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DOE

DOE, HANFORD CONTRACTORS AND WSU-TC COMMEMORATE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

President Clinton has proclaimed November 1996 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Native American heritage and culture will be commemorated throughout the month of November by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Hanford contractors, and Washington State University - Tri-Cities Branch Campus.

Throughout our history, American Indian and Alaska Native peoples have been an integral part of the American character. America's first peoples have endured, and they remain a vital cultural, political, social, and moral presence. Tribal America has brought to this great country certain values and ideas that have become ingrained in the American spirit: the knowledge that humans can thrive and prosper without destroying the natural environment; the understanding that people from very different backgrounds, cultures, religions, and traditions can come together to build a great country; and the awareness that diversity can be a source of strength rather than division.

Activities for the month include art exhibits, history presentations, and documentary films. "The Department of Energy is pleased to join the community in celebrating the history and accomplishments of Native Americans. Native Americans are an inextricable part of American history and their ancestry is deep rooted on land that is now a part of the Hanford Site," said Kevin Clarke, DOE's Native American Program Manager.

Listed below are the month's activities:

- Documentary films from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the following locations: - Battelle Auditorium, November 7, 13, 18, and 26 - 2704HV Building. Room G227, November 7, 12, 14, 18, 21, and 26 (Hanford Employees only) - Federal Building Auditorium, November 7, 12, 14, 18, 21, and 26 - Energy and Environmental Science Building (EESB), Snoqualmie Room, November 21 (Hanford Employees only)
- Native American Art Exhibit at WSU-Tri-Cities Atrium, November 2-22
- Presentation: "The Richland Man Controversy: Native Americans and their Reemerging Role in Managing Cultural Resources-- The Future as seen from Hanford." The presenter will be Dr. Darby Stapp of CH2M Hill. This presentation will held from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the following locations: - Battelle Auditorium on November 13 - Federal Building Auditorium on November 26 - WSU-Tri-Cities Auditorium on December 5

"We encourage the public to join us in celebrating this program to better understand the history and contributions of Native Americans. I am certain that this will be an enriching and educational experience for all who participate," said Clarke.

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