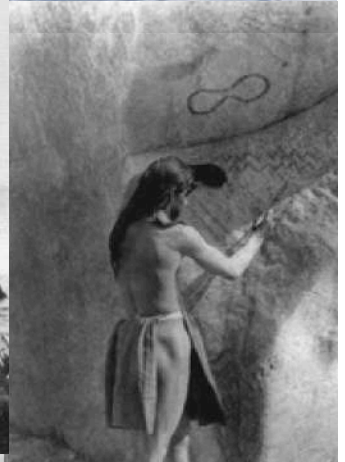




# VENICE 2020

# *Celebrating Our First People*



2020 Venice Community Calendar  
Sponsored by Betsy Goldman  
**A GIFT TO VENICE**





## THIS YEAR MARKS THE 115TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF VENICE.

To celebrate that occasion... we are going back in time to honor our indigenous people - those who first lived on our beautiful land.

Ten thousand years ago, our first people of Uto-Aztec heritage, migrated West from the harsh Sonoran desert of Nevada to the shores and mountains of the Pacific. They believed they had discovered an earthly paradise. A land abundant with wild life, fresh water, edible plants and a living sea.

The Indians had no tribal name, but like individual states, were known by their village names. The village on Venice land was the Saangna (Place of the Sun). Other village names included Cahuenga, Topanga, Pacoima, and Azusa. The largest area of indigenous settlements stretched seaward from what is now Laguna Niguel, Playa Vista, Venice, Santa Monica up to Malibu. The basin of Southern California.

Paternal families made up each village. A chief, either a man or a woman, ruled over the villages. They were a peace-loving people, even settling arguments by sing-outs that could last for days upon days.

In 1542, Spanish explorer Juan Cabrillo sailed past Catalina, but did not go ashore. Elders in canoes, brought gifts to him. He observed that the male natives were naked and wore their hair in a bun - (better for hunting and gathering). Women wore skirts of tule grass or animal skins, their long hair in bangs, their faces festooned with tattoos and jewelry. Children were treated as god-like - and together villagers watched over each child.

Paternal families often lived with each other in high mounded huts called Kizh - meaning "people of the willow houses". Kizh (keech) became the initial generic name for the first people. The huts were comfortable. Animal pelts provided warmth and a moveable roof cap allowed ventilation for the cooking fire within. The indigenous diet included meat from the hunt, but the mainstay was sea food - and acorns, the acid neutralized into a nutritious meal.

Hunting tools, decorated hairpins, mortars for grinding, fish hooks, braided tule ropes, stone amulets, pine driftwood canoes capable of holding 20 people... basketry and painting were all part of their industrious, creative life. Their prophet, Chingishnish, was their "creator" - the centerpiece for rituals marking the summer and winter solstice.



But all this would forever change and tragically disappear in a matter of sixty years. In 1770 - two hundred and twenty-eight years after Juan Cabrillo's brief, friendly encounter, Spanish troops and Father Juniper Serra arrived, assigned by the King of Spain and the Papacy to civilize and Christianize the "pagans."

Genocide ensued. Gathered by the thousands to build a chain of missions, the indigenous people were re-named Gabrielinos, after the first mission, San Gabriel Arc'angel. Native Americans became our nation's first slaves. Forced into relentless labor, they also died from a change in diet, European disease... and emotional grief for their lost culture.

The tribal name Tongva (people of the earth) was first recorded in 1903. The name was recognized by the state of California as "the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles Basin." But other divisional names are still current (see sidebar). Today there are less than a thousand Angelinos whose ancestry dates back to these first people.

In the promising 12 months ahead, give yourself time to walk on the beach. When you do, remember those who first lived, worked, and celebrated on our Pacific shores. They took the same walk. It's where they launched their canoes and caught fish for their family. Discover who these people were - and are. Help them rediscover their vibrant heritage.

They will welcome you.

*'Aweeshko 'Emuut Tameevngey! / Happy New Year*



### *Changes To An Indigenous Tribal Name*

Our indigenous people's native language was nearly erased by forced abdication to the missions, but is currently being revived. However, due to inter-tribal choice, and a 19th century error in translation, California's southern native tribe continues to be known under several names.

