

Journal #4899 from sdc 3.12.21

Deb Haaland confirmed

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Researchers' Information Bomb Reveals France's Devastating Nuclear Effects

The Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Joins a Proud Tradition



The Senate confirmed President Joe Biden’s pick for the secretary of the interior, Rep. Deb Haaland (D-New Mexico) on Thursday with all Democrats and four Republicans voting to advance her confirmation, which will be on Monday. Haaland’s confirmation comes a day after the Senate confirmed Michael Regan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Haaland, the first Indigenous person to be appointed to that position, has been celebrated by progressives as “a big deal.” When her nomination was announced, [Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez \(D-New York\) tweeted](#), “Historic appointment. A visionary Native woman in charge of federal lands. Unequivocally progressive. Green New Deal champion. Exquisitely experienced.”

Haaland is a supporter of the Green New Deal and has said that she will “move climate change priorities, tribal consultation and a green economic recovery forward,” as [she told the Guardian](#) last year. To climate activists, Haaland will not only be able to undo damage from the Donald

Trump years, but also move the county forward on climate goals. As interior secretary, she will have jurisdiction over federal lands and can [set policy on things](#) like oil leasing.

"Bright spot." That's how the vaccine rollout in Indian Country in Nevada is being described. In this story, Jeniffer Solis walks you through some numbers, and many of them genuinely are bright. Especially considering the logistics, distance, and yes, hesitancy, though the latter perhaps isn't as pronounced as some might have feared. As one tribal official notes, health clinics operated by tribes already know the most effective ways to reach out to their population.

[Nevada tribes 'doing a great job' at vaccine rollout](#)

2021 PTA Scholarships

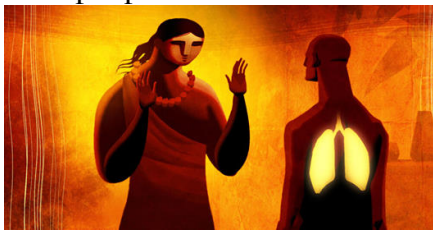
In 2021 Battle Born PTA is offering up to \$25,000 in scholarships including two new future educator scholarships. PTA membership is required to apply. [Battle Born PTA](#) is open to all Nevadans.

Battle Born PTA Scholarship – Available to Nevada High School graduates (Spring 2021 and current college students) to pursue higher education at an accredited college, university or vocational program of their choice without restriction to major. Minimum award \$500. [APPLY NOW](#)

Thalia Dondero Future Educator Scholarship – Honoring past Nevada PTA President Thalia Dondero this scholarship is available to a student pursuing a degree in education. The award is \$1,000 annually, renewable for up to 5 years. [APPLY NOW](#)

Educator Pathway Scholarship – This scholarship is available to current non-licensed Nevada public school employees, including substitutes, who wish to become a licensed educator. \$500 for part time or up to \$1,000 for full time enrollment. [APPLY NOW](#)

HOW TO APPLY: Click the **APPLY NOW** links above to complete your online application. Applicants may [preview the personal statement/short answer questions here](#) in order to be better prepared to submit the online form. **DEADLINE TO APPLY:** March 31, 2021 by 11:59pm pacific



The *film* could make history as the first Native Hawaiian *animated short* to be nominated in the category. “*Kapaemahu*” would make history as the first Native Hawaiian *animated short* to be nominated for the *Oscar*. But it's an important transgender breakthrough as well. **DEADLINE TO APPLY:** March 31, 2021 by 11:59pm pacific

Above article somehow didn't make it into Journal #4887

REMINDER: Nominations for NEJAC Membership Closes March 24, 2021

The U.S. EPA invites nominations from a diverse range of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment to its [National Environmental Justice Advisory Council](#) (NEJAC) until March 24, 2021. The Agency is seeking nominations to fill approximately seven (7) new vacancies for terms through September 2022. Vacancies are anticipated to be filled by September 2021. To maintain the representation [outlined by the charter](#), nominees will be selected to represent:

- Community-based organizations (2 vacancies)
- State and Local (2 vacancies)
- Tribal governments/ Indigenous organizations (1 vacancy)
- NGOs (1 vacancy)
- Academia (1 vacancy)

Learn more about how to submit nominations [HERE](#).

