

## ***Journal #7000 from sdc 3.16.26***

***Cherokees placed traditional heirloom seeds in Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway***

***Here we are again at a seminal issue number!***

***Can White People Be Considered Indigenous? Musk's Controversial Tweet gets 75 Million Views!***

***U-Tube: History's Most Terrifying Native American Tribes You Never Knew About!***

***GOP Farm Bill Set to Unleash Pesticide Use and Strip Animal Welfare Protections***

***Trump Administration Orders Restart of Pipeline Tied to Major California Oil Spill***

***Ecuador Is Suspending the Bank Accounts of Environmental Activists***

***DHS Official Responsible for Election Security Previously Called to Ban Voting Machines***

***'My ideas are a little revolutionary': ecologist Suzanne Simard on intelligent forests/climate***

***The Battle Over Solar on Farmland***

***A Technical Question Before the Supreme Court Could Seal Fate of Line 5 Pipeline***

***Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act***

***Ancient DNA Finally Reveals Who the Polynesians Really Were***

***Mountain West has a growing number of women working in construction jobs***

***Home to the only lithium mine in the US, Nevada is ready for more***

***New Elko food hub being built to meet growing rural demand***

***California can't lead on climate while wild horses disappear***

***History Bits***

***By Organizing Acts of Public Grief, We Build the Courage to Keep Fighting***

***Geraldine Reilly***



**THE CHEROKEE NATION MADE HISTORY AS THE FIRST U.S. TRIBE TO PRESERVE ITS TRADITIONAL HEIRLOOM SEEDS IN THE SVALBARD GLOBAL SEED VAULT IN NORWAY.**

In February 2020, the Cherokee Nation made history by becoming the first Native American tribe to place traditional heirloom seeds in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway.

They safely stored nine rare seed varieties that date back to the time before European settlers arrived in North America. One of the most special seeds is the Cherokee White Eagle Corn, a sacred crop that has deep roots in Cherokee culture, food, and traditions.

The Svalbard Global Seed Vault, often called the “Doomsday Vault,” is a secure place that protects crop seeds from around the world. It helps preserve important plants in case of natural disasters, war, or climate change that could threaten global food supplies.

For the Cherokee Nation, this step is not just about farming. It is about protecting their history, culture, and identity. By saving these seeds, they are ensuring that their traditional foods and farming knowledge will live on for future generations.

This powerful effort shows how the Cherokee people are honoring their ancestors while protecting their culture and food traditions for the future.

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**Here we are again at a seminal issue number!**

This is when I ask readers to weigh in about the good, bad and ugly of the Journal. Does it serve your professional needs? Does it entertain or amuse you? Do Please do send in your critiques; this is meant to be a Journal for you, so please help me make the mark.

It is also time to thank those that contribute articles regularly: EN in Utah; MM in Minnesota; CS in Maine; TW & GS in Cal. And to the tribal secretaries who forward the sad notes of those walking on, thank you. The mocassin telegraph "ain't what it used to be" and these notices help with creating some living legacies.

One of my intents (a long time ago, in a world that existed in the 20th Century) was to create an archive of what was happening within different platforms of Indian Country so that researchers in future years could go to one site and find a lot of clues or direct links to resources so they wouldn't have to schlep from one archive to another, from one end of the country to the other to look at primary resources.

In that regard, I am especially grateful to Ernie Salgado and Gary Ballard of CALIE (California Indian Education) who have created and host a searchable archive of the Journal since 2012 (we started in 1999) at [shaynedel.com](http://shaynedel.com)

The internet has changed a lot of that making worldwide access to collections available 24/7. From categorical references to actual digitized documents, so much is readily at one's fingertips with a few search terms. Photography, documentaries, pod casts, U-tube and others infinitum, can have one spending hours on-line. So is the Journal helpful?

This decade's "innovation" is AI. Like any tool (fire, electricity, engines, etc) it has its good and bad. I think it will have great impact on medical research. The negatives, however, raise a whole list of concerns.

My greatest concern for Indian country is that AI operates somewhat like block-chain (remember that short phenomena?). After gathering lots of data/information, AI distills it into a summary that then gets locked in.

So much has been written about tribes since "first contact" and retrospectively with anthropologists, archeologists, drone exploration, X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and computed tomography (CT), to say nothing of individuals writing tomes to engrandize themselves or win sympathy for taking over of tribal assets, that I fear once these manuscripts become entombed in AI, that they will become "the truth". It is a rant, and I barely apologize, but it behooves each community to collect and examine that which has been written about them, providing commentary, refutation or information from the tribal perspective in a manner the wide public has access.

