support and some great ideas. We have incorporated your feedback into our 3rd edition. We aim to explore, expand, and reshape the content of forthcoming Newsletters together, to meet the needs and add value to ORURISA membership. We hope that you will find great value in its content and that it will aid you in your own goals to grow and thrive.

We welcome you to our 3rd quarterly Newsletter! Thank you for your

support and feedback on the ORURISA's 1st and 2nd quarterly



tumult that underlined and re-emphasized the numerous and significant divisions in our nation, divisions that threaten to cleave it apart. At a

local scale, my team at work is pained, angered, and divided by historic, ongoing, and new inequities. More than a handful of my closest friends have lost parents, siblings, and other family members to the pandemic. I have seen so many issues politicized in ways that are damaging, and in my opinion, have no business being discussed in those dangerous terms.

And yet, I've also seen community members stand up for others' rights, initiate efforts to heal the pain of loss and conflict, repair the cracks, and bridge the crevasses. I see a community that while divided, can also see the common pain and come together to fix it. And so I find myself with a mix of emotions and opinions about what this year holds for me and for all of us. My inner optimist is starting to again see the light... As individuals we are constantly put into positions where we are tested by

make a choice, and one of those options is to be curious about what other people's experiences are, to listen to those expressed experiences, and to learn. As a part of a large GIS community, we practice this in our profession, by talking with our peers and our colleagues as we grapple with a particularly challenging analysis, listening to their insights, and learning how we can apply their experiences to our own situation so that

we can finally achieve the successes we seek. These successes usually

just like that, we've made a difference and demonstrated our grit, our

intelligence, and our flexibility as well as our value through our

As you move out of those celebratory moments, I challenge you to

strengthen your curiosity "muscles" by being curious about others'

contributions. These are moments to celebrate!

the simple reality that each of us is one person and no one else can

work and personal comfort zones. I challenge you to lean in to uncomfortable discourse, using curiosity to support and sustain you in those moments when it would be easier to turn back to the familiar. I challenge you to fuel your intelligence with your curiosity and the resulting learning that comes from listening. And I challenge you to exercise your flexibility by recognizing your current limitations and pushing beyond them. As you feel these moments of being uncomfortable I hope you will then celebrate them as accomplishments. They are big and courageous accomplishments. In this quarter's newsletter we share stories about two motivated women who are making change in their lives and impacting many others, especially black girls and women through **Black Girls M.A.P.P.** I find their stories to be exciting and heroic. Exciting because they're paving a new path to diversify the GIS profession through the creation of awareness,

mentoring and elevation of role models to a new generation of

colleagues.

geographers. I hope that you'll follow their work and join them at this

and to connect with your community. The newsletter is a safe place to

publish an article, and Tara Kaur, our Chapter's communications

we can all learn about your work in one of the next newsletters.

director, cares deeply for putting together a professional, attractive

Black History Month This month, the Oregon and SW Washington Chapter of URISA celebrates and shares the achievements of Women of Color in the field of GIS. Raynah Kamau and Whitney Kotlweski, both work for Esri and are contributing their expertise to the GIS profession. Raynah and Whitney are the keynote speakers at the upcoming virtual 2021 GIS in Action -Resiliency and Equity, annual conference.

Raynah Kamau

Diversity and Inclusion award for 2021 – this award was to recognize the work that Black_Girls_M.A.P.P. led in mobilizing volunteers to build resources that could be easily distributed and disseminated to the community to educate and

a non-profit organization that has a two-fold mission;

other community topics.

aspiring young women looking to venture into GIS.

empower them to vote. Lastly, Raynah is also on the racial equity team at Esri where she helps apply location intelligence to racial equity and social justice topics.

Whitney Kotlewski

the avenue of advanced technology. Whitney is the visionary and co-founder of Black_Girls_M.A.P.P.; a community-focused group to empower women of color and marginalized groups in the field of GIS. Her vision through this initiative is to inspire a network of people, using GIS to

research centered around empowering various members of her local

election GIS information products to empower people to vote.

GIS IN ACTION

RESILIENCY AND EQUITY

2021 GIS in Action Annual Conference

Registration Open

April 19th-22nd 2021

Register Cascadia Region ASPRS and the Oregon-Southwest Washington URISA Chapter present the 29th annual GIS in Action Conference. The 2021

Sponsors help us make the conference accessible. We are offering two tiers of support in exchange for spotlight presentations and logo placement. For more details see https://www.orurisa.org/GISinAction-Sponsors.

Topics of interest:

• Planet GIS

• Social Justice & Critical GIS

• Emerging Professionals & Students

marginalized groups in the field of GIS.

• Emergency Response

• Working with LiDAR

Girls M.A.P.P.

not a bot)

Registration Pricing:

conference)

conference committee.

https://orurisa.org/GISinAction

in one of the following categories:

Mapbox, or Power BI.

3. Choose the type of registration.

details are available on our website.

You're invited to register for the 2021 conference.

Keynote speakers: • Raynah Kamau works at Esri as Partner Technical Advisor helping maximize investments in GIS and is the co-founder of Black Girls M.A.P.P. - a non-profit organization to empower women of color and

solutions. More information on Keynote speakers are on our website. **Instructions for registration:**

you can enter the information of the person paying with a card.

