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Early CRUISER




"Large enough to serve you.... Small enough to care"

2020 Buick Encore - 14,484 miles - **\$24,995** #17762A



2018 Ford Escape - 23,012 miles - **\$27,995** #20981C




2017 Jeep Grand Cherokee - 44,116 miles - **\$32,995** #38839A



2017 Hyundai Accent - 56,267 miles - **\$13,995** #43169A



2017 Buick LaCrosse - 50,326 miles - **\$23,995** #79235A



2016 Ford F-150 - 67,420 miles - **\$37,995** #32696A




2015 Hyundai Santa Fe - 96,639 miles - **\$17,995** #48989B




2015 Kia Optima - 71,530 miles - **\$16,995** #27452A



2015 Jeep Cherokee - 148,052 miles - **\$12,995** #67650C



2014 Chrysler Town & Country - 114,176 miles - **\$13,995** #17649B



2008 GMC Acadia - 91,408 miles - **\$13,995** #18756B



2006 Chevrolet Silverado - 160,901 miles - **\$19,995** #08841A



Around Indian Country

Wash. court undoes piece of racist past

Apparently, it takes a while to clear residual bigotry from a state's laws and precedents. This month, the Washington Supreme Court took the final step in overturning a century-old racist decision.

The case involved Alec Towessnute, a member of the Yakama Nation. In 1915, he was arrested for fishing in the Yakima River miles away from any tribal lands. A lower court exonerated him because a treaty between the Yakama and the federal government guaranteed fishing rights where he was.

Prosecutors appealed, and the Supreme Court con-

cluded that there was no native sovereignty, treaties weren't binding, and any rights to the land and fisheries came from white settlers.

"The premise of Indian sovereignty we reject. The treaty is not to be interpreted in that light. At no time did our ancestors in getting title to this continent ever regard the aborigines as other than mere occupants, and incompetent occupants, of the soil," the court wrote in its shockingly bigoted decision. "Only that title was esteemed which came from white men."

In 2014, the Legislature

passed a law that gave Native American defendants and their heirs the right to have convictions overturned if they were exercising their treaty fishing rights. Many did, but Towessnute's heirs hit a snag. Though his name was on the Supreme Court case, no one could find records of his actual conviction.

So the Supreme Court intervened last year. It issued an order repudiating that old decision and clearing Towessnute. This month, it elevated that order to an opinion of the court. Now the legal precedent in Washington is once again what it should be.

Whale of a controversy for treaty tribe

In exchange for ceding thousands of acres of land to the U.S. government in 1855, the Makah, of coastal Washington state, secured the right to continue hunting whales under the Treaty of Neah Bay.

That treaty established the Makah as the only U.S. Native American nation with a whal-

ing right clearly specified in its treaty—though the tribe voluntarily stopped hunting in the 1920s, when the gray whale population dwindled dangerously due to overzealous commercial whaling.

By the 1940s, only a few hundred eastern Pacific gray whales swam in the Pacific

Northwest.

The whales have since rebounded to a healthy population, numbering around 26,000 today. Which is why the Makah sought an exemption to the federal ban on whaling.

The Makah are arguing that this right is already guaranteed.

Fire season

The 2021 fire season officially opened last week. The limited precipitation across the region this spring has affected down woody fuel moisture content, as well as the condition of live vegetation fuels and their susceptibility to fire ignition and spread.

Conditions are unseasonably dry and at an increased risk of fire spread. The start of fire season, May 15, is historically early. Typically weather and fuels in the Central Oregon region begin to warm and dry in late May or early June, with fire season usually beginning in mid-June. However the lack of spring rains this year and the rapid loss of snowpack in the higher elevations has moved this timeframe forward by several weeks.

STEPPING UP 2.0

We are bringing back our one month STEP CHALLENGE, so get out your fitbits and step counters and get ready to walk!

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