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified persons to be considered for appointment to this advisory council. Individuals are encouraged to self-nominate. The nomination process for NEJAC Membership is open until **March 24, 2021**.

For questions regarding the NEJAC nomination process, please email: nejac@epa.gov.



Colorado Lawmakers Poised To Replace Capitol's Civil War Monument With Sand Creek Massacre Memorial

Native American advocates say the Colorado state capitol is an appropriate place for the memorial to the massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho by the US military, but critics question whether it should replace a memorial to the Union Army.

<https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/179484>



'We Had a Little Real Estate Problem': Native American Comedians Get Their Due | Book review

Charlie Hill's TV debut, making him the first Indigenous comedian in prime time, is one of the milestones that Kliph Nesteroff chronicles in *We Had a Little Real Estate Problem*, an illuminating and stereotype-busting history of Native Americans and comedy

<https://historynewsnetwork.org/article/179476>

John Muir in Indian Country

By Rebecca Solnit | Mar 2 2021

Muir's romantic vision obscured Indigenous ownership of the land—but a new generation is pulling away veil

Extract: It is impossible to imagine the Sierra Club Board of Directors, at the organization's founding in San Francisco, saying they were "on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone," and it's unlikely that Joseph LeConte could have imagined or welcomed a successor like Aaron Mair. The secretary of war who preserved the battlefield at Little Bighorn (which remained under military control until 1940) could not have foreseen that someday Lakota and Cheyenne interpreters would be on the federal payroll, hired to tell their side of the story.

Now, Deb Haaland of Laguna Pueblo, a 35th-generation New Mexican, has been chosen to be the secretary of the Department of the Interior, which oversees the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and more than a fifth of the land of the United States. The past fades into the distance; the future is being made in the present. History's wrongs are invitations to set them right, and getting it right this time around has everything to do with the future of the planet as well as this turbulent nation full of stains and possibilities.

This article appeared in the March/April edition with the headline "Unfinished Business."

<https://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/2021-2-march-april/feature/john-muir-native-americaPh>



oto-Illustrations by Cristiana Couceiro

Wind Power Company Announces Plan to Breed Condors

<https://www.ecowatch.com/wind-power-company-condor-breeding-2650860823.html>

Western states chart diverging paths as water shortages loom

SOPHIA EPPOLITO and FELICIA FONSECA

<https://currently.att.yahoo.com/news/western-states-chart-diverging-paths-165331438.html>

Nevada Bill Would Bar Offensive School Mascots, Place Names By *The Associated Press* Nevada lawmakers are considering legislation that would require schools to get rid of racially discriminatory logos and mascots and require officials to push for the renaming of mountains, trails, or any other geographic points with racially offensive names.

The bill, which had its first hearing on Tuesday, comes in the wake of a national reckoning over race that has led to school and professional sports teams dropping their mascots, and activists and officials pushing to rename streets, peaks and other places that glorify the Confederacy or make offensive references to Native Americans.

[Elveda Martinez](#)

Thanks to all who are working on and supporting the passage of this bill. Marla is quoted in this article.

[Marla McDade Williams](#)

[Brian Melendez](#)

[Teresa Magnuson Melendez](#)

[Elizabeth Mercedes Krause](#)

[Janet Davis](#)

[Bethany Sam](#)

indiancountrytoday.com

[Bill would bar offensive mascots, place names](#)

['I think it's clear to many people that we have a complicated and conflict-filled racial history in this country and in Nevada'](#)

NVLeg: Environmental Bills Top Of Mind For Peters By [Paul Boger](#) • Mar 9, 2021

Listen to interview: https://kunr.drupal.publicbroadcasting.net/post/nvleg-environmental-bills-top-mind-peters?utm_source=KUNR&utm_campaign=34931d5ef1-