- **KIZH:** (keech) 'People of the willow houses' became the nation's first audible and recorded tribal title, which reflected the name of a village near the Whittier Narrows, ten miles from contemporary Los Angeles. It is where the Spanish first attempted to build a mission, abandoning the effort due to the chance of flooding. The Spanish called the Indians, *Kichereenos*.
  - **TOBIKHAR:** (the settlers) The Spanish noted that *Tobikhar* is what the Indians called themselves who were indentured to build the missions.
  - **GABRIELINO:** Village names were abandoned as the Indians were enslaved to build the first mission at San Gabriel and five other missions. They became Christian novices, re-named the *Gabrielinos*.
  - **TONGVA:** In 1903, an ethnographer's mis-noted abbreviation of the village name *Toviscangna* was *Tongva*. The name has been embraced by a large percentage of the tribe.
  - **GABRIELINO/TONGVA:** In 1994 California State Legislature officially recognized the tribe using the dual nomenclature.
- The Federal government, which promised the Gabrielino's recognition and 8.5 million acres of reservation has been pending in Congress since 1997.

The Venice Community Calendar is a nonprofit gift to the Venice Community. For their guidance, special thanks to: Dr. Wendy Teeter: UCLA, Fowler Museum, Curator / Lecturer; Dr. Pam Munro, UCLA Professor Emeritus, Indigenous Languages of the Americas; Julia Bogany, Native American Consultant.

2020 photos are, in the majority, from Gabrielino Nation archives. Additional credits: January: Tongva male elder - courtesy of the Autry Museum of the American West. February: "Wioyt's Children" painting by Mary Leighton Thomson. April: (insert) courtesy of Anthropology section, Los Angeles County History Museum. May/September: Stephen Pouliot courtesy of the Autry Museum of the West. Back cover: Juana Maria: George Nedever Estate; Toypurina sculpture by Rick Hill.

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## *Community Structure*

**Our first people developed a sophisticated society, both in their economy and leadership. Whether it was food, shells or beads, they traded with each other - and neighboring tribes, like the Chumash who lived on Catalina. Tribes as far east as Arizona came to barter for treasured sea life.**

**Work guilds were developed, to insure a standard of quality in boat building and pottery making. A community leader could be either a man or a woman.**

**Treasurers and messengers were also prominent. All tribes recognized a universal creator - *Chinigchinich* - also known as *Quaoar*, who built the world on the backs of seven mythic turtles who swam together in the vast sea. When the turtles moved - an earthquake resulted.**

*pokuu'* JANUARY 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
BetsySellsVenice.com

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**



**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

December 2019 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28		53rd <b>Penguin Swim Club</b>  New Year's Day	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	Full Moon 	11
12	PXL THIS 23	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24 New Moon 	25
11th <b>Venice Film Fest</b>	26	27	28	29	30	31	



