

Journal #3253

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Celebrate Native American Heritage Month - chickasaw tv

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[Celebrate Native American Heritage Month](#)

Native American Heritage Month is a time to recognize the significant contributions that native people have made to American society, chickasaw.tv

November is American Indian & Alaska Native Heritage Month. Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. It's also an opportunity to highlight the important contributions of Native peoples and the shared histories between tribal nations and other communities. Please [click here](#) to read more about it.

Thanksgiving

Each November in America we celebrate the harvest festival of Thanksgiving. Over the years, much lore has evolved surrounding early Thanksgivings and feelings of brotherhood and good will between pilgrim settlers and the Native inhabitants of North America. Sadly, most of these stories are inaccurate at best, and serve to ignore or gloss over a broad history of atrocities. In our hearts, we cannot celebrate Thanksgiving Day in the way revisionist history teaches our school children. We still feel the pain and suffering of our ancestors as the pilgrims celebrated their thanksgivings by theft of our lands and the genocide of our peoples.

Still, Native Americans are grateful for all that nature provides, and many of us celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday in our own ways. Moreover, we give thanks every day as we greet the morning star in the eastern sky giving thanks to the Creator, our families, our ancestors and our survival.

We wish you and your families a happy holiday, and hope you are able to set images of pilgrims aside and join in gratitude for the bounty the living earth provides us. In that spirit, let us share with you the words of "Thanksgiving" from our Mohawk relatives in belief that one day there will truly be a Thanksgiving for all.

Thanksgiving Address

Greetings to the Natural World

The People

Today we have gathered and we see that the cycles of life continue. We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony with each other and all living things. So now, we bring our minds together as one as we give greetings and thanks to each other as people.

Now our minds are one.

The Earth Mother

We are all thankful to our Mother, the Earth, for she gives us all that we need for life. She supports our feet as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she continues to care for us as she has from the beginning of time. To our mother, we send greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Waters

We give thanks to all the waters of the world for quenching our thirst and providing us with strength. Water is life. We know its power in many forms-waterfalls and rain, mists and streams, rivers and oceans. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the spirit of Water.

Now our minds are one.

The Fish

We turn our minds to the all the Fish life in the water. They were instructed to cleanse and purify the water. They also give themselves to us as food. We are grateful that we can still find pure water. So, we turn now to the Fish and send our greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Plants

Now we turn toward the vast fields of Plant life. As far as the eye can see, the Plants grow, working many wonders. They sustain many life forms. With our minds gathered together, we give thanks and look forward to seeing Plant life for many generations to come.

Now our minds are one.

The Food Plants

With one mind, we turn to honor and thank all the Food Plants we harvest from the garden. Since the beginning of time, the grains, vegetables, beans and berries have helped the people survive. Many other living things draw strength from them too. We gather all the Plant Foods together as one and send them a greeting of thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Medicine Herbs

Now we turn to all the Medicine herbs of the world. From the beginning they were instructed to take away sickness. They are always waiting and ready to heal us. We are happy there are still among us those special few who remember how to use these plants for healing. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to the Medicines and to the keepers of the Medicines.

Now our minds are one.

The Animals

We gather our minds together to send greetings and thanks to all the Animal life in the world. They have many things to teach us as people. We are honored by them when they give up their lives so we may use their bodies as food for our people. We see them near our homes and in the deep forests. We are glad they are still here and we hope that it will always be so.

Now our minds are one.

The Trees

We now turn our thoughts to the Trees. The Earth has many families of Trees who have their own instructions and uses. Some provide us with shelter and shade, others with fruit, beauty and other useful things. Many people of the world use a Tree as a symbol of peace and strength. With one mind, we greet and thank the Tree life.

Now our minds are one.

The Birds

We put our minds together as one and thank all the Birds who move and fly about over our heads. The Creator gave them beautiful songs. Each day they remind us to enjoy and appreciate life. The Eagle was chosen to be their leader. To all the Birds-from the smallest to the largest-we send our joyful greetings and thanks.

Now our minds are one.

The Four Winds

We are all thankful to the powers we know as the Four Winds. We hear their voices in the moving air as they refresh us and purify the air we breathe. They help us to bring the change of seasons. From the four directions they come, bringing us messages and giving us strength. With one mind, we send our greetings and thanks to the Four Winds.

Now our minds are one.

The Thunderers

Now we turn to the west where our grandfathers, the Thunder Beings, live. With lightning and thundering voices, they bring with them the water that renews life. We are thankful that they keep those evil things made by Okwiseres underground. We bring our minds together as one to send greetings and thanks to our Grandfathers, the Thunderers.

Now our minds are one.

The Sun

We now send greetings and thanks to our eldest Brother, the Sun. Each day without fail he travels the sky from east to west, bringing the light of a new day. He is the source of all the fires of life. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Brother, the Sun.

Now our minds are one.

Grandmother Moon

We put our minds together to give thanks to our oldest Grandmother, the Moon, who lights the night-time sky. She is the leader of woman all over the world, and she governs the movement of the ocean tides. By her changing face we measure time, and it is the Moon who watches over the arrival of children here on Earth. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to our Grandmother, the Moon.

