

Giving Makes Earth Sacred



2024 Annual Report

114

Monday, Oct. 2, 1865.

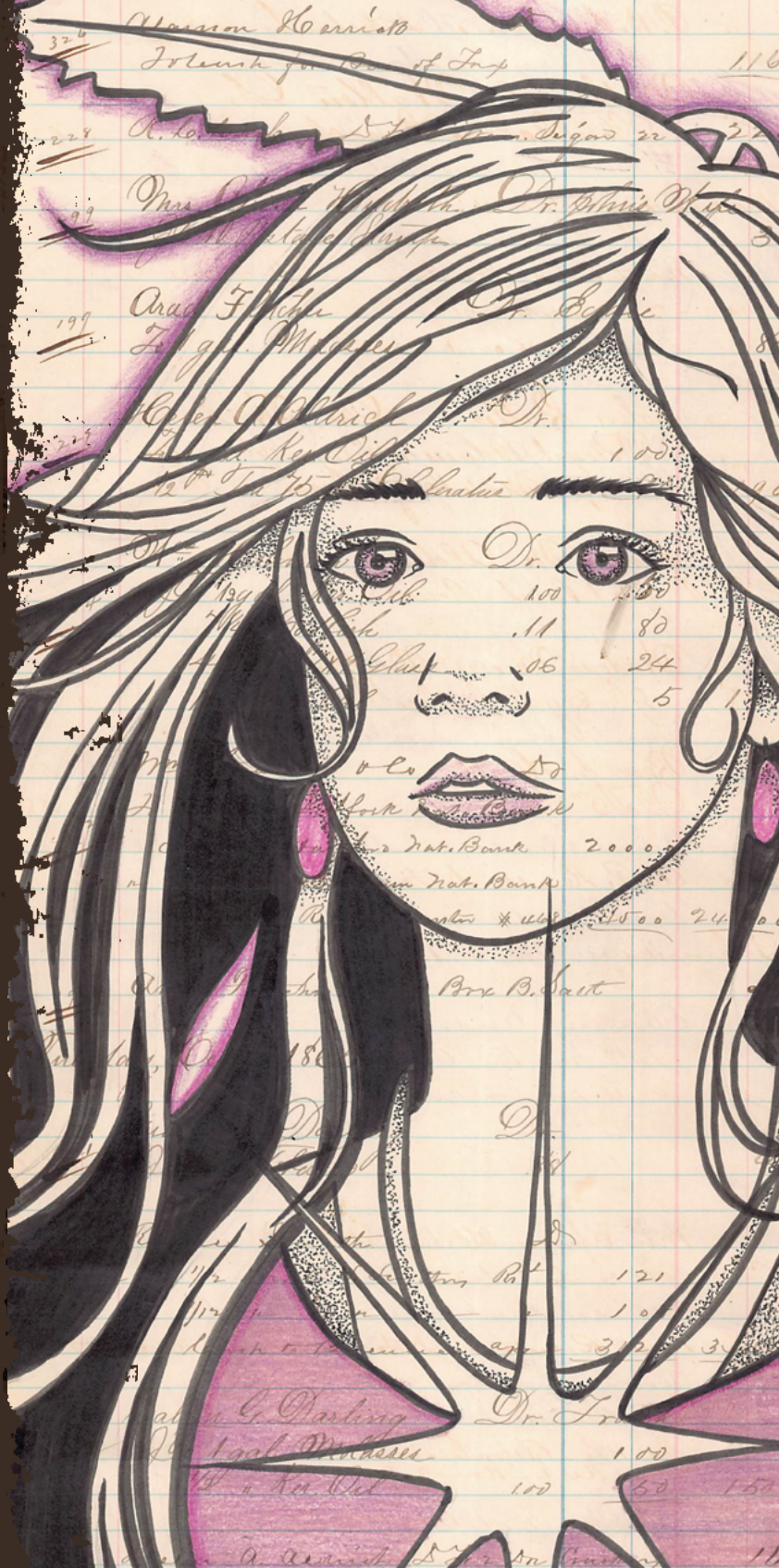


Table of Contents

Leaders' Dispatch, page 4

We Are WILD, page 6

The Story of the Great Race, page 19

The World is Wilder Because of You, page 20

The 12th World Wilderness Congress, page 25

Buffalo Waiting to Return, page 29

And It Will Be Wilder Still in 2025, page 30

How Buffalo Came to Be, page 33

The Members of WILD'S Community, page 34

The Sisters Escape, page 45

WILD Finances, page 46

How People Learned to Fish, page 49

Leaders' Dispatch

Dear friend and champion of the wild,

It is with a sense of heartfelt gratitude and relief that we write to you now, at the end of this monumental year for our little organization and our vast network of friends and supporters. As most of you are aware, at the end of August, WILD successfully discharged our commitment to the global wilderness community and to our Oceti Sakowin hosts: we convened the 12th World Wilderness Congress in He Sápa, the sacred territory of the Lakota Oyate. We were able to meet many of you, face-to-face, for the first time at this event (a blessing, indeed!) and advance new initiatives, including a reinterpretation of wilderness drafted by dozens of Indigenous and conservation leaders, that will help bring new energy and excitement to both the intangible concept and physical place of wilderness. To all involved in these many herculean efforts, thank you!