• **Regular Full Conference** – \$35.00 (Attend all four days of

1. Press the register button on the registration page.

time) • Financial Hardship (Free attendance for professionals working less than half-time) • **Sponsor Level 1** – \$500.00 (Agency/organization sponsoring event

includes 2 passes to the conference for your organization)

includes 1 pass to the conference for your organization)

For questions about the conference, please contact the GIS in Action

Call for Maps! Posters will be displayed in a web gallery with the option to enter a competition

• Cartographic - the quality of the visual display.

• **Student** - anyone who is enrolled in classes pursuing a degree or certificate. Prizes will be going to the winner of each category determined by online

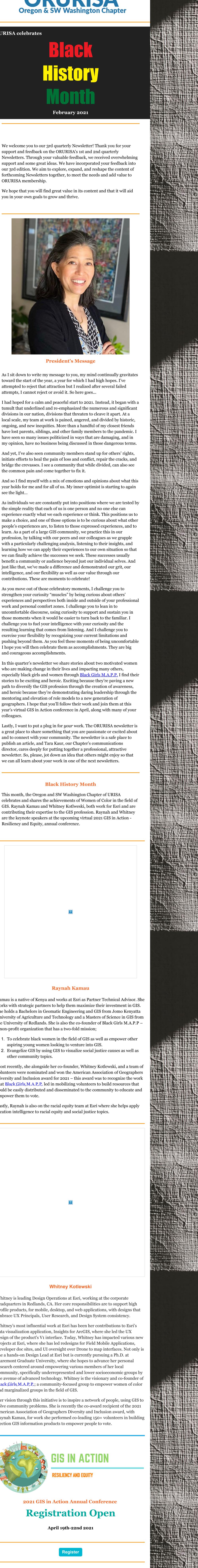
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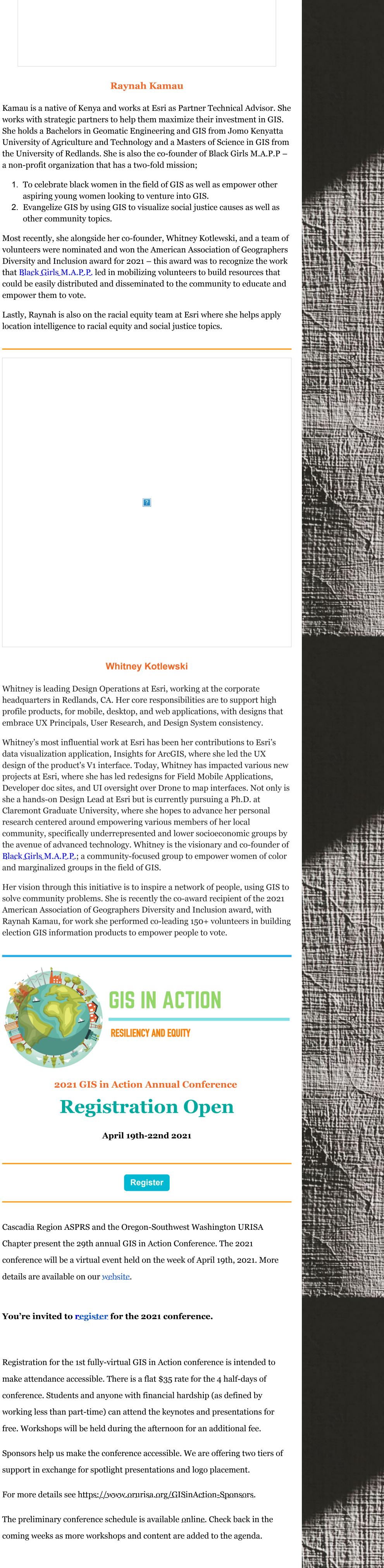
voting. Submit your map using this form. **2021 GIS in Action Conference Hosts:**