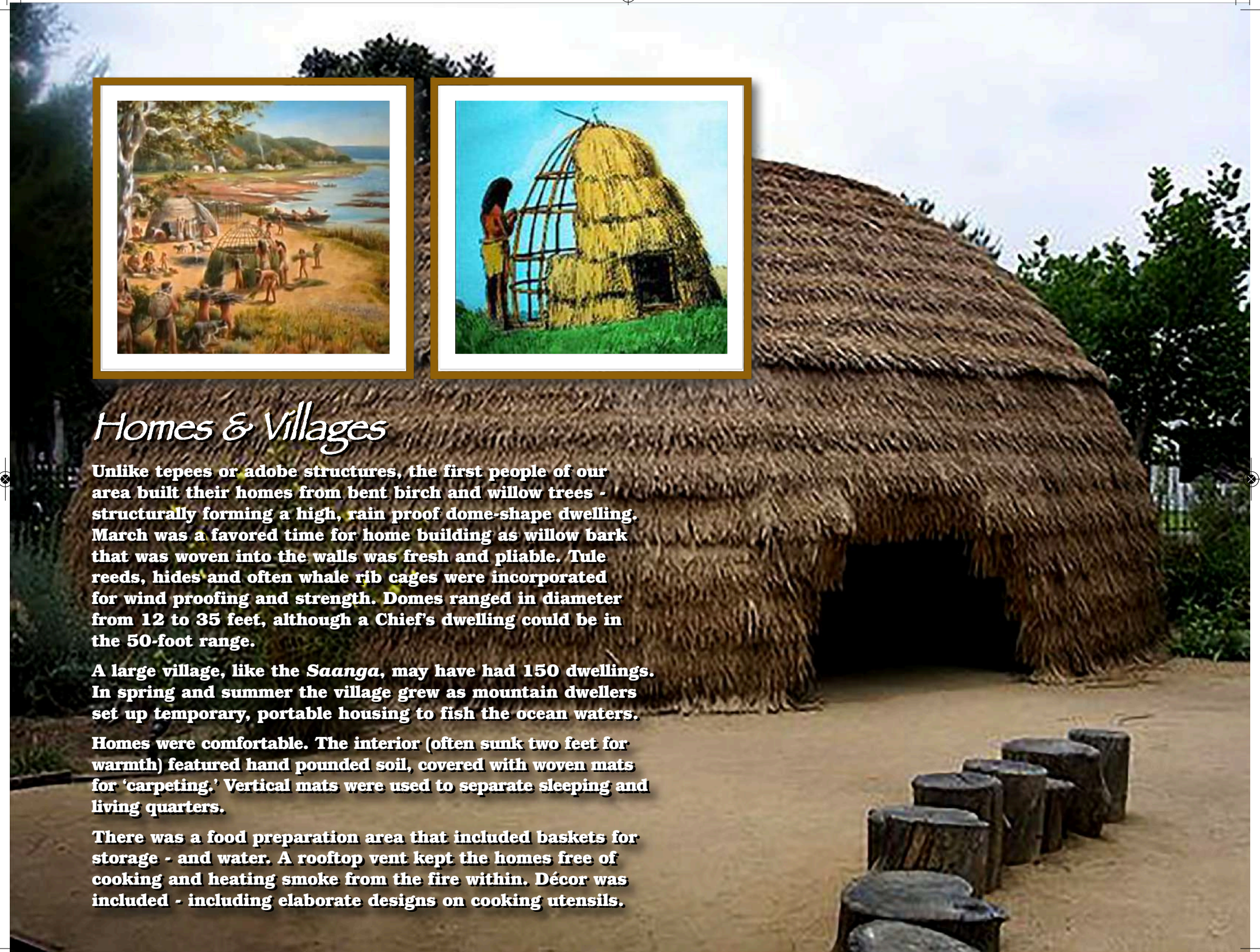
## Homes & Villages

Unlike tepees or adobe structures, the first people of our area built their homes from bent birch and willow trees - structurally forming a high, rain proof dome-shape dwelling. March was a favored time for home building as willow bark that was woven into the walls was fresh and pliable. Tule reeds, hides and often whale rib cages were incorporated for wind proofing and strength. Domes ranged in diameter from 12 to 35 feet, although a Chief's dwelling could be in the 50-foot range.

A large village, like the *Saanga*, may have had 150 dwellings. In spring and summer the village grew as mountain dwellers set up temporary, portable housing to fish the ocean waters.

Homes were comfortable. The interior (often sunk two feet for warmth) featured hand pounded soil, covered with woven mats for 'carpeting.' Vertical mats were used to separate sleeping and living quarters.

There was a food preparation area that included baskets for storage - and water. A rooftop vent kept the homes free of cooking and heating smoke from the fire within. Décor was included - including elaborate designs on cooking utensils.



# wehee'

## FEBRUARY 2020

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**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**



**TUESDAY**

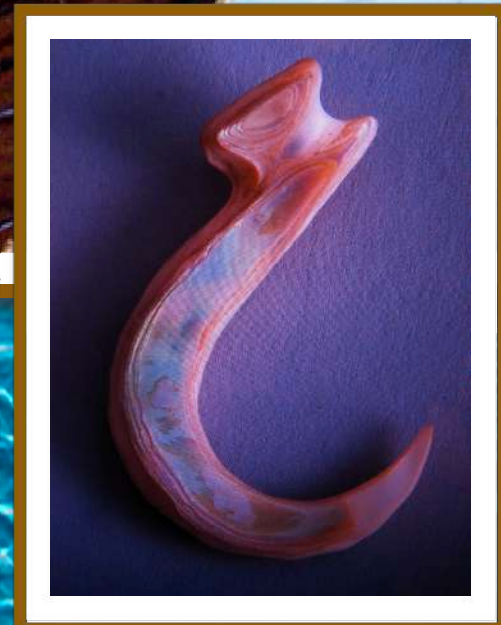
**WEDNESDAY**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