And since this publication is entering its 27th year of publication, I thought it would be fun to look back of stories/events long past:

***Journal #2515 from sdc 1.30.12***

*New Scholarship Gives Students a 2nd Chance*

*2012 Scholarship Applications are Posted - Most due by 2/28/2012*

*Protect My Family From Coal Pollution!*

*JOIN US FOR THE 1ST NATIVE AMERICAN CHAMBER MIXER*

*Expert panel recommends new tack on nuclear waste*  
*Obama's Blueprint to Make The Most of America's Energy Resources*  
*Obama's Blueprint for Keeping College Affordable and Within Reach for All Americans*  
*215 gifted students to be given \$875 each to attend program*  
*Ethel Lois Moody Dixon*  
*Norman Joseph Waller "Nummy"*

***Journal #2756 from sdc 1.1.13***

*IdleNoMore Updates*  
*Alfred B. Meacham*  
*Blue Gold: World Water Wars Trailer*  
*Museums and the Web*  
*NARF Looks at 2012/2013*  
*Empire of the Summer Moon: Quanah Parker and the Rise and Fall of the Comanches*  
*Officials worry that agriculture community will bear burden of water shortage*

***Journal #3017 from sdc 1.1.14***

*Thirteen Year Old Calls on Generation to Save the World*  
*365 Blessings*  
*Yosemite Natives*  
*The Paiute Tribe's Food System Project restores control of food system*  
*KIFARU - Wiping the Tears of Seven Generations*  
*Talking Trash and Climate Crisis: A Conversation With Chicago's Garbage Guru*  
*Mercury levels rising in expanse around Alberta oil sands*  
*Keystone XL*  
*Native History: Ku Klux Klan Formed as a Secret Fraternity in Tennessee*  
*Ho-Chunk Nation Code Talkers Song*  
*Seeking farm to table using Nevada based producers*  
*2014 Muhammad Ali Center Peace Garden Grants*  
*Four Seasons at Pyramid Lake - Summer*  
*From superstorms to sequestration, 2013 held progress and pitfalls for science*  
*Call for art*

***Journal #3377 from sdc 5.20.15***

*Education Resources*  
*Superintendent Says Yes to Beaded Caps, Says Other Districts Should Allow Feathers*  
*Does your band have what it takes to play for thousands of screaming fans?*  
*17th National Tribal Preservation Conference Update and NATHPO News*  
*Celebrating Fifty Years of Headstart*  
*Moapa Community Stands Strong*  
*Conklin named MVP of league and state : Elko*  
*Retrospect by Navajo Nation Chief Justice Herb Yazzie*  
*Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Potatoes*  
*Collaborative; community conscious events*

***Journal #3539 from sdc 1.1.16***

*Fort Hall Indian Reservation declared a Purple Heart Reservation*  
*Owyhee science students win national award*  
*How playing an instrument benefits your brain*  
*Powerful 360° immersive video tour of Alaska's gorgeous melting glaciers*  
*Tribal Earth Science & Technology Education (TRESTE)*

*A preview of what the classroom might look like in 2025 is also a look into our planet's future.*

*From average student to million dollar scholar*

*The good news about earth from this year*

*Lost Bird of Wounded Knee*

*Wounded Knee SOLD*

*Wind River Tribal College/United Tribes Technical College/Tohono O'odham Community College/*

*Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute/White Earth Tribal and Community College/Turtle Mountain*

*Community College/Stone Child College/Sitting Bull College, formerly Standing Rock Community College/*

*Sisseton Wahpeton College*

*Burning by John Berry*

*Shock: Fracking Used to Inject Nuclear Waste Underground for Decades*

*Book Nooks*

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## **Can White People Be Considered Indigenous? Elon Musk's Controversial Tweet gets 75 Million Views!**

While Indigenous peoples fight for legal recognition and land rights, a billionaire spent an afternoon turning their political vocabulary into a white grievance meme. by [Kahlil Greene](#)

On March 2, 2026, Elon Musk posted what he clearly thought was a devastating gotcha. “If one is to use the term ‘First Nations’ or ‘Indigenous Peoples’ or ‘Native Americans’ in the Americas and Antipodes,” he wrote, “then, in fairness, it should also apply to English, French, Spanish and other such peoples in Europe.”