[KUNR+Weekday+News+Update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_124b67a55d-34931d5ef1-376827045#stream/0](#)

[NVLeg Week 5: A Little More On Innovation Zones, But Just A Little](#)

[By Paul Boger](#) • Mar 5, 2021 One month down, three to go as lawmakers in Nevada move through the 81st regular session. So far, the start of the session has been slow, but a number of large, highly anticipated pieces of legislation are set to be introduced any day now, including the measure that would create innovation zones, which would let tech companies create their own governments in undeveloped areas. KUNR's Paul Boger spoke with Morning Edition Host Noah Glick to break down the latest.

Sunshine Week, beginning Sunday, will bring transparency and Freedom of

Information fans across journalism, advocacy, and government worlds together to learn and share why it matters that everyone has a right to know the what, where, when, how, and why government makes decisions.

If you're looking to dive into the world of filing your own request, MuckRock is hosting a free training on Wednesday at 1pm Eastern. We have been sharing as many events as we can on Twitter and our FOIA Slack. Here's a few of our favorites so far:

- [The Trump Presidential Library?](#) by Open the Government at 11am Eastern on March 15.
- [The Public Has a Right to Know: How Experts Use FOIA Requests to Tell the Inside Story](#) hosted by Syracuse Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at 1pm Eastern on March 16.
- [Inside the Fight for Public Information](#) hosted by the News Leaders Association at 1pm Eastern on March 18.
- [2021 D.C. Open Government Summit](#) at 1pm Eastern on March 18
P.S.: If recent events piqued your interest, [the British Royal FOI policy is here.](#)

Supreme Court rules against access. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 7-2 against the Sierra Club's push to force the Environmental Protection Agency to release "draft biological opinions" from 2013. James Romoser writes in [SCOTUSblog](#) that Justice Amy Coney Barrett wrote the majority opinion, her first since joining the court.

'Big Ten' transparency fail. Leaders from several "Big Ten" public universities colluded to put discussion of COVID-19 response and policies [behind the veil](#) of its conferencing software rather than hashing things out over email and being subject to FOIA, Emily Giambalvo and Rick Maese report for the Washington Post.

Getting your own file. Today, [at 5 p.m. Eastern](#) (unfortunately Wednesday past), journalist and filmmaker Assia Boundaoui will offer a talk on her film "The Feeling of Being Watched," which documents how a Muslim-American neighborhood in Illinois fought back against FBI surveillance by requesting their files from the Bureau.

Remembrance: Mark Schlefer. Reason's C.J. Ciaramella offers an obituary for Mark Schlefer, World War II veteran and maritime lawyer who [helped craft the original Freedom of Information Act](#) after encountering government restriction to information in the 1960s.

What is a public record?

Possibly the most basic question, which is why it often has so many answers — and the answers are always changing. Whether or not you think you know the answer, it may be worth looking [here](#) to see if inspiration strikes

[Who Are President Biden's Cabinet Members And Key Advisers?](https://www.npr.org/2020/11/17/933848488/biden-administration-heres-who-has-been-nominated)

<https://www.npr.org/2020/11/17/933848488/biden-administration-heres-who-has-been-nominated>

[Biden's first 50 days: Where he stands on key promises](#) (AP)

Things you might not know are in Biden's COVID-19 relief package

Joey Garrison, USA TODAY (Extract)

\$5 billion for Black, Hispanic and other minority farmers

The bill appropriates \$10.4 billion for agricultural and food supply sectors, \$5 billion of which will go to socially disadvantaged farmers of color. These include Black, Hispanic, Native American or Asian American farmers.

The breakdown, [according to the Farm Bureau](#), includes \$4 billion for direct payments to cover up to 120% of a farmer or rancher's outstanding debt and \$1 billion for outreach, training, education, technical assistance and grants.

\$470 million for libraries, arts and humanities

Biden's package gives \$200 million to the more than 17,000 public libraries – many of which were forced to close during the pandemic – through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Funds are targeted for the safe reopening of libraries as well as boosting library resources – such as Wi-Fi, internet hotspots, education tools and workforce development opportunities – that are often used by marginalized individuals.

