Presidential Proclamation -- National Native American Heritage Month

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, 2012
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

As the first people to live on the land we all cherish, American Indians and Alaska Natives have profoundly shaped our country's character and our cultural heritage. Today, Native Americans are leaders in every aspect of our society -- from the classroom, to the boardroom, to the battlefield. This month, we celebrate and honor the many ways American Indians and Alaska Natives have enriched our Nation, and we renew our commitment to respecting each tribe’s identity while ensuring equal opportunity to pursue the American dream.

In paying tribute to Native American achievements, we must also acknowledge the parts of our shared history that have been marred by violence and tragic mistreatment. For centuries, Native Americans faced cruelty, injustice, and broken promises. As we work together to forge a brighter future, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past. That is (continued on pg. 3)
Dennis Banks co-founded the American Indian Movement (A.I.M.) in 1968 to call attention to the plight of urban Indians in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The film presents an intimate look at Dennis Banks' life beginning with his early experience in boarding schools, through his military service in Japan, his transformative experience in Stillwater State Prison and subsequent founding of a movement that, through confrontational actions in Washington DC, Custer South Dakota and Wounded Knee, changed the lives of American Indians forever.

For information contact the American Indian Center at: 505-747-5104

Check out the trailer at: http://www.agooddaytodiefilm.com

Executive Produced by: Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, Produced by: David Mueller & Lynn Salt (Choctaw)

Discussion by Dr. Matthew Martinez (Ohkay Owingeh), Associate Producer of A Good Day to Die and Dr. Danika Medak-Saltzman (Turtle Mountain Chippewa), Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Student Reminders!

- The computers at the American Indian Center are for the use of all students, take advantage!
- AISO meeting: Monday, Nov. 5, 2012, 12 noon at the American Indian Center, AD 255

- Deadline to apply for AIS Scholarship: Nov. 15, 2012 americanindianservices.org

Application Requirements: Enrolled in a university, college, junior college or technical school. One-Quarter (1/4) Northern Native American Indian Blood. Undergraduate student with no more than 150 semester credits or 210 quarter credits. Full-time or part-time status - excluding non-credit courses. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.25
why, in 2009, I signed a bipartisan resolution that finally recognized the sad and painful chapters in our shared history. My Administration remains dedicated to writing a new chapter in that history by strengthening our government-to-government relationship with tribal nations while enhancing tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination.

Because we know that the best ideas for tribal nations come from within, my Administration has continued to engage tribal leaders in developing an agenda that respects their expertise on matters affecting American Indians and Alaska Natives. In collaboration with tribal nations, we are making critical investments to improve health and education services, create jobs, and strengthen tribal economies. In July, I was proud to sign the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (HEARTH) Act into law, which will enhance tribal control over the leasing of Indian lands. Last December, I signed an Executive Order to expand educational opportunities for Native American students. It aims to preserve young people to succeed in college and careers. And under the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Safe Indian Communities initiative, we are continuing to work with tribes to build safer communities. My Administration also supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Many longstanding Native American legal claims against the United States have been resolved, which will help accelerate the restoration of trust in our relationships with tribal nations. The settlements that came out of these claims -- including the historic Cobell and Keepseagle settlements, as well as more than 50 settlements in cases alleging Federal mismanagement of tribal trust funds and resources -- will put an end to decades of litigation and help drive economic development in tribal communities in the years to come.

In partnership with tribal nations, my Administration has addressed injustices and built new avenues of opportunity for American Indians and Alaska Natives. As we celebrate National Native American Heritage Month, let us move forward in the spirit of mutual understanding and mutual trust, confident that our challenges can be met and that our shared future is bright.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as National Native American Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities, and to celebrate November 23, 2012, as Native American Heritage Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK OBAMA
In 1864 President Abraham Lincoln presented silver-headed canes to each of New Mexico’s nineteen Pueblos. Today these canes remain potent symbols of continuing sovereignty. Why did this war-weary president, a leader of an Indian policy that destroyed many tribal communities, choose this action? Canes of Power offers a glimpse into the connection between Lincoln and the Pueblos, and the authority the Lincoln Canes continue to hold. This documentary is part of an educational initiative by the producing organization to encourage Native youth to research their community history as well as to develop writing and filmmaking skills.