In honor of all our delegates and especially our Lakota hosts, we wanted to center this annual report around traditional Lakota stories - which are more than stories, of course - because they are also constitutional lessons for how we ought to conduct our lives and relationship with the natural world. The Executive Host of WILD12, Phil Two Eagle, was fond of telling us in the lead-up to the event, "You have two ears and one mouth. What does that mean? That you need to listen and be quiet!"

Phil, the presentation of these stories in this annual report is for you! We were listening! Or trying to as best we could.

We are also fortunate to have the talented Cheyenne River artist, Leland Benoist, illustrate this report using traditional ledger art techniques. Leland produced the WILD12 mural that many of our delegates enjoyed viewing when visiting downtown Rapid City, South Dakota.

In addition to Phil's insistent pleas that we listen more and better, there is also another phrase we encountered while working with our Lakota partners: "If you give, you keep. If you keep, you lose." In traditional, place-based societies that still cultivate a sense of animism, everything - animate or inanimate - has a spirit and purpose endowed by the Creator. Awareness of the spirit that surrounds us in all things and all places enriches our lives and imbues us with a powerful sense of connection to the world. It also means recognizing the latent purposefulness of everything and letting go so that other people and things can fulfill what the Creator has in store for the world.

This year at WILD, we gave. At times, we gave more than we expected to. We gave away our resources– financial and material– and at other times we gave our emotions, exchanging the comfortable but stagnant for the uncomfortable and dynamic. And when we took, it was to take risks. We took burdens from the shoulders of others in order to give them the space they needed to fulfill their purpose. We created space for people and nature, and the many viewpoints that must be heard, that must be foundational, as we forge a stronger movement capable of transforming and healing a broken relationship with nature that persists at the global level.

And did all this giving result in any keeping? Yes, it did. Because we kept our pride, in this movement and in WILD as a team and as an organization. We kept a strong wilderness movement and, we hope, helped to make it even stronger than it already was. We kept our global wilderness coalition and expanded it! And most importantly, we kept our promises, to WILD's community and to our Lakota partners.

And that is how we learned that giving is the only way to keep what matters most. When we give, our gifts become sacred, and little by little, so does the rest of the world.

We know that as a member of WILD's global community, you have given a lot, to WILD and to the wilderness movement. We ask now for you to consider giving once again, so that we may keep Earth wild and her many life sustaining gifts sacred.

Thank you for all your support throughout the long and arduous months of planning WILD12. We look forward to hearing from and working with you, all of you, in 2025 and beyond!

In wild gratitude,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Amy Lewis' and the signature on the right is 'Jenn Meyer'. Both are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy & Jenn
Managing Directors
WILD.org

~~401~~

1 B. Gray

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May D. Stearns

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To 5/8 doz. Buckles

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Tuesday, Sep. 12, 1865

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Saturday, Sept. 30. 1865.

Mrs. Africa Willbrett Dr.

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To 11³/₈ yds. Cotton 40 4 55

2¹/₂ " Summer Stoff 55 1 38

1¹/₂ yds. Crust 38, 1 yd. Calico 25 63

1¹/₂ " Calico 50, ³/₄ yd. Flannel 47 97 7 53

Settled

Henry Fletcher Dr. Lelia

To 200 Wall Paper 20 40

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Sauve Perks

By 1575

50 years ago...

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Melton J. Crouch Dr.

To 1/2 Tea 70, 1/2 Tobacco 8 78

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Eriza Puffen by book 1 12

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Down of Chesterfield's Apr. Mrs. Trimes

To 1 B. Boat Boots 1 42

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Mrs. Puffen & Co. Mrs. Yarn 56

1 Kn. Wick 2 58

3

Abner Stoddard by book 6 64

On the tarmac of an airport, as a woman gazed wistfully from an airplane window, a glass of whisky at her fingertips. Reluctantly, she was leaving Africa, but not for long. She would return, again, and again, and again, leaving a lasting mark on the continent she considered home.

Her name was Maggie.



With two young men, eager to prove their worth to their mentor, an aging game ranger of world renown.

Their names are Vance and Andrew.



George Johnson

Dr. G. W. M. Sugar

1/2 Japan Tea

139

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170

Monday, Oct. 2, 1865,

In the tumultuous moments before the 12th World Wilderness Congress, the first in-person gathering of its kind in more than a decade, as the new team at WILD strives to honor the legacy they have inherited while discovering new ways to carry it forward into the future.

Their names are Amy, Jennifer, Adam, Jackie, Yen, Madison, Giulia, and Tori.



**We are all the heroes of a story we inherited,
a story we reinvent, a story we carry forward.
We are emboldened by a sacred challenge
to live well with each other and the Earth.**

**We are related.
We are a community.
We are WILD.**

Keenan A. Aarish	Δ		
Dr. Bob Langley Bittens			4
Everett Andrews	Δ		
Dr. Hae. Kn. Ois	69		50
Dr. Don. Cruckney	8		32
Dr. Susan	11		67
Dr. Whitney			12

Saturday, Sept. 30, 1865.

Mrs. Africa Willbreth Dr.

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To 11 ³ / ₈ yds. Cotton	40	4	55	
2 ¹ / ₂ " Summer Stoff	55	1	38	
1 ¹ / ₂ yds. Crash 38, 1 yd. Calico 25			63	
1 ¹ / ₂ " Calico 50, ³ / ₄ yd. Flannel 47			97	7 50

When we give,

We give to a community of life.

Settled

When we give,

We make our gifts sacred.

408

When we give,

We transform the world.