The bill also will pump \$270 million into arts and cultural organizations – split evenly among the National Endowment for the Arts and National Endowment for the Humanities – for organizations such as museums that have suffered cuts during the pandemic.

From NYT/WaPo

Yesterday was International Women's Day, first observed in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany, and Switzerland, and now a global holiday [celebrated annually](#) on March 8th to commemorate the cultural, political, and socioeconomic achievements of women.

This significant day was chosen by President Biden to issue two executive orders. One [directs](#) his new Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona, to suspend, revise, or rescind changes made to Title IX by Betsy DeVos, former education secretary during the Trump administration.

Title IX is a 1972 law prohibiting sex-based discrimination in federally-funded schools. In 2017 DeVos [reversed](#) sweeping Obama-era rule changes that provided increased protections for victims of sexual assault on college campuses. She expanded the rights of those accused of sexual assault, limited the way colleges and universities can investigate the allegations, and narrowed the definition of sexual harassment. The DeVos rule became [permanent](#) in 2020 when a federal judge dismissed lawsuits filed in an attempt to stop the changes from taking effect.

The Trump administration was successful across multiple areas of policy --- not only in education, but housing, employment, and [health care](#) --- in narrowing the definition of sex discrimination so that it does not include protections for transgender people. Efforts begun in the previous administration to establish a White House council on gender equality were dismantled. Trump's justice department filed a lawsuit seeking to block transgender students from participating in girls' high school sports.

One of Biden's first acts in office was to sign an executive order establishing gender identity and sexual orientation as protected classes under federal discrimination laws. Biden's justice department quickly retracted its support for a Trump-era lawsuit seeking to block transgender students from participating in girls' high school sports.

Biden's second executive order, signed Monday, establishes a Gender Policy Council that reports directly to him, and requires the participation of almost every cabinet secretary. Facilitating that mission is his order that a review and assessment be undertaken of any rules that could allow "discrimination on basis of sexual orientation or gender identity."

Rescinding Bird-Brained Policies

- President Biden's Interior Department has [rescinded](#) a controversial Trump-era legal opinion that gutted protections afforded to over a thousand species of birds under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918. [The Act](#) prohibits the killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transportation of protected migratory bird species.
- It makes illegal not only the purposeful killing of migratory birds --- through poaching, for example --- but also unintentional or accidental killing, called 'incidental take.' Both individuals and industries could be penalized. In 2010, the BP oil spill accidentally killed hundreds of thousands of birds in the Gulf of Mexico. The oil giant was fined \$100 million under the Act.
- The Trump Interior Department argued that the Act only prohibited intentional killing of bird species and said it would not criminally prosecute incidental killings, severely limiting the scope of the law. Under Trump's policy change, BP would not have been held responsible, or fined. Unfortunately, undoing Trump's policy change could take more than a year to complete, during which time more than a thousand species of birds will be without federal protections at a time when bird populations are already in serious decline. (NPR, Fish & Wildlife Service)

[Planning for a post-pandemic Congress underway](#)

<https://www.rollcall.com/2021/03/11/will-congress-continue-using-tech-tools-forced-by-covid-19/>

utm_source=morningheadlines&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletters&utm_content=03/11/2021

[The wonder material we all need but is running out \(BBC\)](#)

[Meet 'Gen C,' the Covid generation \(msn.com\)](#)

Tanka Regenerative Agriculture Company is hiring!

Tanka Regenerative Agriculture Company is the newest member of the Tanka family — and we're hiring!

TRAC is a South Dakota startup, aggregator of beef and bison in the added value grass-fed and organic space. The company will help with technical assistance, financing avenues and guaranteed purchase agreements, supporting producers to market grass-fed, organic, GMO-free, humanely handled, Native-raised animals.