January 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	March 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31						1	
Groundhog Day - Super Bowl LIV								Full Moon 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	Lincoln's Birthday	12	13	Valentine's Day	14	15
16	Presidents' Day - Washington's Birthday	17	18	19	20	21	22	22
New Moon 								
23	24	Shrove Tuesday	25	Ash Wednesday	26	27	28	29



## *Daily Sustenance*

**Abundant plant and wildlife turned our indigenous people into great hunters and fishermen. Their diet was varied and nutritious - ranging from roasted grasshoppers, sardines and whale meat - to wild strawberries and roasted hyacinth bulbs, clover, and their daily staple - a sweet tasting, cold acorn meal.**

**Bathing was a daily morning ritual, not only for cleanliness, but to reduce human scent for the hunt. Likewise, intimacy was avoided before hunting due to the distraction of human aroma.**

**Fishing and hunting nets were woven out of cattail reeds. The first people also used bows and arrows, slings, traps and clubs to capture their prey. Fishing hooks, like the one depicted, were carved from abalone or mussel shells. Hunters never tasted or ate what they caught, believing that it would diminish their hunting skills. Therefore, sharing became a tradition between hunters and tribal villages.**

**In October, all families gathered to climb and shake branches of the great inland Oak trees - storing acorns, a key source of nutrition, for the winter months.**





*paahe'*

MARCH 2020

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SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Full Moon 					
Daylight Savings Time begins	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	St. Patrick's Day	17	18	Spring begins	19
			New Moon 			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31		February 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	April 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	





## *What Our First People Wore*

**If you were to walk into the Saangna village of six thousand years ago - you would encounter a people who created their practical wardrobe from the earth. Because of the warm weather, men and children would be naked. You might see a hunter fitting a cured, hollowed-out deer head over his own - stealthily moving on his knees with bow and arrow in hand. In cooler weather the hunter might wear a cape of animal pelts - or for celebrations, a cape of colorful bird feathers.**

**Women wore skirts crafted out of rabbit hides, tule, plant fiber and the soft bark of cottonwood trees. Fringe and a décor of shells were often added.**

**Both men and women wore their hair long, parted in the middle. A single braid down the back - woven with shell beads was also popular. Or worn up, in a bun, secured with shell pins.**

**Although most went barefoot, when travel was necessary, natives made sandals from strong grasses, animal hides and yuccas fiber.**

**Females were tattooed as infants. A cactus thorn was used to prick the skin. Charcoal from the mescal plant provided "ink" - leaving a blue color. Red ochre was used as rouge and sun screen. Black, red, white and blue were sacred colors used in clothes and village ceremonies.**

# wachaa' APRIL 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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**SUNDAY      MONDAY      TUESDAY      WEDNESDAY      THURSDAY      FRIDAY      SATURDAY**

			April Fool's Day 1	2	3	4
4th <b>Beyond Baroque Awards Dinner</b>		Full Moon ○				
Palm Sunday 5	6	7	Passover begins at sundown 8	Passover 9	Good Friday 10	11
Easter Sunday 12	13	14	Tax Day 15	16	17	18
			New Moon ●			
19	20	Holocaust Remembrance Day 21	Earth Day 22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	March 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	May 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

## The Native Garden

The verdant plant life in the southern California basin was thoroughly utilized by our First People. Wild vegetation grew on the hillsides, spilling to the shore. The leaves, berries, flowers and roots provided nourishment, medicinal remedies, raw material for building homes, storage and clothing. Over 90 wild plants have been identified as part of our Indian heritage. Like the plants on this page, many can be seen at the Tongva Garden, an outdoor display at the Autry Museum of the American West.