[Elon Musk@elonmusk](#)

[If one is to use the term “First Nations” or “Indigenous Peoples” or “Native Americans” in the Americas and Antipodes, then, in fairness, it should also apply to English, French, Spanish and other such peoples in Europe](#)

[6:14 AM · Mar 2, 2026 · 74.7M Views](#)

[13.3K Replies · 22.6K Reposts · 205K Likes](#)

He then spent the rest of the afternoon amplifying replies claiming that “everyone except Europeans can have a homeland,” endorsing the idea that white people in Europe are somehow the world’s truly dispossessed, and helpfully suggesting that 250 years of ancestry in a place is “plenty” to count as indigenous. The whole exchange read less like political philosophy and more like someone who had just discovered the word “indigenous,” decided it was unfair to them personally, and logged on.

[ALX 🇺🇸@alx](#)

[@elonmusk Isn't it funny how the rest of the world doesn't care about who is native to European countries but they are obsessed with “indigenous people” in America? It's almost as if they just hate white people or something 🤔](#)

[6:17 AM · Mar 2, 2026 · 483K Views](#)

[518 Replies · 485 Reposts · 7.51K Likes](#)

The argument sounds almost reasonable on the surface. Why does the term apply to some groups but not others? Shouldn't language be consistent? But this framing has a structural problem: it ignores why the category exists at all. Strip away that history, and you have not fixed anything. You have just dissolved the term's meaning precisely because it was starting to matter.

### What “Indigenous” Actually Means

The working definition developed by Special Rapporteur José R. Martínez Cobo in his landmark 1981 United Nations study is worth quoting carefully: indigenous communities are those “which, having a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories, consider themselves distinct from other sectors of the societies now prevailing in those territories.” They “form at present non-dominant sectors of society” and are committed to preserving and transmitting their “ancestral territories and ethnic identity” to future generations. The International Labour Organization’s Convention 169 reinforces this, defining indigenous peoples as those who descend from populations present at the time of conquest or colonization, and who “retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions.”

Two pillars. Pre-colonial continuity. And present non-dominance inside a state that was built over them.

**More at:** <https://historycanthide.substack.com/p/can-white-people-be-considered-indigenous?r=5z4zi5>

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**U-Tube: [History's Most Terrifying Native American Tribes You Never Knew About!](#)**  
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### **GOP Farm Bill Set to Unleash Pesticide Use and Strip Animal Welfare Protection**

The bill protects agrochemicals producers from lawsuits, and overturns pesticide safety laws and statutes.

MICHAEL ARRIA | TRUTHOUT

### **Trump Administration Orders Restart of Pipeline Tied to Major California Oil Spill**

Environmental groups warn using the Defense Production Act to revive the system is a dangerous precedent.”

OLIVIA ROSANE | COMMON DREAMS

- **Ecuador Is Suspending the Bank Accounts of Environmental Activists** | Katie Surma | Inside Climate News
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- **DHS Official Responsible for Election Security Previously Called to Ban Voting Machines** | Doug Bock Clark | ProPublica

## Trump Administration Orders Restart of Pipeline Tied to Major California Oil Spill

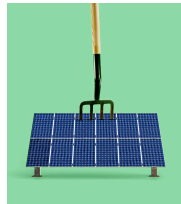
Environmental groups warn using the Defense Production Act to revive the system sets a “radically dangerous precedent.”

OLIVIA ROSANE | COMMON DREAMS

### **‘My ideas are a little revolutionary’: ecologist Suzanne Simard on intelligent forests, the climate and her critics**

[https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/mar/14/my-ideas-are-a-little-revolutionary-ecologist-suzanne-simard-on-intelligent-forests-the-climate-and-her-critics?utm\\_source=firefox-newtab-en-us](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/mar/14/my-ideas-are-a-little-revolutionary-ecologist-suzanne-simard-on-intelligent-forests-the-climate-and-her-critics?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us)

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### **The Battle Over Solar on Farmland**

Agrivoltaics is either a green revolution or a poison pill for good land. Depends which farmers you ask.

<https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2026/03/agrivoltaics-solar-farmland-oregon-farmers-green-power/>



### **A Technical Question Before the Supreme Court Could Seal Fate of Line 5 Pipeline**

Many tribal nations say the pipeline threatens their waters, treaty rights, and ways of life.

<https://truthout.org/articles/a-technical-question-before-the-supreme-court-could-seal-fate-of-line-5-pipeline/>

## Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act

NCAI invites Tribal Nations and organizations serving Indian Country to [sign on to a letter](#) to Congress urging timely passage of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) Modernization Act of 2026. NAHASDA is the primary federal law governing Tribal housing programs and the legislative foundation upon which the 575 federally recognized Tribal Nations rely to address severe housing shortages, overcrowding, housing stock shortages, and critical infrastructure needs in their communities.