Mail

Eliza Puffer	by bank	1	12	
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Down of Chesterfield	Apr Mrs. Quinn			
To 1 Pr. Boat Boots				1 40

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Mrs. Puffer	to us also Mrs. Jan	56		
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Arbore Stoddard	by bank	6	64	
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Our Mission

WILD builds and mobilizes global coalitions that help to defend Earth's wondrous and life-saving wilderness and wild places.

Our Vision

We envision a future that is wild and healthy, in which people and the wild thrive together.

Our Beliefs

We believe that the fight for a wild Earth is a challenge that begins in the spirit of an individual and a community, be that local, national, or global.

We believe that cultural approaches to conservation - targeting institutions and values - yield the biggest return on investments for the planet and create truly long-term solutions that enrich people and biodiversity.

We believe that everyone's voice matters, and that the more we can create a unified chorus crying for change, the more likely leaders will listen.

We believe that Indigenous Peoples and local communities practice lifeways that mainstream society can learn from to produce a healthier planet. Ceremony, prayer, and constitutional stories are cultural tools deployed by Indigenous leaders that produce lives richer in meaning and connection, reducing a community's reliance on consumption and waste to fulfill perceived needs and emotional voids.

Our Methods

We work with partner communities on-the-ground as we believe that these are the best stewards of the surrounding environment. Place-based lifeways are practiced by people who live intimately with the environment; their health and identity are inextricable from the health and quality of the lands and seas they occupy.

We bring people together, physically and ideologically, to unify coalitions around common objectives and priorities. Alone, we can do so little. Together, we can change the world. WILD recognizes the critical necessity of groups of organized people who are motivated to take action for the environment.

We seek out intangible instruments – community, ceremony, creativity – as primary drivers of tangible outcomes. Too often, conservation is focused on material resources – technology, money, and manpower – but we know the world is made up of intangible forces as well. We leverage those to create lasting, physical improvements to the world.

Mrs. Africa Hillbush Dr.
2 1/2 "Summer Stuff" 55 138

The Story of the Great Race

Long ago, the Buffalo Nation and the Human Nation began to argue about who could eat whom. Finally, they decided to end their disagreement by holding a great competition, a race that would take place around the entirety of the Black Hills on an area of crimson earth that can now be seen from satellites in outer space. This area is known as the Red Race Track.

The two-legged and four-legged nations gathered, selecting four champions each. Whichever team won the race would win the right to eat the others.

With much anticipation, the race began, and the four-legged took the lead. For many miles, the four-legged eclipsed the two-legged, rushing ahead until there was little hope the two-legged would catch them. When their final champion, the powerful Buffalo, took over, the two-legged despaired. But Magpie, the last of the two-legged champions, still had hope. In a burst of speed he could not sustain, he sped as fast as his wings would carry him to alight on a horn of Buffalo. There, he stayed until he could see the finish line. Rested and refreshed, even as Buffalo began to tire, Magpie soared into the air and across the finish line, defeating Buffalo and winning the race for all two-leggeds.

And that is why people eat buffalo.

It is also why we keep our commitments to the other Nations of the Earth, because they keep their commitments with us.

And it's why we at WILD are not afraid to take on big goals with enormous consequences. Like Magpie and our forebearers - Ian, Magqubu, Vance, and Maggie - we value and practice nimble and creative problem-solving over brute force and overwhelming power. Commitment, community, and creativity carry us across our chosen finish lines.

Saturday Sept. 30, 1865

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753

40

408

By lunch for hour

475

78

“I come from a place where many people are into superficial things and don’t like to talk about the deeper issues. This can make me feel lonely. When I came to WILD12, I didn’t know what to expect, but what I found was a new family waiting for me - other forest nerds like me who were so supportive and welcoming! During the week I formed lifelong friendships with other people who I know are helping to look out for me and the forest. The worst thing about WILD12 was having to leave my new friends and family.”

- Maida Andersson, Sámi reindeer herder and WILD12 delegate



CREATING JOBS

Our commitment to employing Native tour guides at the 12th World Wilderness Congress spurred the training of 25 new tour guides as well as the development of new tours to sacred sites in the Black Hills.

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE SACRED

As part of the training mentioned above, Lakota tour guides visited their sacred sites, some for the first time. This was an emotional and rewarding process for all involved.

PROTECTING BOREAL FORESTS

Raised significant funds to launch a new Sámi-led rewilding project with pilot projects in Sweden to create community-based forestry efforts and elevate the importance of Scandinavian boreal forests globally. The boreal forests are the world's largest above ground carbon sink. Sweden is deforesting the old growth trees faster than Brazil is deforesting the Amazon. The Sámi are important allies in the fight for a stable and healthy climate.

FEEDING RAINFOREST STEWARDS & HELPING BIODIVERSITY

Fully funded a large pilot fish farm in the Yawanawá's territory (to be implemented in 2025) which will help keep the traditional guardians of the forest in place, relieve pressure on biodiversity, and provide desperately needed food sources for the Yawanawá in the unstable times of climate change.

EXPANDING COMMUNITY-LED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN WESTERN AFRICA

Advanced an elephant-centered, community-led natural resource management plan across 17 communes, covering 60,000 km² in 2024. The focus remains on empowering local communities and leaders to address natural resource degradation through shared reflection, land restoration, and sustainable resource management. Together, with elected officials (mayors) and government agencies, we aim to restore degraded lands and strengthen policies that align with the Gourma Biosphere Reserve's conservation goals.