Shamans of the time had a keen knowledge of plant power - especially the Jimson weed, from which they prepared a hallucinogenic drink called *maanet*. The liquid, which magically freed the spirit, was given to boys as part of their three day initiation into manhood.



Agave



Cliff Maid



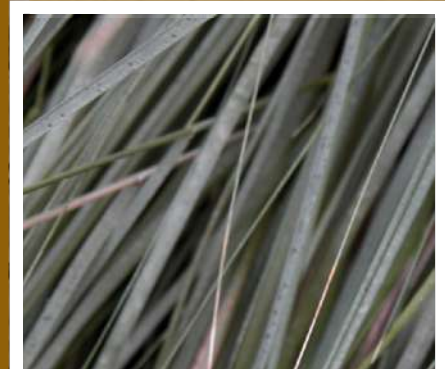
Soft Rush



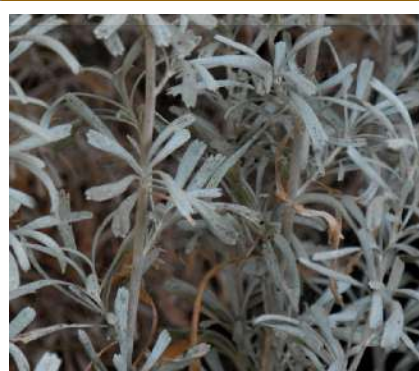
Yarrow



Jimson Weed



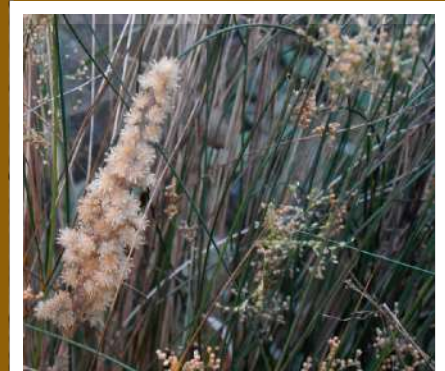
Deergrass



Mountain Sagebrush



Mugwort



Goldenrod



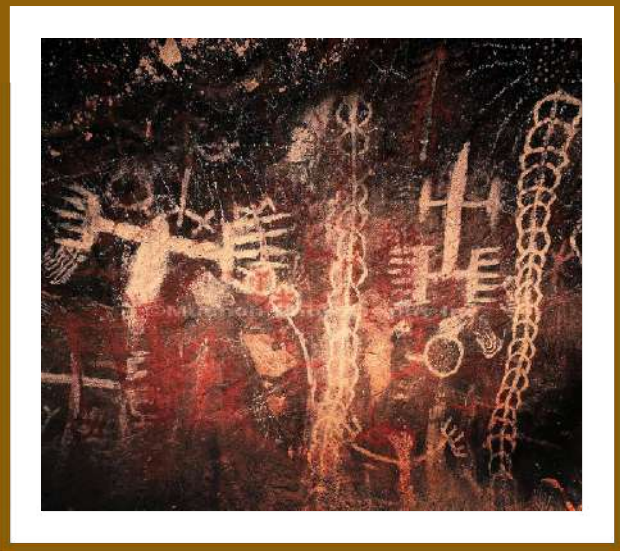


## *Solstice Ceremonies*

**Shamans and medicine men kept watch over the night - seeking signs that would influence the will of their tribe. Comets were a potent source of mystery and interpretation, as were the summer and winter solstice.**

**Reflective of Stonehenge, the Gabrielino's used a rock formation through which the young summer sun penetrated to indicate the new season. The occasion was celebrated with drumming, singing, dancing - and predictions of the year to come. Depicted above... Chief Red Blood Anthony Morales, Dee Roybal Guiding, Young Cloud Andrew Morales and Adela Garcia.**

**Archeologists also believe rock paintings marked the solstice. The inset painting at Burro Flats, (about 30 miles northwest of Los Angeles), is thought to have been a co-creation between the Gabrielino and Chumash tribes. The drawing dates back to the 1400s. The cave and area have been designated a National Historic Landmark.**



# pavaahe'

JUNE 2020

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SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						Full Moon 	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Flag Day	14	15	16	17	18	Juneteenth	New Moon  Summer begins
Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				May 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	July 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



## *Gabrielino Tools*

The Gabrielino natives utilized the natural world around them to create wood and stone tools for daily survival. Highly polished bowls, hollowed out with burning charcoal accompanied other decorative utensils shaped from willow, ash, and driftwood. Spoons, cups, trays - all were a daily part of life.