This legislation would reauthorize NAHASDA programs through 2032 and modernize key provisions to help Tribal Nations better address housing shortages, rising construction costs, and evolving community needs. The bill provides targeted regulatory relief and program improvements, including:

- **Streamlining environmental reviews** for federally funded Tribal housing projects;
- **Modernizing and reauthorizing the [Section 184 Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program](#)** to expand access to private lending;
- **Allowing 99-year leasehold interests on trust land** to support long-term homeownership and development; and
- **Codifying the Tribal [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing \(HUD-VASH\)](#) program** to support Native veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Reauthorization presents a vital opportunity to strengthen Tribal housing policy, affirm the federal trust responsibility, and ensure Indian Country's most pressing housing needs are met with sustained federal support. Without reauthorization, Tribal Nations

[Read the Sign-On Letter](#)

[Section-by-Section Summary](#)

[Download the One-Pager](#)

[Read the Bill Text](#)

The deadline to sign on to the joint letter is COB Monday, March 23, 2026. Contact Matthew Vogel, NCAI Policy Lead, [mvogel@ncai.org](mailto:mvogel@ncai.org), if you are interested in joining the letter.

[Register Here](#)

## Join the Tribal Leader Briefing Session in Washington, D.C.

**Tribal Leaders, partner organizations, and congressional staff are invited** to participate in a briefing session on the NAHASDA Modernization Act of 2026.

**When:** Wednesday, March 18, 2026

**Where:** [Dirksen Senate Office Building](#), Room 628

NAHASDA is the backbone of federal housing legislation for Indian Country — yet for over a decade, it remains unauthorized. With the NAHASDA Modernization Act of 2026 now before Congress, there is a narrow and critical window to secure passage. This briefing brings Tribal leaders directly to Capitol Hill to hear from Committee Staff, key congressional Members, ask questions, and demonstrate unified Indian Country support at a pivotal moment in the legislative process.

### Agenda:

- **9:00 a.m. Briefing Starts**
- **9:00 a.m.** Short remarks from Rep. Downing
- **9:15 a.m.** Short Remarks from NCAI and NAIHC
- **9:30 a.m.** Start Staff panel walking through bill
- **10:15 a.m.** Q&A
- **10:30 a.m.** Close Briefing

[Register Here](#)

## Ancient DNA Finally Reveals Who the Polynesians Really Were



### ● The Mountain West has a growing number of women working in construction jobs. [KNPR](#)

*"But some business leaders say the construction industry needs to do more to ensure that safety equipment is gender-specific to better protect women on job sites. A recent industry report notes that [67% of women](#) in construction jobs said personal protective equipment (PPE), like helmets, don't fit well."*

### ● Home to the only lithium mine in the US, Nevada is ready for more. [WBUR](#)

*"Indigenous and environmental groups have said new lithium mines will [cut off access to sacred land](#), damage habitat, cause pollution and dry up the water supply. But Gov. Lombardo calls lithium a 'salvation' for Nevada's economy, and the state is eager to take advantage of the buzz."*

### ● New Elko food hub being built to meet growing rural demand. [Nevada Current](#)

*"The project is made possible by a \$3 million grant funded by the Nevada Department of Agriculture using American Rescue Plan funds, and will expand food access for Elko, White Pine, Eureka and Lander counties in northeastern Nevada."*

## [California can't lead on climate while wild horses disappear](#)

**CAPITOL WEEKLY, COLETTE KALUZA:** "California calls itself a leader on climate and conservation, but its treatment of wild horses tells a different story: when it comes to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) — a bedrock environmental safeguard — the state is letting these herds wither away.

I have documented federal helicopter-driven roundups across the West for years and worked inside courtrooms and public-lands planning processes. From that experience, I have seen how often wild horses are left out of the picture. When agencies treat these herds as afterthoughts, NEPA's promise of informed, transparent decision-making collapses and clears the way for removal and development."

## [Indigenous-Led Collectives Are Keeping Minnesotan Communities Safe From ICE](#)

Members of the American Indian Movement and the Many Shields Warrior Society are patrolling the streets of Minneapolis.

