

December Newsletter



Mr MCKREGOR rendering a watchful eye and ear as to the going on's since last time I reported. Said task has become harder with almost constant storms blowing me around and not only in the PNW, it is ugly everywhere. It has become somewhat dangerous to be a member of the Bird Family, (No pun intended) especially in November.

har·vest

1. The act or process of gathering a crop.
2. The crop that ripens or is gathered in a season.

The amount or measure of the crop gathered in a season. The time or season of such gathering.

Forgive me, my bird brain computes harvest with crops, leaves, fruit, vegetables of which are not related to the animal kingdom. At one point during celebrating the close of Harvest killing millions of my distant relatives the Turkey and other members of the animal kingdom became a way of celebrating. I saw on Lilian's Facebook page.... without her knowing of course.... where turkeys were used as bowling balls, statues of famous people and the waste.... so much of the meat was thrown out. Pardoning one (1) Turkey by the American President did not make me feel any better. I guess if you was a Goose, Duck, Chicken or a pig....Thanksgiving means trouble.

Here is an article I found on Lilian's page under the fair use act I thought I share with you.

Thanksgiving: A Native American View For a Native American, the story of

Thanksgiving is not a very happy one. But a member of the Dineh Nation and the Yankton Dakota Sioux finds occasion for hope. An AlterNet Thanksgiving classic. **By Jacqueline Keeler / Pacific News Service December 31, 1999, 9:00 PM GMT 345369**

Print COMMENT NOW! I celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving. This may surprise those people who wonder what Native Americans think of this official U.S. celebration of the survival of early arrivals in a European invasion that culminated in the death of 10 to 30 million native people. Thanksgiving to me has never been about Pilgrims. When I was six, my mother, a woman of the Dineh nation, told my sister and me not to sing "Land of the Pilgrim's pride" in "America the Beautiful." Our people, she said, had been here much longer and taken much better care of the land. We were to sing "Land of the Indian's pride" instead. I was proud to sing the new lyrics in school, but I sang softly. It was enough for me to know the difference. At six, I felt I had learned something very important. As a child of a Native American family, you are part of a very select group of survivors, and I learned that my family possessed some "inside" knowledge of what really happened when those poor, tired masses came to our homes. When the Pilgrims came to Plymouth Rock, they were poor and hungry -- half of them died within a few months from disease and hunger. When Squanto, a Wampanoag man, found them, they were in a pitiful state. He spoke English, having traveled to Europe, and took pity on them. Their English crops had failed. The native people fed them through the winter and taught them how to grow their food. These were not merely "friendly Indians." They had already experienced European slave traders raiding their villages for a hundred years or so, and they were wary -- but it was their way to give freely to those who had nothing. Among many of our peoples, showing that you can give without holding back is the way to earn respect. Among the Dakota, my father's people, they say, when asked to give, "Are we not Dakota and alive?" It was believed that by giving there would be enough for all -- the exact opposite of the system we live in now, which is based on selling, not giving. To the Pilgrims, and most English and European peoples, the Wampanoags were heathens, and of the Devil. They saw Squanto not as an equal but as an instrument of their God to help his chosen people, themselves. Since that initial sharing, Native American food has spread around the world. Nearly 70 percent of all crops grown today were originally cultivated by Native American peoples. I sometimes wonder what they ate in Europe before they met us. Spaghetti without tomatoes? Meat and potatoes without potatoes? And at the "first Thanksgiving" the Wampanoags provided most of the food -- and signed a treaty granting Pilgrims the right to the land at Plymouth, the real reason for the first Thanksgiving. What did the Europeans give in return? Within 20 years European disease and treachery had decimated the Wampanoags. Most diseases then came from animals that Europeans had domesticated. Cowpox from cows led to smallpox, one of the great killers of our people, spread through gifts of blankets used by infected Europeans. Some estimate that diseases accounted for a death toll reaching 90 percent in some Native American communities. By 1623, Mather the elder, a Pilgrim leader, was giving thanks to his God for destroying the heathen savages to make way "for a better growth," meaning his people. In stories told by the Dakota people, an evil