CHAMPIONING YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN CONSERVATION

2024 has been a significant year for CoalitionWILD, with key contributions to the WILD12 Congress and youth engagement in conservation. We led the way in shaping Resolution #4 (read the resolution [here](#)) advocating for greater commitment to the mentorship of young ecological stewards, and organized a Youth Gathering and Oasis Pavilion during the World Wilderness Congress, all outcomes of successful partnerships between CoalitionWILD, #NatureForAll, CPAWS, and IUCN WCPA.

Our incubator project, in partnership with EXL Graduate Zak Muteti, established a community-based organization, now with over 200 active members, near Lake Jipe, advancing conservation efforts and Indigenous knowledge integration. Additionally, we initiated a permaculture garden and collaborated on restoring the endemic Jipe Tilapia, all efforts designed to remove pressure on biodiversity in Lake Jipe and create a more sustainable future for the region.

Our flagship programs continue to engage global youth, with 99 participants in the EXCEerator program and 50 mentorship pairings in 2024.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR NATURE NEEDS HALF (NNH)

Aligning the world behind ambitious, science-based goals is no easy task, and can take years. This year, WILD advanced the NNH agenda at the regional level within the IUCN, helping to educate other members about the necessity of keeping Half of Earth's ecology intact. This sets the stage for a more ambitious spatial target commitment in 2025 at the World Conservation Congress.

SAFEGUARDING MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

As the proud facilitator and secretariat of the North American Intergovernmental Committee on Cooperation for Protected Areas Conservation (NAPA), WILD fostered the exchange of ideas, experiences, best practices, and innovative solutions on shared conservation opportunities across North America. The NAPA Chair—Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, National Commission of Natural Protected Areas—in response to the second-lowest monarch overwintering population ever recorded (0.9 hectares) in Mexico, led the way to elevate Monarch Butterfly Conservation as one of NAPA's priority topics.

THE 12th WORLD WILDERNESS CONGRESS

For the first time in over a decade, WILD organized an in-person Congress in He Sápa, the sacred territory of the Lakota Nation. The Sicangu Lakota Treaty Council, on behalf of the Seven Council Fires, hosted the event, marking the first time a traditional government has hosted the Congress, and paving the way for future Congresses to always include a tribal co-host, emphasizing the importance of alternative conservation models alongside Western traditional protected areas.

No one on the core organizing team had ever attended a Congress before. Nevertheless, we worked hard to embrace the past while simultaneously creating new opportunities for the wilderness concept, application, and community in the future.

WILD12 achieved the following:

- 700+ delegates from approximately 40 countries
- The He Sápa Declaration ([see Resolution 1 below](#)) signed by dozens of endorsers, which promotes a common understanding of the sometimes contentious wilderness concept.
- Adopted resolutions calling for a halt to all mining in the sacred Black Hills and a halt to all old-growth deforestation in Sápmi in addition to several others.
- Indigenous delegates signed the Honoring Grandmother Earth Indigenous Peoples Open Treaty, committing to protecting their traditional lifeways in order to honor and defend the Earth. Non-Indigenous delegates signed as witnesses to the treaty.
- At WILD10, Indigenous Peoples requested a permanent gathering space for Indigenous Peoples at the World Wilderness Congress. This request was fulfilled at WILD12, meeting for two full days under the leadership of the Global Center for Indigenous Leadership and Lifeways.

WILD12 RESOLUTIONS

The World Wilderness Congress is unique among civil society environmental forums as it provides the public a direct and concrete instrument for setting the global environmental agenda: resolutions. We invited all WILD12 delegates—participants to join in the resolution process by engaging with other delegates in polite and purposeful conversation and meaningful attempts to find common ground. Unity of purpose is essential for the success of any coalition, and the World Wilderness Congress is an instrument to help global civil society find such unity on the next steps we can and should take as an international wilderness movement.

[Resolution 1: On Sovereignty and Wilderness: Deepening the Wilderness Concept Through Indigenous Knowledge and Wisdom](#)

[Resolution 2: Through the Eyes of Buffalo: A Strategic Platform to Restore All Natural World Relationships](#)

[Resolution 3: Advancing the Rights of Antarctica](#)

[Resolution 4: Mainstreaming Mentorship of Young Ecological Stewards](#)

[Resolution 5: Indigenous Law and Guardianship of Nature](#)

[Resolution 6: Ratify the High Seas Treaty](#)

[Resolution 7: Making Space to Protect White Animals, Messengers of Peace](#)

Resolution 8: Empowering Ecological Outcomes by Honoring Treaties

Resolution 9: Urgent Mineral Withdrawal for all of the Black Hills

Resolution 10: Recognition of Central Mexico's Forest of Water as a Strategic Region for the Viability of Central Mexico's Megalopolis

Resolution 11: Metaphysical Activism

Resolution 12: Protecting the Sámi Forest: Safeguarding Biodiversity and Indigenous Livelihoods

Don't Buy Goat Boots *Apr Mrs. ...* 142

Mrs. Puffin *5 to 11 on Mrs. Yarn* 56

1 Kn. Wick 2 58

Ashlee Stourens *her by lunch* 664

Heleen a. deaich *Δ*

Dr. P. Langley Bitters 40

“For me, WILD12 was a transformative event for the wilderness movement and a slight, but crucial departure from previous WILD Congresses. . . WILD12 became a watershed moment in integrating classic conservation approaches with the thinking and feeling of Indigenous peoples, who play a crucial role in healing the planet. Their knowledge has become crucial as we understand that we need to change our ways and need to adopt holistic, systemic approaches.