As the company launches, we are hiring a [Business Development Manager](#) and a [Technical Assistance Coordinator](#). Click through for more details and apply today

[Eight of Literature's Most Powerful Inventions—and the Neuroscience Behind How They Work](#)

Tribal Jobs at Walker River:

Conservation Officer

Conservation Officer will be responsible for enforcing conservation, fish, hunting and other laws of the Tribe. Will provide public safety to those hunting, fishing and recreating on the reservation. Will work to manage wildlife, fisheries, water and land resources. Represents the department and Tribe to the public in a positive manner. This position will be under the supervision of the Chief of Police.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Must have a valid Nevada Driver’s license; Must provide a current DMV driving record (3 years); Must possess NV POST and/or Indian Police Academy

\$17.15-\$18.01, DOE, part-time, non-exempt

Open: February 24, 2021

Close: Open till filled

Go to the Tribe's website at wrpt.org Human Resources to get an application.

There are other jobs posted as well: In-Home Health Aide, Smokeshop Clerk, Registered Nurse, Tribal Administrator and Account Clerk.

Climate Change Linked With Shrinking Butterfly Populations

By [Stephanie Serrano](#), [Mountain West News Bureau](#)

Yet another study is showing a decline in butterflies across the American West. This latest research led by the University of Nevada, Reno says warmer autumns due to climate change are the culprit.

Matt Forister is the lead insect ecologist behind the analysis. The study focused on open spaces across the West, away from human development.

“The fact that butterflies are suffering out there in the open spaces, which includes protected parks, etc., means that we should look close to hand to better manage the lands that we can influence,” he said.

Forister said we can all play a part. For example, in our own backyards, we can choose to use insect-friendly pesticides because doing something is crucial.

“We can’t rely only on the honey bee to pollinate our crops. We need a diversity of natural pollinators moving forward,” Forister said.

The study also found that the decline in butterflies across the West is consistent in declines estimated for other groups of insects around the world. Forister said this is frightening because insects are the glue of ecosystems.

10 Years Later, The Rescued Snapshots Damaged In Japan's Tsunami (NPR)

Extract:

"When I saw lots of people who looked for their own photos from the piles of found photos, I understood that we need memories to live," he said.

Together, these images chronicle not just family history but the momentous and mundane moments of everyday life that were deemed important enough to document. We make and keep family photographs, one of the most important genres of the medium, as a way to remember and define who we are. For families rebuilding their lives after the tsunami, these kinds of images hold a special meaning.

Researchers’ Information Bomb Reveals France's Devastating Nuclear Effects

- From 1966 to 1996, France conducted 193 nuclear tests at Moruroa and Fangataufa atolls in French Polynesia. The tests included 41 atmospheric tests until 1974 that exposed the local population, site workers, and French soldiers to high levels of radiation. Now groundbreaking new research shows that France has consistently underestimated the [devastating impact](#) of its nuclear tests and that more than 100,000 people may be able to claim compensation.
- Researchers analyzed data from 2,000 pages of recently declassified French defense ministry documents, poured over maps, photos, and other records, and carried out dozens of interviews in France and French Polynesia to meticulously reconstruct three key nuclear tests in 1966, 1971, and 1974.
- Fallout from the tests was far greater than officially acknowledged. "The state has tried hard to bury the toxic heritage of these tests," said one of the researchers. "This is the first truly independent scientific attempt to measure the scale of the damage and to acknowledge the thousands of victims of France’s nuclear experiment in the Pacific." (Guardian)

“In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist.” -- [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#)

New York Times: Researchers’ Information Bomb Reveals France's Devastating Nuclear Effects

Shanna Swan is a noted environmental and reproductive epidemiologist who has studied human infertility for over two decades. In collaboration with health and science journalist Stacey Colino, Swan chronicles the rise in human infertility and the dire consequences it could have for our species in [a new book](#) whose title says it all: Count Down, How our Modern World is Altering Male and Female Reproductive Development, Threatening Sperm Counts, and Imperiling the Future of the Human Race.

