



NHL: Islanders top the list of worst trades since 2000

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‘DEEP CONNECTION’



Amy Bowers Cordalis is a member of the Yurok Tribe and longtime water protector working to heal the Klamath River Basin in what is now Oregon and northern California. PROVIDED BY AMY BOWERS CORDALIS

Returning home connects young Native people with land, water

Debra Utacia Krol
Arizona Republic
USA TODAY NETWORK

The places Indigenous peoples call home have intertwined with their ways of life for millennia.

Their stories, foodways and cultures relate directly to their homelands. Lands, waters, plants and animals, the creatures that inhabit the waters below and the feathered creatures that soar in the air above are all interwoven into the many cultures of the Americas. Indigenous languages also play a role in rooting peoples to their lands: Many tribes’ names for themselves provide clues to their homelands.

Joseph Lee, a young Wampanoag writer, said that his people regained language, certain traditions and land in their homeland after more than 400 years of colonization: “I think it’s always this like push-and-pull fight the whole time, but we’re doing it.”

Their real story diverges greatly from the assumptions people have about the colonial era, Lee said. In the schoolbook story, “it’s like we disappeared, like those people were a footnote in that chapter and then after that they were gone.”

In fact, the Wampanoag, the Yuroks and the Tsq’escenemc are all vibrant, living cultures that have deep roots in their

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Wampanoag writer Joseph Lee, who lives in New York City, said he makes sure to make time every year to go home, where his family has managed to hold onto their land. PROVIDED BY ASLAN CHALOM

Martha’s Vineyard is the ancestral home of the Aquinnah Wampanoag, or People of the First Light. When the Wampanoag came to the island more than 10,000 years ago, they named it Noepe, or “Land Within the Waters.” Noepe is near to the heart of Joseph Lee, a young Wampanoag journalist for whom the island is a cultural touchstone.

Trump delivers posts for Christmas

Touts economic stats, targets his adversaries

Bart Jansen
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump rang in Christmas with enough social media posts to fill Santa’s sack with holiday cheer for “Radical Left Scum,” his political antagonists and what he described as the growing economy.

In return, Russia’s President Vladimir Putin wished Trump a merry Christmas and sent him a congratulatory message, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said Dec. 25.

But Trump wasn’t about to put a lump of valuable coal in the stockings

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East Wing ballroom plans set to be unveiled

\$400M project faces legal challenge, criticism

Trevor Hunnicutt
REUTERS

PALM BEACH, FL – The White House will unveil new details on President Donald Trump’s planned East Wing ballroom during a hearing in early January, according to a federal commission tasked with reviewing the project.

The new ballroom, which Trump has

said would cost \$400 million and would dwarf the adjacent White House building, has been challenged in court by preservationists, while Democratic lawmakers have called it an abuse of power and are investigating which donors are supporting it.

The National Capital Planning Commission, chartered by Congress to manage planning for Washington-area federal lands, said on its website that the White House will provide an “information presentation” on plans to rebuild the East Wing during a commission meeting

on Jan. 8.

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The commission, chaired by a White House aide and onetime personal lawyer to Trump, Will Scharf, has declined to review the demolition of the former East Wing, preparation activities at the site, or potential effects to historic properties, in what would mark the biggest change to the historic property in decades.

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President Donald Trump participates in NORAD Santa tracker phone calls Dec. 24 from his Mar-a-Lago club in Palm Beach. ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