We can already see how ancient techniques of “land management through controlled fire” are adopted in Australia and the US as the best and maybe only way to maintain ecosystem functions while avoiding catastrophic mega-fires in the age of climate heating.

WILD12 enriched me personally and made me understand better the world of Indigenous Peoples. This will certainly impact my work in rewilding and I am sure others share my experience. I am looking forward to the follow-up and the next WILD Congress.”

Karl Wagner
Managing Director
Global Rewilding Alliance



Mrs. Africa Wilbrett Dr.

Buffalo Waiting to Return

2 1/2 " Summer Stuff 55 138
1 1/2 yds. Crush 38, 1 yd. Cotton 25 63

White men swept across the great grasslands of Turtle Island and the Buffalo Nation vanished. Where herds numbering in the tens of thousands had once grazed peacefully on the sweet grasses, dusty fields and iron roads now stretched as far as the eye could see. Between them, one could find mountains of bones - the remains of the once great Buffalo Nation.

But not all Buffalo turned to bone and dust. Some retreated to the high places, far from the onslaught of colonialism, grazing still on sweet alpine flowers until one day their wise leaders foresaw the need to move again.

On a clear night, when the green lights of heavens made a path across the stars, the Buffalo People stepped off the highest peak and onto that shimmering road where they marched straight into the stars. There they await the time when we are ready to live respectfully with them.

Sometimes, the fastest way between point A and point B isn't a line, but a circle. Just as the Buffalo Nation survived in retreat to a more distant place, WILD also strives to protect all things wild, including the wildness of the human spirit, even when that means taking seemingly unorthodox actions. Our commitment to the survival of our wild kindred is, nevertheless, unwavering. And we believe that just as one day the Buffalo will return in numbers to the plains, so too will wilderness be restored to our planet.

Page 14

229

Thompson

By the Hon. Charles M. ...

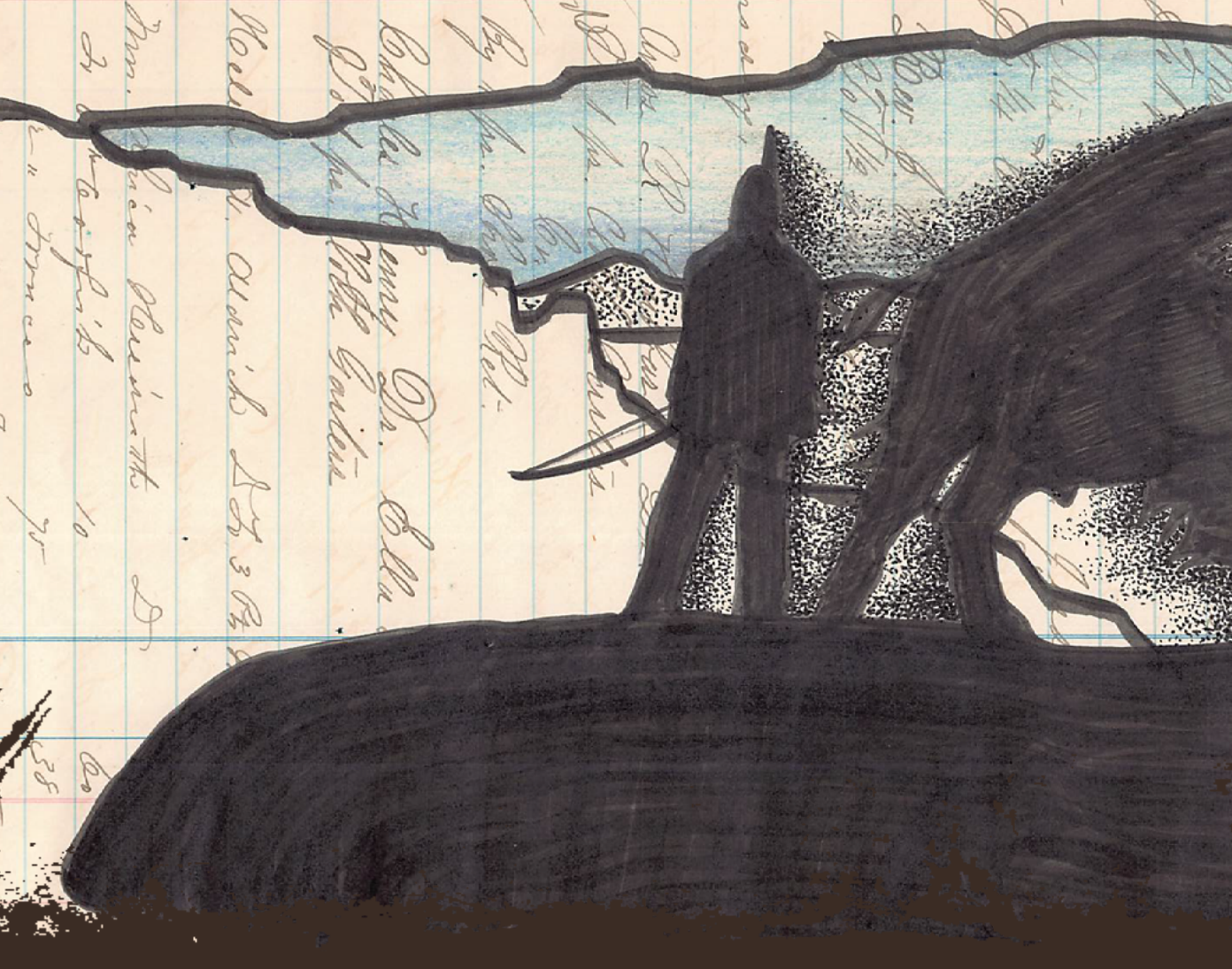
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Tuesday, Sep. 12, 1865,

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To Paul ...

