since they were never able to irrigate more than the small strip along the lower Truckee bottomlands, they didn't have the legal right to draw more than a fifth of the water granted to them—and none of it, legally, could be used for Pyramid Lake!

Under the Orr Ditch decree the Tribe had no right to even the unused floodwater. When BuRec announced plans in 1955 to build new dams on the headwaters of the Truckee and Carson rivers to control and use the floodwaters, it stated specifically that none of the floodwater would be available to the Tribe. That was too much and despite their meager resources, they sought local legal help to begin their fight.

Rather than rely on the BIA, the Tribe took their case to the Interior and Insular Affairs committee in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Both committees were considering



the Washoe Project under which the proposed new flood-control dams were to be built. Both committees responded with reports that noted officially that Pyramid Lake's crisis was due largely to acts of the federal government and that the government had never undertaken compensatory measures to maintain the lake as a fishery and now ought to do so. When the bill authorizing the Washoe Project passed Congress on August 1, 1956, it directed that facilities be provided to increase water releases to Pyramid Lake to restore its fishery.

By 1963 when BuRec finalized the Washoe Project plans, it revealed that the new dams would cause the Pyramid Lake shrink even more rapidly. In April 1964, responding to protests by the Tribe, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall appointed an intradepartmental task force to examine the claims of everyone, including the Pyramid Lake Paiutes. A preliminary report, completed in September, indicated concern over how to increase the water going to Pyramid Lake. It proposed some modifications in the plan and in the water use in the Newlands Project. The report did not recommended a specified amount of water to the lake nor did it guarantee that the lake would not suffer from the Washoe Project. Ignoring a possible Winters' Doctrine lawsuit by the Tribe, the task force said only that the government should exercise "every effort to maintain the greatest practicable flow of water into Pyramid Lake."

When public hearings on the report were held in Reno, Pyramid Lake and several Indian and white supporters argued angrily against the omission of a guaranteed grant of water to build up and stabilize the lake. "Why tell us you will give us as much water as possible?" demanded Avery Winnemucca. "Why don't you be specific? At least you did that with others. You've got figures to prove that there is so much allocation for this and so much for that, all figures. But Pyramid Lake? No. You give us (only) as much as possible."

Other pro-lake and pro-Indian speakers went further, telling Udall's task force that any discussion of the Washoe Project was premature until the government, under the Winters' Doctrine, took steps to guarantee Pyramid Lake's preservation. "Here in Nevada a terrible crime has been committed against Nevada's first citizens," charged the Reverend H. Clyde Matthews, chairman of the Nevada Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights. Then he added what very few others in Nevada would say publicly: "If this property had been owned by six hundred White stockholders in an irrigation company, would this property have been taken without compensation, *or at all?*... The United States government itself has been discriminatory on the basis of race, creed, and national origin in the manner in which the Nevada Indians' water and fishery rights have been allowed to be denied, ignored, manipulated, and in effect destroyed."

Continued in the next issue.

Ways to Avoid Being Scammed

Crooks use clever schemes to defraud millions of people every year. They often combine new technology with old tricks to get people to send money or give out personal information. Here are some practical tips to help you stay a step ahead.

Scammers often pretend to be someone *like a government official, a family member, a charity, or a company you do business with.* Don't send money or give out personal information to an unexpected request whether it comes as a text, a phone call, or an email.

Do online searches. Google the company or product name with words like "review," "complaint" or "scam." Or search for a phrase like "IRS call." You can even search for phone numbers to see if others have reported them as scams.

Don't believe your caller ID. Technology makes it easy for scammers to fake caller ID information, so it won't always be real. If someone calls asking for money or personal information, hang up. If you think the caller might be telling the truth, they won't mind if you ask for a call back number.

Don't pay upfront for a promise. Someone will ask you to pay in advance for items they promise to ship to your address. Or a prize you won but first you have to pay taxes or fees through them. Now fake car deals are being offered on the Internet and the seller will ask for a down payment before delivery. They will take your down payment but you won't get your car.

Consider how you pay. Credit cards have significant fraud protection built in, but some payment methods don't. Wiring money through services like Western Union or MoneyGram is

risky because it's nearly impossible to get your money back. That's also true for reloadable cards like MoneyPak, Reloadit or Vanilla. Government offices and honest companies won't require you to use these payment methods.

Talk to someone before you give up your money or any personal information. Con artists will want you to make decisions in a hurry, tell you the offer is only good for right then, or they might even threaten you. Slow down, check out the story, do an online search, consult an expert, or just tell a friend.

Hang up on robocalls. If you answer the phone and hear a recorded sales pitch, hang up. These calls are illegal, and often the products are bogus. Don't press 1 to speak to a person or to be taken off the list. That could lead to more calls.

Be skeptical about free trial offers. Some companies use a free trials to sign you up for products, often telling you that you can very easily buy the product by agreeing to a small deduction from your bank account or credit card every month. Before you agree to a free trial on anything, insist on a written document or brochure be sent to you so you can read about the product. Never ever agree to give your bank account or credit card number.

Don't deposit a check and wire money back. If someone sends you a \$1,000 check and asks you to return your personal check for \$980 and keep the remaining \$20 as a handling fee, don't do it—for a friend, casual acquaintance or a family member. Not only will it be a fake or but it's a felony offense called money laundering. By law, banks must make funds from deposited

checks available within days, but uncovering a fake check can take weeks. If a check you deposit turns out to be a fake, you are responsible for repaying the bank.

If you see a tv offer that looks too good to be real, it probably is. There has been an influx of tv ads offering to provide you with medical equipment or disposable devices, pre-packaged medicine, hearing aids, eye glasses and contact lenses, any medical product that can be purchased with your Medicare card. Don't give out your card number. Taxpayer funded Medicare and Medicaid have lost millions to unscrupulous doctors, medical supply houses, and scammers.

If you get scam phone calls from a real person, hang up—or pretend to be hard of hearing and continue say: hello?, hello?; or better yet: speak Paiute—whatever your tribal language is. That just might get you taken off their list.

Sign up for free scam alerts from the FTC at ftc.gov/scams. You will receive the latest tips and advice about scams sent right to your inbox. If you spot a scam, report it at ftc.gov/complaint.