Now our minds are one.

The Stars

We give thanks to the Stars who are spread across the sky like jewelry. We see them in the night, helping the Moon to light the darkness and bringing dew to the gardens and growing things. When we travel at night, they guide us home. With our minds gathered together as one, we send greetings and thanks to the Stars.

Now our minds are one.

The Enlightened Teachers

We gather our minds to greet and thank the enlightened Teachers who have come to help throughout the ages. When we forget how to live in harmony, they remind us of the way we were instructed to live as people. With one mind, we send greetings and thanks to these caring teachers.

Now our minds are one.

The Creator

Now we turn our thoughts to the creator, or Great Spirit, and send greetings and thanks for all the gifts of Creation. Everything we need to live a good life is here on this Mother Earth. For all the love that is still around us, we gather our minds together as one and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator.

Now our minds are one.

Closing Words

We have now arrived at the place where we end our words. Of all the things we have named, it



was not our intention to leave anything out. If something was forgotten, we leave it to each individual to send such greetings and thanks in their own way.

Now our minds are one.

"You Are On Indian Land": The 1969 Indian Occupation of Alcatraz

National History Day 2012 Ohio History Day 1st Place youtube.com

UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Chairman jon tester (D-MT) November 21, 2014 Contact: Reid Walker 202-224-0466

TESTER INTRODUCES RESOLUTION TO HONOR NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

(U.S. SENATE) – Chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee Jon Tester (D-Mont.) introduced a resolution to recognize the contributions Native Americans have made to the United States. The resolution, with 26 bipartisan cosponsors, was passed unanimously by the Senate.

“As we celebrate and commemorate the rich and diverse cultures and traditions of American Indians, we must acknowledge the enduring challenges many tribal communities face,” Tester said. “During this month and beyond, we must recommit to strengthening the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States. This month also serves as a reminder that the federal government has treaty and trust obligations to tribes, and we must do more to ensure they have the tools they need to build stronger and healthier communities.”

Tester’s resolution is cosponsored by Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), John Barrasso (R-WY), Mark Begich (D-AK), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Al Franken (D-MN), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), Dean Heller (R-NV), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Jim Inhofe (R-OK), Tim Johnson (D-SD), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Ed Markey (D-MA), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Patty Murray (D-WA), Harry Reid (D-NV), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Brian Schatz (D-HI), John Thune (R-SD), Tom Udall (D-NM), John Walsh (D-MT), and Ron Wyden (D-OR).

The full text of Tester’s resolution follows :

S. RES. 590

Recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

RESOLUTION

Recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

Whereas from November 1, 2014, through November 30, 2014, the United States celebrates National Native American Heritage Month;

Whereas Native Americans are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimated in 2010 that there were more than 5,000,000 individuals in the United States of Native American descent;

Whereas Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community;

Whereas Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations;

Whereas Native Americans speak and preserve indigenous languages, which have contributed to the English language by being used as names of individuals and locations throughout the United States;

Whereas Congress has consistently reaffirmed the support of the United States of tribal self-governance and self-determination and the commitment of the United States to improving the lives of all Native Americans by—

- (1) enhancing health care and law enforcement resources;

**Sandy Hook the Deadliest School Shooting in U.S. History...?
I think not. In 1890 the U.S. Government Shot & Killed Over
290 UNARMED Indians at School, Including Over 200 Women
and Children. How Quickly We Forget History.**



- (2) improving the housing and socioeconomic status of Native Americans; and
- (3) approving settlements of litigation involving Indian tribes and the United States;

Whereas the United States is committed to strengthening the government-to-government relationship that it has maintained with the various Indian tribes;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy, and the influence of the Confederacy on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of—

- (1) freedom of speech;
- (2) the separation of governmental powers; and
- (3) the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

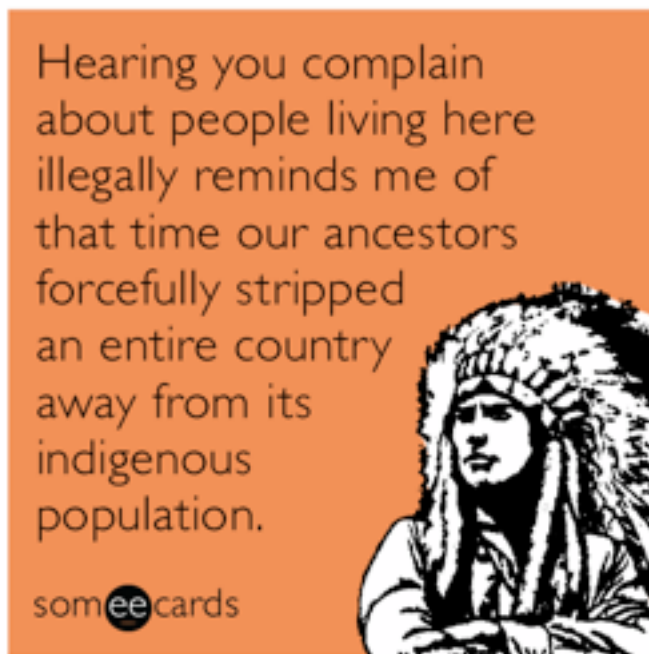
- (1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and
- (2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art, and Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless lives in the United States; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it