- Swan received worldwide attention in 2017 for her work on falling sperm counts. From 1973 to 2011, the total sperm count of men in Western countries dropped by 59%. The quality also suffered, with more odd-shaped sperm and fewer strong swimmers capable of fertilizing an egg. Plus, the DNA they carried was also more damaged. As she explains in her book, Swan thinks the reason is likely growing exposure to "endocrine disrupting chemicals" found in everything from plastics, flame retardants, electronics, food packaging, and pesticides to personal care products and cosmetics.
- These substances interfere with normal hormonal function, including testosterone and estrogen. Even in small doses, they pose particular danger to unborn babies and young children whose bodies are growing rapidly. The hormone-warping chemicals can enter the placenta, where they have the ability to alter the anatomical development of girls and boys, change brain function and impair the immune system.
- One study cited in Count Down found that just over 25% of men experiencing erectile dysfunction were under age 40. Swan says that may be because testosterone levels have been dropping at 1% per year since 1982. As for women, the miscarriage rate has risen by 1% per year in the last 20 years. Swan predicts that if these trajectories continue, there could be a much greater need for in vitro fertilization and other artificial reproductive technologies to conceive children.

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*“When you see something that is technically sweet, you go ahead and do it and you argue about what to do about it only after you have had your technical success. That is the way it was with the atomic bomb.” -- [J. Robert Oppenheimer](#)*

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## **Fukushima Meltdowns Turn Ten, Still Getting Worse By William Boardman, RSN**

<https://readersupportednews.org/opinion2/277-75/68222-rsn-fukushima-meltdowns-turn-ten-still-getting-worse>  
Baby Tapir

*Because it is Friday:*

## **The Donald J. Trump Presidential Library Joins a Proud Tradition**

James W. Loewen [jloewen@uvm.edu](mailto:jloewen@uvm.edu)

Some progressives on Twitter argue that there must never be a Trump Presidential Library. They don't realize that [it already exists](#) . Visit it virtually to experience its many storied exhibits.

However, it tells us nothing about the *books*. Libraries are supposed to have books, are they not? Of course, Donald J. Trump was notorious for never even getting to the end of a two-page intelligence report, let alone finishing a book, so perhaps this is appropriate.

Trump did have his own library, however, consisting of just three volumes: *The Bible*, *The Art of the Deal*, and *Golf for Dummies*. It is rumored, however, that he never read any of them, even the one he "wrote." All three are still in print, however, so the new Trump Library can easily remedy its deficiency by buying them, shelving them in a closet, and titling the door "Library Stacks". Presidential libraries have the same relationship to history as a dog to a fire hydrant. The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum says you can "Immerse yourself in the dynamic history of the Kennedy Administration." Just don't expect to get a balanced assessment of his presidency, fatally flawed on Civil Rights and Vietnam. Go to the Sixth Floor Museum, in Dallas, for that.

Don't visit the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library and Museum to learn about Watergate. When it opened, of the sixteen film clips on display at the library, none treated Watergate. When it simply had to discuss Watergate, the library mystified it: "The story of Watergate is enormously complex. Even today, basic questions remain unknown and perhaps unknowable."

Ronald Reagan's "Library & Museum" displays its partisanship in the very first words on its website: "In a storied career that spanned more than five decades, Ronald Reagan inspired Americans to act and achieve even more than they imagined. His legacy thrives at The Reagan Library where events and exhibits rediscover his values, actions and spirit of determination." You won't find much about Iran-Contra, but you will encounter at least five different Reagan busts and statues, not counting several more in the gift shop.



*A special feature of the new Trump Library is its Rooftop COVID Cemetery for VIPs in Trump's orbit who fell ill and died of this horrible disease.*

Presidential libraries exist to get visitors to think *well* of their namesakes, not to think about them. In this company, the new [Trump Library and Museum](#) is a breath of fresh air. It boasts exhibits on such difficult topics as "Failed COVID-19 Response" and "Access Hollywood Tape," and it gives Trump full credit for the attack on the Capitol.

Too bad it's a spoof.