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To ...

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To ...

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To ...

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And it Will Be *wilder still* in 2025

WILD's priorities for 2025 include both on-the-ground conservation work and ambitious global agenda-setting campaigns.

IN THE AMAZON

- Establishing new low-impact and sustainable sources of nutrition for the Yawanawá People (in alignment with their life plan) that will help keep the forest stewards in place and reduce impact on surrounding biodiversity. These areas will prioritize fish farms, but may also include more permaculture farms.
- Developing new donors to help fund the training and capacitation of Yawanawá patrols that will result in the territorial guardians matching international ranger standards.

IN THE BOREAL FORESTS

- Launching the Rewilding Sápmi program, a Sámi-led program that targets three primary objectives:
 - Educating the global public on the deforestation of old growth forests occurring in Sápmi and the dire implications for climate and the Sámi people.
 - Creating a direct link between international governing bodies, like the IUCN, and Sámi representatives, so that the Sámi can speak to the challenges they face without others speaking for them (and often misinterpreting them).
 - Develop funding to capacitate and train Sámi communities to monitor and record biodiversity changes in their area, putting communities in charge of the environmental data upon which they depend.

ON THE GREAT PLAINS

- Launching a Treaty Council driven plan to restore 10% of the Great Plains and restore the buffalo for the benefit of the wild and people. Our hope is to create a win-win for people and nature by developing a plan for the 60 million acres of Fort Laramie treaty lands that would result in the restoration of native grasslands, traditional relationships between Lakota communities and buffalo, and increased food security on reservation lands.

How Buffalo Came to Be

Wolf traveled deep into the Spirit Lodge bearing Two-Faced Woman's gifts: supple deerskins, fragrant red berries, and the most tender cuts of red meat. The people under the Earth had never seen such riches before, and their mouths watered as the cave filled with tempting aromas.

Come to the surface, Wolf urged. The land above is abundant with such wealth.

Wolf was persuasive, but not as persuasive as the urgings of their own bellies. Many decided to leave the Spirit Lodge and find a new home in the lands above. But others refused. Now was not the time, they said. The Creator had not yet given permission to leave.

And so the people split in two, some staying in the Spirit Lodge and some following Wolf. As they emerged from the cave for the first time, they blinked in awe, dazzled by the bright sunlight and kaleidoscope of colors the world thrust upon them. Rivers overflowed with sweet waters and tasty fish, the forests and grassland shimmered and shook with life: deer for meat and clothes, birds for eggs and feathers, and bark and flowers for medicine. For a season or two, the people basked in the abundance of Earth.

But winter came. The plants died and the deer grew scarce. The rivers froze over and no fish could be caught. Hungry and cold, the people returned to the entrance of the cave, pleading with the Creator to go back inside. But they had defied what was expected of them, and accordingly, faced the consequences. And yet, Creator looked upon the poor people and had compassion for them. For this reason, they did not die. Instead, the people grew thick fur to withstand the freezing winds and developed strong bellies to digest the tough winter grasses. They fell on their hands and knees which transformed into sharp black hooves to help them run fast when chased by hungry predators.

Thus, the Buffalo Nation was born, mercifully adapted to live with the consequences of their choices.

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The Members of
WILD'S *Community*

Thursday, Oct. 5. 1865.

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~~Chas. Post Co. in~~
~~By Rice Bros Oct. 2, 286.00~~

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~~Wm. Holman Cr.~~
~~By Jackson a/cd. 1.50~~

Friday, Oct. 6. 1865.

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~~Wm. Holman Cr.~~ 20

594
~~John ...~~ 25

Mrs. Charles ...
No. 24 yds. ... 76 1.58
6 1/2 " " " 45 2.93
2 lbs ... 5 10 4.61

Mrs. Mary ...
No. 4 ... 44
1/2 gal. Molasses 85 43
2nd ... 9 18 1.05

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~~Thomas ...~~
~~By 6th ... 15 1.15~~

Saturday, Oct. 7. 1865.

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~~Daniel E. ...~~ 1.00

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~~Wm. ...~~
~~By Rice ... 30.00~~

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~~C. ...~~
~~By 1 Box ... 18.75~~

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~~P. B. ...~~
~~By 30th ... 21 10.00~~

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~~1/2 ...~~ 2.25
~~1 ...~~ 2.75



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While we are certainly not opposed to large, one-time gifts as long as they are from sources who do not compromise our values or commitment to a wilder and more respectful planet, we prefer to build a relationship with our donors, sharing with them our triumphs and challenges over years of giving.

Each and every member of the WILD team is filled with gratitude for the remarkable and dedicated donors who help make this work possible.