A variety of chipped and carved stones, provided more tools. Sandstone, soapstone, obsidian and quartz were used, patiently turned into food mortars, pestles - and knives. Concave stones with a hole near the edge, were used as frying pans - a stick with a hook - to remove the hot "pan" from the fire.

As most of the prey they hunted was small (like rabbits), the first people invented a hinged stick snare to catch them. They also used a donut shaped rock with a hole in the center. The rock could have been used as a flying club, a fishing weight - or some believe a sun staff for rituals of the solstice.

Arrows were made from both hardwood and quartz, elaborately attached to a hard straight reed - and sometimes coated with rattlesnake venom. Women of the tribe collected "fired" arrows that missed their target - to be used again.



# wachaa' kavyaa'

JULY 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

<p>June 2020</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6</p> <p>7 8 9 10 11 12 13</p> <p>14 15 16 17 18 19 20</p> <p>21 22 23 24 25 26 27</p> <p>28 29 30</p>	<p>August 2020</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p> <p>30 31</p>					<p>Full Moon </p> <p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Venice's 115th Anniversary</b></p> <p>U.S. Independence Day</p>
			1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	New Moon 					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Parents' Day	26	27	28	29	30	31

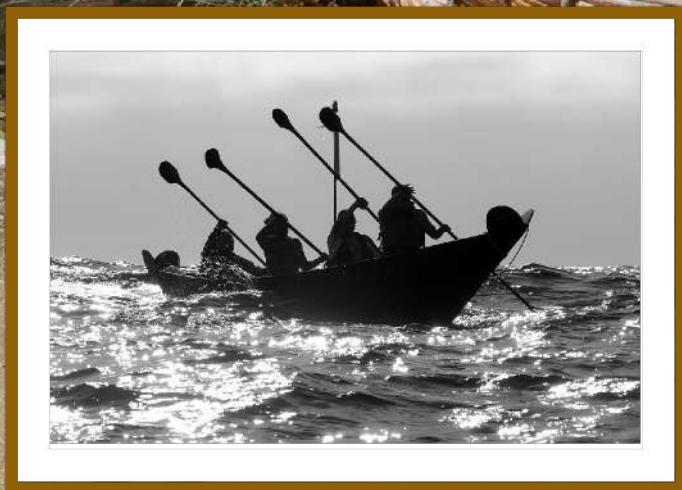
## The Good Sea

**In 1521, Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan sailed into our waters and named the ocean Mar Pacifico, "the peaceful sea." Our First People may have called it *ti-hrlko mo'mot* - "the good sea."**

**The Gabrielino's became master navigators, traveling along the coast and to the islands by canoe - a vessel considered the greatest technical achievement of their civilization. The plank canoes (*te'aat*) were from 10 to 30 feet long - "stitched" together using hand-cut redwood, pine or driftwood planks, then drilled, sanded with shark skin and tightly laced together with cord. After "curing", they were tarred and painted red with hematite. Shells and bits of bright abalone decorated the prow. A double oar was used by six to eight men - and a boy at the stern bailed out any water that seeped in.**

**Plank canoes were used for deep sea fishing. Dugouts - from single trees - were maneuvered in more shallow waters, and were light enough to be carried by a single man. Tule canoes, like the one depicted here, were built by bundling reeds in three to five bunches secured by cord.**

**The natives traveled to Catalina and the other islands in tule canoes - if the waters were calm. As with hunted food, no fisherman ate his own catch - but shared it with the tribe. Likewise, fishermen benefited by his fellowman's catch of tuna, bonita, sardines, blue and yellowtail, to name a few favorites. Effigies were made of canoes and sea creatures - and the spiritual circle-of-survival was always recognized with gratitude.**



# weheesh wachaa'

AUGUST 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

July 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	September 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30						1	
38th <b>Festival of the Chariots</b>	Full Moon 							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	New Moon 	19	20	21	22		
23	24							
30	31	25	26	27	28	29		

## *An Expressive, Artful People*

Centuries ago, the seed of our town's artistic spirit began with those who came before us. Our First People were very involved in expressing themselves. In song, in dance. In painting. In telling elaborate, mythical stories - and in yearly ritual ceremonies. They also loved athletic games - and gambling.