person always keeps his or her heart in a secret place separate from the body. The hero must find that secret place and destroy the heart in order to stop the evil. I see, in the "First Thanksgiving" story, a hidden Pilgrim heart. The story of that heart is the real tale than needs to be told. What did it hold? Bigotry, hatred, greed, self-righteousness? We have seen the evil that it caused in the 350 years since. Genocide, environmental devastation, poverty, world wars, racism. Where is the hero who will destroy that heart of evil? I believe it must be each of us. Indeed, when I give thanks this Thursday and I cook my native food, I will be thinking of this hidden heart and how my ancestors survived the evil it caused. Because if we can survive, with our ability to share and to give intact, then the evil and the good will that met that Thanksgiving day in the land of the Wampanoag will have come full circle. And the healing can begin. Jacqueline Keeler is a member of the Dineh Nation and the Yankton Dakota Sioux. Her work has appeared in *Winds of Change*, an American Indian journal.

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It is so hard to understand 2-leggers.... Oh wait... I have 2 legs but I am a winged being. Managed to have a nice little family and raised them in the safety of Lilian's porch so I have some things to be grateful for. Only how do I get my son ready for his stay on the planet Earth. Sweetie is pretty busy these days finding food for Winter and my son is growing keeping us informed of the time hourly. I am kidding about that part... he is a free bird and not stuck in a clock like his species is mostly portrait.

CNN is a News Agency many. In fact most all countries depend on for reports from around the world. Many of their reporters put themselves in life-threatening situations to report stories from around the globe so we, the public, stay informed as to what happens to some degree on our blue Planet. It is a disgrace when CNN is labeled "FAKE NEWS" and FOX, a Right-wing News-outlet is portrait as almost the TV Station of America. In the same breath one can add the ways Internet Neutrality is being handled. Some of the older population sees the writing on the wall as to where it can lead but my little Bird Brain tells me many will miss the danger signs and end up in a rather bad situation when it comes to freedom of expression. Some foreign reporters are being arrested for reporting on certain subjects already. A dangerous path to be on....

Speaking of CNN. They are airing a series about things which happened in the past. The 70's 80's and 90's. Lilian took a look at the 90's over the holiday and it reminded me of what she does with her Newsletters each month. It shows people, places and things which occurred during these times and reminds people of how life unfolded during those times. It captures history in a non threatening format for future generations. Lets hope shortly it will be reported and recorded that the World is OK again for a minute...

300 People were killed in Cairo Egypt in an attack on a Mosque.

Over 500 people died in Puerto Rico as a result of the Hurricane. They are still waiting for help.

The United States has ruled to return refugees from Haiti back to their homeland to a devastating place of destruction.

Sex scandals are dominating our every day life.

Libya has resurrected the Slave Markets and is openly selling Human Beings.

Storm ravage the world.

Oil-spills on Native Lands polluting drinking water.



Vulcan erupting in Bali



Vulcan erupting in Mexico

The state Supreme Court ruled Thursday that Waterville educator Jin Zhu had a sound basis for his anti-discrimination lawsuit against North Central Educational Services District No. 171, upholding a \$450,000 federal jury award Zhu won from the ESD last year.

An American Bi-racial Actress is marrying Princess Diana's youngest Son. Some object a bit but let it be known that British Royalty had people of color in the blood line in the past. Somewhat refreshing if you ask me, considering race relations in the Human Kingdom and than of course there is my little Mixed Family. Guess I am considered a Youngster, my lifespan is 10-12 years, the longest living raven known lived 23 years. However, she was NOT related to me that I know of. Lilian is sad that she has so little interaction with her Grandchildren, the things she could tell them, she is in the Winter of her life and has so many stories, at least she will leave a written record of some things for them and one day they may deem it to be important to know who their Grandmother/Great Grandmother was.

2017 is almost at the end, it has been good to live here and share time and space and observe Human behavior. Humans have become somewhat more uncaring within the last few month, some are hopeful that it will get better soon.

Lilian is familiar with Dineh Etiquette and was ashamed of the President when he insulted the Navajo Code Talkers. It could be a teaching moment but there have so many incidents of this nature and one wonders if there is an end to it soon. The world is watching and sadly following the lead of the madness. Darkness arrives at 3 PM and it makes it so much easier to take a peep at the Telly through the window. We have to stop feeding my son Crow Food he has grown so much and if not careful will no longer fit in little door window.



Love and Light
Mr. McKrekor



This will give you an idea as to how to behave when visiting Navajo Land,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVtCjbFk3hs>