Aaron Zigler	Bridget Hogue	Craig and Anita Woods
Adam Silverman	Bruce Beaulieu	Crystal and John Babos
Adriana De Castro Lima	Callum Watson	Curt & Kirsten Hill
Alaine Margaret Ruse	Carlo Dal Colletto	Curtis Barnett
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Elizabeth Burin	Jacques Roberge and Jana Pika	Lara Derasary
Elizabeth Naughton	Jake Alsobrook	Lara Peterson
Elizabeth Schechter	James and Lara Dunlap	Laura L Smith
Ellen Boyes	James Orth	Laura McCauley
Erika Geary	Jane Larsen	Laura Oldham
Evan La Penna	Jasmin Dahm	Laurene Nagaj
Eyes For Life	Jean Marshall	Leah Castle
Francesco Maria Mantero	Jean Shepherd	Lena Georgas
Frederick Domer	Jeff Wagner	Leonard Buchignani
Fred Rubin	Jennifer Malcolm	Leonard Gigliobianco
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Gayle Klauser and John Arnold	John Joannou	Lynn Decher
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\$1,000-\$5,000

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Earth Today
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Consulting Media

Environmental Systems
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\$50,000-\$100,000

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Mark and Maureen Miller
Family Foundation
Stichting Sub3
Tusk Trust
United Nations Environment
Programme

\$100,000+

Doolin Foundation for
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WILD'S Team



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Chief Executive Officer



Jennifer Meyer
Chief Operations Officer



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Director, CoalitionWILD



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Network Manager



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Administrative Associate



Maddy Miller
Development and
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Susan Canney
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Elephant Project and
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Luna Yawanawá
Yawanawá Cultural Liaison
Intern



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Adam Hanson, WILD12 Deputy Executive Organizer; Sr. Conservation Network Manager, WILD Foundation

Erinn Drage, Executive Officer to the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

Anpotowin Jensen, Advocate, Writer, Author, Poet; Kiyuksa Tiospaye of the Oglala Lakota Oyate

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Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

University of Montana, College of Humanities and Sciences: Elouise Cobell Land and Culture Institute

Global Center for Indigenous Leadership and Lifeways

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

Wilderness Foundation Global

Wilderness Specialist Group, IUCN WCPA

WILD12 SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS

Victor Douville, Professor and Program Coordinator of Lakota Studies,
Sinte Gleska University

Greg Cajete, Native American Educator; Artist; Scholar of Herbalism
and Holistic Health

Chris Armatas, Research Social Scientist at Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute,
RMRS, U.S. Forest Service

Steve Carver, Geographer, Director of Wildland Research, Professor of Rewilding
and Wilderness Science at University of Leeds

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Administration at Central Michigan University

Zdenka Křenová, Professor, Charles University in Prague

Vicki Sahanatien, Knowledge and Research Manager, Lands and Resources,
Mushkegowuk Council

Fernando Sanchez, Director of the Elouise Cobell Land & Culture Institute,
Assistant Professor at the University of Montana

Jason Taylor, NPS Superintendent, Indiana Dunes National Park

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The Sisters Escape

Every member of the sisterhood was at her wit's end. Even though the Creator had already intervened on their behalf, raising the earth beneath their feet to save them from the onslaught of angry Bear, the animal kept pursuing them, clawing his way to their newly formed redoubt atop the flat mountain.

They held each other close in what they believed to be their final moments, finding solace at least in the beating of each other's hearts.

As the bear's claws crested the side of the mountain, a flash of color traveling at the speed of lightning descended from the heavens. Seven brightly colored birds appeared, beckoning the sisters onto their feathery backs before the bear could reach them.

Hardly believing their good fortune but eager to leave the mountain nonetheless, each girl jumped onto a bird with only seconds remaining between them and Bear's sharp claws. In a flash of wing and beak, they took to the clouds, leaving behind danger, awash now in the electric joy of our wondrous and unpredictable wild world.

So often at WILD, we face predicaments we are certain we cannot surmount, until a member of our extended wilderness family offers unexpected support in one form or another. In the Indigenous worldview, we are all related, and never is that more apparent to us at WILD than when we experience the wondrous generosity of our committed donors.

WILD'S *Finances*

9 out of every
10 dollars

goes directly to program support,
meaning WILD's donors receive the
most impact for their generosity.

Monday, Sept. 4, 1865

229 Rev. J. Hall S. H. B. H. Fund 1200

Daniel C. Burt Dr.