Musical instruments were crafted from a number of sources. They played flutes from deer bone and whistles from cane or bird bones. Rattles shook the air during Winter Solstice--some made of bear teeth and claws, others of deer hoofs. And, like those depicted here - turtle shells, (small rocks hanging within) - a featured clam shell rattle - and snap of a split clapper. The large hollow instrument called a 'bull roarer' was swung rapidly in a circle overhead - to make an eerie fluttering sound.

Singing was a way of life among tribal members. They created songs - memorized them - and passed them down, generation to generation. Songs of travel... songs to heal... songs about themselves.

Recordings of Gabrielino songs were recorded in 1926 and can be heard at the Archives of Folk Song at the Library of Congress, and at the National Anthropological Museum.







## *To Hold - Store - Carry & Catch*

**The intricate artistry of the early Gabrielino nation is reflected in their ability to weave baskets and containers of complex geometric design, color and utility. Women of the tribe combined cattails, various wild grasses, water rushes and willow shoots to achieve woven material of practical strength. Some of the baskets were woven so tightly they became water-proof.**

**Men of the tribe wove nets of various sizes to catch fish, birds, and small game. Sea grass, surf grass, yucca fiber, milkweed and willow fiber were all used for netting.**



# weheesh mahaar

OCTOBER 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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SUNDAY

MONDAY




TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

September 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	November 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			Full Moon   1		
4	5	6	7	9th <b>Other Venice Film Festival</b> 8	9th <b>Other Venice Film Festival</b> 9	9th <b>Other Venice Film Festival</b> 10
9th <b>Other Venice Film Festival</b> 11	<b>Indigenous Peoples Day</b> Columbus Day 12	13	14	15	New Moon  16	17
18	19	20	21	22	United Nations Day 23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	Full Moon  Halloween 31



## *The Gabrielino Create A Mission*

**Although they were not the architect, our first people were the forced laborers and craftsmen of California's 4th mission, San Gabriel Arc'angel. They would eventually help build twenty-one missions from San Diego to Sonora.**

**For the Spanish Empire, the missions served as visible anchors of their expanding territory, and acted as a detriment to British and Russian expansion.**

**The Gabrielinos, (who initially offered gifts, including land to the Spanish) were mystified by the Franciscan missionaries: men with round bald-spots, dressed in long robes who kept "pointing" in four directions (*the sign of the cross*).**

**When the military began separating the men and women in the villages, the Indians physically resisted with bow and arrows. However, when the missionaries produced a large painting of Our Lady of Sorrows, the Gabrielinos threw down their weapons - and "were transfixed in wonderment."**

**As the first people learned the skills necessary to build the mission, battles and discontent continued. Every catastrophe fell upon them from rape to severe lashings, confined quarters, imprisonment, foreign food and disease.**

**Even after baptism, many of the Gabrielino "neophytes" escaped. During the late 1800s and early 1900s, the swift decline of the Gabrielino people, their language and culture became a tragic reality.**





# weheesh mahaar koy pokuu' NOVEMBER 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Daylight Savings Time ends	1	2	Election Day	3	4	5	6	7
								New Moon ●
	8	9	Veterans Day	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	22	23	24	25	Thanksgiving	26	27	28
		Full Moon ○						
	29	30						

October 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



## Rediscovery

**This is Kuruvunga Springs, one of the few sacred places of the Gabrielino Nation still intact. It is a California State Landmark - and means "a place where we are in the sun." Located on the campus of University High School on Barrington Avenue in West L.A., you can visit the springs on the first Saturday of each month. Ceremonies are held there. Check out the *Kuruvunga* site - and plan on going. When you brush your hand into the water, think about the early contributions and sacrifices made by our indigenous people.**

**Today, there are an estimated 300 to 1000 California residents who carry on the Gabrielino gene. But there is a vital renewal happening. Ancient traditions are being shared with a new generation by elders such as Julia Bogany (pictured below). Indigenous Peoples Day is a growing movement across our nation. An exciting new era has arrived - dedicated to learning about and celebrating our earliest heritage. It's an opportunity for all of us to embrace our First People's art, music, dance - their stories, struggles, fables and myths.**

**Our community of Venice celebrates this early heritage. It continues to enrich all of us who live in this fabled Great Basin. The magic cup of southern California.**

*'Anaangere 'ekwaa woo* | We are still here...