<https://truthout.org/articles/indigenous-led-collectives-are-keeping-minnesotan-communities-safe-from-ice/>

## History Bits

- 1493 Mar 15** Christopher Columbus wrote a letter describing Native Americans as “men of great deference and kindness” (which did not prevent him from cutting off their arms if they failed to mine enough gold to meet his quota).
- 1861 Mar 22** James W. Nye of New York commissioned as Governor of Nevada.
- 1863 Mar 22** Goshutes, lead by **Chief White Horse**, attacked Eight Mile Station, starting the Goshute War with White settlers of eastern Nevada. Goshutes asked for peace in October.
- 1874 Mar 19** President Grant signed an executive order reserving land in the region of Walker Lake Nevada, “for the use of the Pah-Ute Indians residing thereon.
- 1876 Mar 17** In a search for Crazy Horse, the US Army accidentally attacked the wrong Lakota village in South Dakota.
- 1890 Mar 21** General George Crook (Grey Wolf) died.
- 1898 Mar 20** Thirteen wagonloads of Latter Day Saints settlers from Moroni, Utah, arrived in White Pine County Nevada, where they established the hamlet of Preston.
- 1918 Mar 15** President Woodrow Wilson’s Executive Order added 34,000 acres to the Walker Lake Indian Agency.
- 1923 Mar 17** \$4000 (about \$76,082.34 in 2026) in grazing fees from leases to ranchers of tribal land was being distributed to members of the Washo tribe in Garderville area.
- 1926 Mar 18** Whites (who had constructed Derby Dam impeding spawn for Pyramid Lake) reacted to *rumors* of PI members slaughtering tons of trout to harvest spawn, demanded the US attorney or Congress or someone to do something!
- 1928 Mar 19** A judge in Independence, CA, threw out charges against six Owen’s Valley men accused of bombing the aqueduct built to carry water out of the Owens Valley to Los Angeles.
- 1931 Mar 19** Gambling was made legal again in Nevada.

- 1932 Mar 17** Tribal police and federal narcs raided an alleged Carson City opium den at 425 East 3rd Street that also reportedly served whisky.
- 1938 Mar 21** In the ongoing fight against Senator McCarran's bill to force the PL Tribe to sell part of the reservation to squatters, the tribal council asked President Roosevelt to veto it if passed and also appealed to the public.
- 1945 Mar 20** Governor Edward Carville had a bill on his desk to ratify white marriages performed under tribal law and to appropriate \$1500 (\$27,104.33 in 2026) for state acquisition of Dat So La Lee's renowned woven baskets.
- 1956 Mar 16** A federal grand jury sitting in Las Vegas recommended to Nevada's three members of Congress that the Las Vegas Indian Village be broken up, the land sold off and the Native American residents compensated for the loss of their land. *(Ed note: Probably illegal under terms of Helen Stewart's will).*
- 1965 Mar 15** Addressing a joint session of Congress, President Johnson called for new legislation to guarantee every American's right to vote.
- 1971 Mar 18** California Assemblyman Gene Chappie did not expect problems in the state for his bill, already approved by the Assembly to turn Coso Hot Springs over the Paiute-Shoshone of Inyo County.

Also on this date:

A small, sickly Virginian was born who would design a Constitution balancing power and liberty so cleverly it has endured for over two centuries. (James Madison)

[Goddard's crude rocket flew 41 feet and crashed—but proved liquid fuel could propel humanity to the Moon and beyond, opening the space age.](#)

In a Vietnamese hamlet, U.S. troops murdered hundreds of unarmed civilians—shattering American innocence and accelerating opposition to an unjust war.

[history@dayofhist.com](mailto:history@dayofhist.com)

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## **By Organizing Acts of Public Grief, We Build the Courage to Keep Fighting**

Our neighbors who confronted ICE in Minnesota have taught us how grieving gives us the courage to continue our dissent.

[https://truthout.org/articles/by-organizing-acts-of-public-grief-we-build-the-courage-to-keep-fighting/?utm\\_source=Truthout&utm\\_campaign=237dfe3677-](https://truthout.org/articles/by-organizing-acts-of-public-grief-we-build-the-courage-to-keep-fighting/?utm_source=Truthout&utm_campaign=237dfe3677-)

[EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2026\\_03\\_15\\_06\\_25&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bbb541a1db-237dfe3677-654259769](mailto:EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2026_03_15_06_25&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bbb541a1db-237dfe3677-654259769)

IN LOVING  
*Memory*  
Geraldine Reilley

Sunrise: June 23, 1948  
Sunset: March 9, 2026



Thursday March 19, 2026

**Teepee Viewing**

10 Shoshone Circle  
(Reilley Residence)  
Ely, NV 89301  
4-6 p.m

**Cry Dance**

At Dusk

Discounted Room Rates @  
Hotel Nevada and La  
Quinta (mention Reilley  
Services)

Friday, March 20, 2026

**Funeral Service**

11 a.m  
Ward Mtn - Sundance area  
Highway 6 - Mile Marker 25  
Red Ribbon at turn

**Burial**

Ely City Cemetary

Potluck following Burial  
Ely Postal Palace  
501 Aultman Street Ely, Nevada 89301  
Please bring a dish