Producers: Pam Pierce and Nick Durrie
Associate Producer: Dr. Matthew Martinez (Ohkay Owingeh), Conroy Chino (Acoma)
Produced by Silver Bullet Productions
Narrator: Wes Studi (Cherokee)

See the trailer at: http://www.silverbulletproductions.com/video-Canes-of-Power-trailer.html
Post Conference:  
“Historias de Nuevo Mexico”  
(continued from pg. 1)  

NOVEMBER 2012

that engaged a myriad of perspectives shaping New Mexico history. 

Dr. Nancy “Rusty” Barceló welcomed the conference in the spirit of Northern New Mexico College being committed to drawing upon the diversity and talents of local communities. She shared Northern’s new mission statement as a “Hispanic and Indigenous Serving Institution dedicated to the student achievement and advancement of our community.”

The keynote address was given by Dr. Joseph Sanchez, Superintendent of the Petroglyph National Monument and the Spanish Colonial Research Center and author of numerous books. The conference plenary sessions focused on Contesting, Celebrating and Cultivating Home-lands. Included in sessions were community scholars such as New Mexico Centennial Poet Levi Romero, Community Historian Estevan Arellano and University of Wisconsin Assistant Professor, Patricia Norby who discussed the history of O’Keeffe Country. In addition, Corrine Sanchez, from Tewa Women United, Paula Garcia, Executive Director of the Acequia Association and Dr. Myla Vicenti Carpio, Arizona State University presented on the histories and practices of culti-vating communities. In addition, numerous community members, faculty and students presented research and projects on New Mexico’s diverse cultures and histories.

The conference coincided with the El Rito Studio Arts Tour and lunch included a special appearance by New Mexico’s treasured musician Antonia Apodaca. The Steering Committee is in the process of publishing conference proceedings and announced plans for hosting the Historias conference every eighteen months.

For more information visit: www.tinyurl.com/nmhistorias

Or call the American Indian Center at 505 747-5405.
November 2012

Featured Organization:
Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project
Vecinos del Rio

Mission
The Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project (MPPP), organized in 1999, seeks to preserve petroglyphs on Mesa Prieta through education of the local community and recording what may be well over 60,000 rock images on the mesa. MPPP is a project of Vecinos del Rio, a northern New Mexico nonprofit organization. The Wells Petroglyph Preserve, the most concentrated area of petroglyphs on Mesa Prieta, is on the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Cultural Properties and was donated by Katherine Wells to The Archaeological Conservancy in 2007.

History
Vecinos del Rio is a grass-roots organization dedicated to sustaining the culture and traditions in the northern Rio Grande Valley. Vecinos recognizes that the petroglyphs offer an irreplaceable link to the past; the preservation of that history is critical to the area’s quality of life. In 1993 and 1994, a 188 acre privately owned parcel [part of which is now known as the Wells Petroglyph Preserve was recorded by the New Mexico Archaeological Society’s Rock Art Field School led by Jay and Helen Crotty. In 1999, Vecinos began organizing a project to survey and record all the petroglyphs on the mesa.

Over the next three years maps were gathered, permission obtained to record on several parcels of private land, volunteers were trained by Jay and Helen Crotty and Jerry and Jean Brody, funds raised, recording forms developed and many other related tasks were accomplished. Field work began in 2002. Since the project began in 1999, about 30,000 petroglyphs have been documented. This includes the re-survey of the Wells Petroglyph Preserve which initially was recorded before GPS units became affordable and digital photography was in wide use. Documenting petroglyphs on the entire mesa will take many years and require untold thousands of volunteer hours.

For more information visit: http://mesaprietapetroglyphs.org/
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REGISTER NOW!

Spring 2013
Pueblo Indian Studies
COURSES

Introduction to Pueblo Indian Studies PIS 200
Monday & Wednesday
12:30-1:45pm
Instructor: Dr. Matthew Martinez
CRN 21729

Special Topics in Tribal Languages:
Tewa Language PIS 245
Tues & Thurs 6:00-7:45pm
Instructor: Patrick Aguino
CRN 23226
* Permission Required

Spirit of Place PIS 381
Monday & Wednesday
11:00-12:30pm
Instructor: Porter Swentzell
CRN 22874
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Add us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/nnmc.aiso

American Indian Center
Our Mission

Our mission is to create and implement a safe and empowering learning environment that prepares native students to contribute to the well-being of themselves and that of their respective communities. We are here to provide students with access to safe spaces to succeed in their environments.

Visit: nnmc.edu/american-indian-center