Oregon & SW Washington Chapter

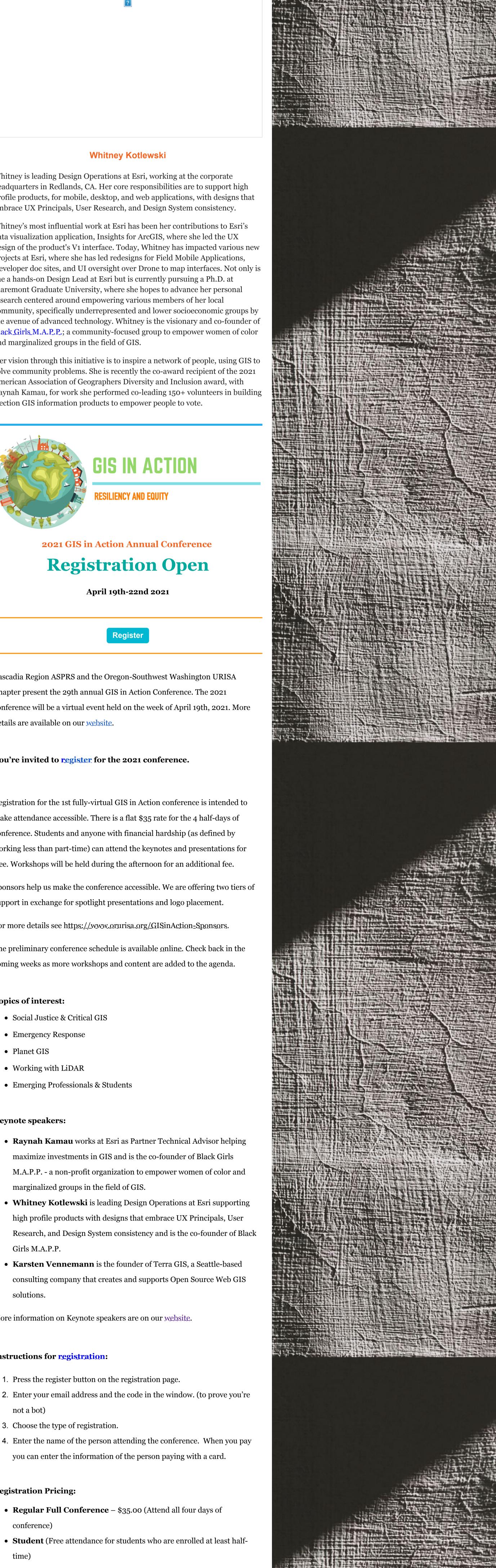
asprs the imaging & geospatial information society

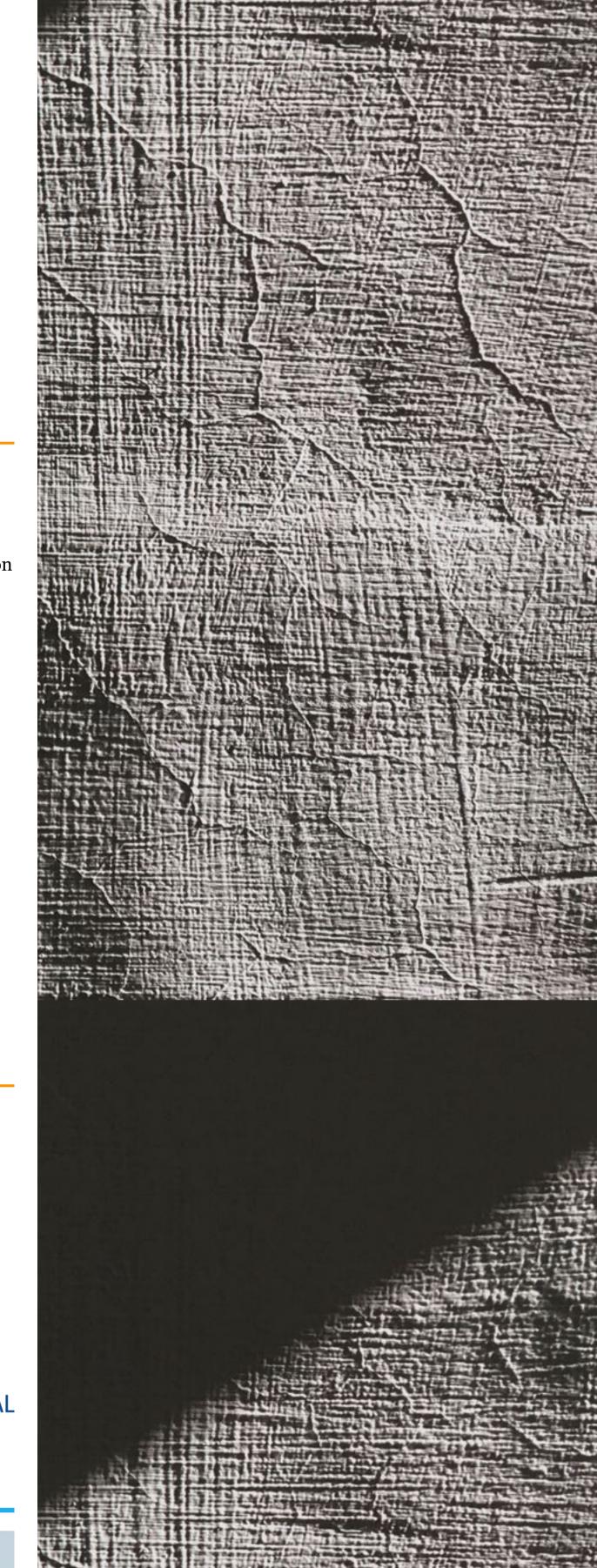












• Student (Free attendance for students who are enrolled at least half-• **Sponsor Level 2** – \$250.00 (Agency/organization sponsoring event • Analytic presentation - communication of meaningful patterns in • Web Applications – such as StoryMaps, ArcGIS Online, Tableau,

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Share Your GIS Story

If you have a story to share, project to present, success to celebrate, comments or feedback please email Tara Kaur, Communications Director of ORURISA at: communications@orurisa.org. If you no longer want to receive these letters, you can <u>unsubscribe</u> at any time