To 2³/₄ Butter 30 83

5¹/₈ Codfish 10 52 133

Mannah Smith Dr. Royce

To 1/2 gal. Ker. Oil 50

D. F. Randall Dr. Lizzie

To 1/4 gal. Ker. Oil 100 23

1 doz. Crackers 33

Tuesday, Sept. 5, 1865

228 Elbridge K. Howard Dr. Burt

To 1 doz. Crackers 52

299 To 1 doz. Crackers 340

To 1 doz. Crackers 58

To 1 doz. Crackers 24 133

To 1 doz. Crackers 7

Shipping to Mass 733

To 1 doz. Crackers 467 1200

197 To 1 doz. Crackers 150

395 To 1 doz. Crackers 75

R. L. Co. Dr. 25

To 9¹/₂ Yarn 42

To 1 doz. Crackers 15

To 1 doz. Crackers 4 61



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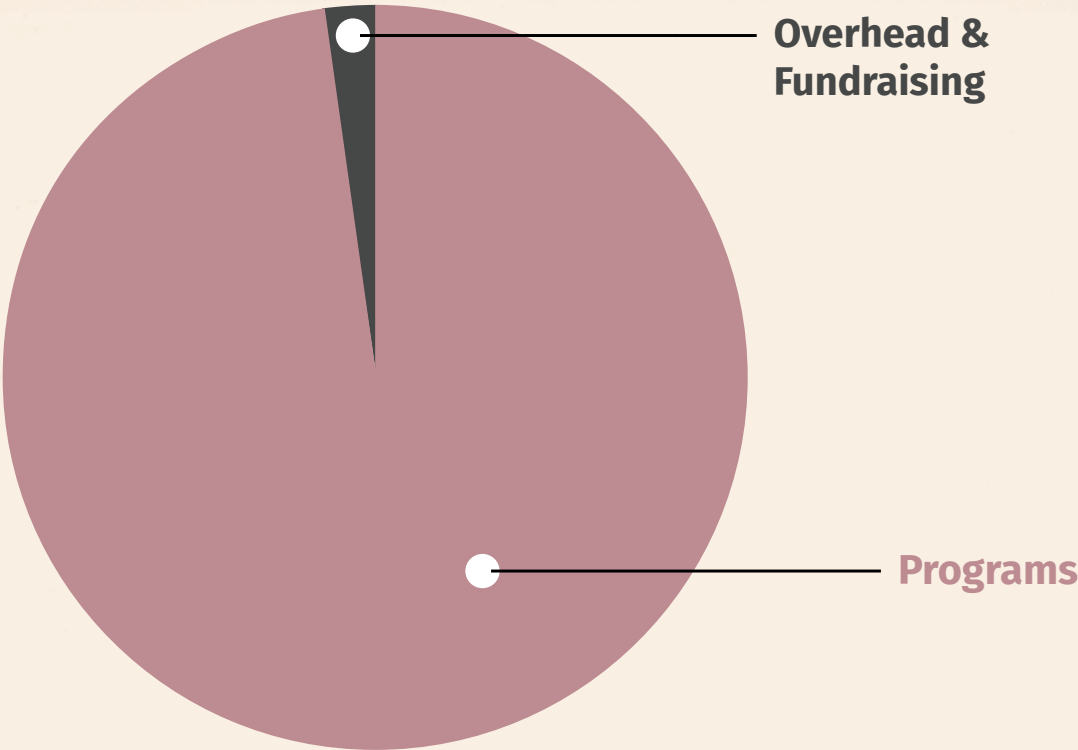
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2024 / By the Numbers



Programs: \$5,004,980

Overhead & Fundraising: \$446,460

Total Expenses: \$5,451,440

How People Learned to Fish

Bear waded slowly and deliberately into the river. And waited.

From behind the bushes, the people watched. They watched Bear as the sun rose high in the sky and the shadows of the trees shifted across the sparkling surface of the water. They watched as Bear's head drooped lower and lower, and they wondered if he was succumbing to a sleep-like trance born from the tranquil gurgle of the river. They watched as the shadows grew and Bear stood and stood, motionless as a mountain.

Some grew tired of watching and left. But others remained, waiting for something, they knew not what, as patiently as Bear waited.

Suddenly, a twitch of muscle beneath fur and the splash of claws. A swift bite later and Bear had what he came for, a large red fish, caught neatly between his jaws. As slowly as he had arrived, Bear left the river to enjoy his dinner.

Then, those who remained returned home to tell others how they had learned to fish from Bear.

At WILD, we have steadily cultivated a deliberate and community-based approach to fundraising. Our accomplishments are due in large part to the commitment and generosity of a community of nearly 700 donors who make WILD's important work for Mother Nature possible.

Like Bear waiting patiently in the river, we marshal our energy for the moment that matters, soaking in the abundance of the present, be that financial resources or gifts of time and experience, and adapting our expectations and strategies to what life has to offer while steadily in pursuit of our conservation objectives. We believe that this approach has withstood the test of time and will continue to do so for the benefit of our vast wild community.

Mrs. Arica Hillbreth Dr.

To 11³/₈ yds. Cotton 40 4 55

2¹/₂ " Summer Stoff 55 1 38

1¹/₂ yds. Crash 38, 1 yd. Calico 25 63

1¹/₂ " Calico 50, ³/₄ yd. Flannel 47 97 7 53

Henry Fletcher Dr. Lohr

To 2 rolls Wall Paper 20 40

Giving Makes the World Sacred

Your gift to WILD helps keep Earth wild.

Please consider a gift to WILD to be a part of this special community and empower new victories for people and wild places in 2025 and beyond.

Down of Chestnut's Apr Mrs. Brines

To 1 Pr. Goat Boots 1 42

Mrs. Puffer To 4 lbs Mrs. Yarn 56

1 Kn. Wick 2 58

Ashe Stoumans by book 6 64

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To 1 Pr. Sany's Boots 40



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1/2 " Calico 50, 1/4 yd. Flannel 47

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2 1/2 rolls Wall Paper 20

408 Sammie Perkins see
By bank for Sam 15.75

Paid Nelson G. Crouch Dr.
2 1/2 Tea 70, 1/2 Teucco 8

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WILDERNESS
FOUNDATION

GLOBAL

221 Elvira ... 112

220 Down of ... for Mrs. Brimes
Is 1 Pr. Book Books 14

221 Mrs. Puffin ... Mrs. Yarn 56
1 Kn. Wick 2

13 Ashlee Stoddard see By bank 664

227 Helen A. ...
Dr 1 Pr. ... Bottles

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