**Julia Bogany**  
Gabrieleno / Tongva  
elder



**Today's New Generation**

**RECOGNIZE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS**  
**WE EXIST WE RESIST WE RISE**



# weheesh mahaar koy wehee'

DECEMBER 2020

*Betsy Goldman*  
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SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

		1	2	3	4	5			
6	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	7	8	9	Hannukkah begins at sundown	10	Hannukkah	11	12
		New Moon ●							
13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
20	Winter begins	21	22	23	24	Christmas	25	Kwanzaa begins	26
			Full Moon ○						
27	28	29	30	New Year's Eve	31	November 2020 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	January 2021 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		



## *Gabrielino Heroines*

**If asked to name an Indian *woman* of historical importance, the legendary Pocahontas comes to mind. However, there are two of our indigenous women who deserve special recognition for their courage, leadership and wisdom.**

**In 1835, missionaries sailed to remote San Nicolas Island off Santa Barbara to relocate the last Indians still living there. Among them was a woman, in her mid-thirties. Before boarding the ship, she suddenly fled, exclaiming, "I left my child behind!" And the ship sailed without her.**

**Fifteen years later (!) when hunter George Nidever sailed to the island to trap sea otters, he discovered signs of human life: a shelter of whale bones and sage brush - food preparation and storage. Nidever had found "The Lone Woman". Her child had perished, but under the harshest circumstances, she had resolved to live. Nidever convinced her to return with him to Santa Barbara where she was baptised, Juana Maria, and became a town celebrity. Sadly, after experiencing "civilization" for seven weeks, she suddenly passed away.**

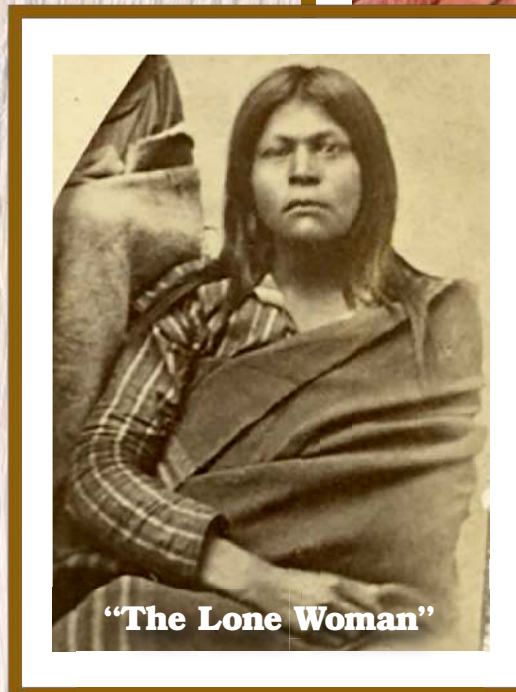
**Receiving more contemporary recognition, including Venice murals and Judy Baca's sculpted Metro tribute, is the medicine woman, Toypurina - often called the Gabrielino's St. Joan. Devastated by the colonial disrespect of her people's culture, Toypurina helped organize six villages to invade San Gabriel Mission to exterminate the European invaders. However, a Gabrielino living at the mission was overheard talking about the invasion - and the attack failed. Toypurina was put on trial. Required to answer ten self-indicting questions about the raid, she famously proclaimed her intent - "Be brave and fight."**

**As punishment the unlikely leader was sent to the farthest mission at Carmel, where she learned to speak Spanish. Forced to divorce her husband, she was coerced into marrying a Spanish guard.**

**The strength and steadfast endurance of these early native women "The Lone Woman" and Toypurina - is a vivid testament to the heart and integrity of our indigenous people.**



**Toypurina**



**"The Lone Woman"**



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