Resolved , That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2014 as National Native American Heritage Month;

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as “Native American Heritage Day” in accordance with the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–33; 123 Stat. 1922); and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

<http://www.si.com/extra-mustard/2014/11/21/washington-redskins-new-yorker-cover>

***The New Yorker's* new cover mocks the 'Redskins' nickname by [Extra Mustard](#)**

The New Yorker is taking aim at the Washington Redskins' nickname with the magazine's next cover.

The cover for the Dec. 1 issue is a cartoon by Bruce McCall, depicting Native Americans celebrating Thanksgiving with Pilgrims in Redskins jerseys.

“This is 2014, and it seems a little late to be dealing with that stuff,” [McCall explained](#). “It should have been quashed a long time ago. We did everything to the Indians that we could, and it’s still going on. It seems crude and callous. Names like the Atlanta Braves come from another time. So, in my cover, I’ve brought the cultural arrogance of one side back to the sixteen-hundreds and the first Thanksgiving dinner.” <http://www.liberalamerica.org/2013/02/06/angry-native-american-man-tells-white-anti-immigration-protesters-youre-all-f-ing-illegal-video/> just to see what would happen.”

The New Yorker adds to the growing media criticism of the nickname. *South Park* [lampped the controversy](#) earlier this year, and *Slate* and The MMQB don't even publish Washington's nickname.

Dan Snyder stands firm, though. He's never going to change the name. (At least not until someone adequately explains to him that he could sell millions of dollars worth of new merchandise.)

[Cover Story: Bruce McCall's “First Thanksgiving” - The New Yorker](#)

“I wanted to address the whole kerfuffle over the Redskins’ name,” McCall says. “This is 2014, and it seems a little late to be dealing with that stuff.”
newyorker.com

[Satire unites Redskins fans, Native Americans at first Thanksgiving dinner](#)
[Bruce McCall of The New Yorker took to satire to illustrate his stance on the nickname that some Native Americans consider offensive and that team owner Dan Snyder refuses to modify.](#)



<http://www.liberalamerica.org/2013/02/06/angry-native-american-man-tells-white-anti-immigration-protesters-youre-all-f-ing-illegal-video/>

Native American Rock Band "XIT" w/ Tom Bee. North America Music: XIT /" Video about Gathering of Native Reservation of Education " 1973 XIT was originally based in Albuquerque, New Mexico ...youtube.com

Americans-GONA-Historical Trauma healing tools http://digitalsmokesignals.tv/watch_video.php?v=6523OUGDG5H2

[Native Americans](#)

A white man and an elderly Native man became pretty good friends, so the white guy decided to ask him: “What do you think about Indian mascots?” The Native elder responded, “Here’s what you’ve got to understand. When you look at black people, you see ghosts of all the slavery and the rapes and the hangings and the chains. When you look at Jews, you see ghosts of all those bodies piled up in death camps. And those ghosts keep you trying to do the right thing. “But when you look at us you don’t see the ghosts of the little babies with their heads smashed in by rifle butts at the Big Hole, or the old folks dying by the side of the trail on the way to Oklahoma while their families cried and tried to make them comfortable, or the dead mothers at Wounded Knee or the little kids at Sand Creek who were shot for target practice. You don’t see any ghosts at all.

“Instead you see casinos and drunks and junk cars and shacks. “Well, we see those ghosts. And they make our hearts sad and they hurt our little children. And when we try to say something, you tell us, ‘Get over it. This is America. Look at the American dream.’ But as long as you’re calling us Redskins and doing tomahawk chops, we can’t look at the American dream, because those things remind us that we are not real human beings to you. And when people aren’t humans, you can turn them into slaves or kill six million of them or shoot them down with Hotchkiss guns and throw them into mass graves at Wounded Knee. “No, we’re not looking at

the American dream. And why should we? We still haven't woken up from the American nightmare.

The Myth of Thanksgiving Cannot Erase the Theft of Native American Land

Through Decimation <http://www.truth-out.org/buzzflash/commentary/the-myth-of-thanksgiving-cannot-erase-the-theft-of-native-american-land-through-decimation>

Disproportion, blatant inequity a reality for many Native students

Native American Times - News from the crossroads of Indian Country
nativetimes.com

lBy Publisher

Cherokee language: From Trail of Tears to texting in the native tongue

Cherokee language: From Trail of Tears to texting in the native tongue

As elders worry about whether their culture will survive, children continue learning to speak as their ancestors did



Thanksgiving: A Native American Perspective

Indians.org

Excerpt: "For many of us, thinking about Thanksgiving makes us think of the First Thanksgiving between the Indians and the Pilgrims. There are many versions of this story though, but many of us know the one we are taught in school."

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