RINI Celebrates And Honors The First Peoples Of Our Nation

November is Native American Heritage Month, or as it is commonly referred to, American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month. The month is a time to celebrate the rich and diverse cultures, traditions, and histories and to
acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month is a time to learn about the different tribes, to raise a general awareness about the unique challenges Native people have faced both historically and in the present, and the ways in which tribal citizens have worked to conquer these challenges.

One of earliest recorded attempts to create a day of recognition for the contributions of “First Americans” dates back to 1912, when Dr. Arthur Caswell Parker (Seneca Nation), who founded several Indian rights organizations, persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to recognize “First Americans” Day, which they did for three years.

Three years later, Red Fox James (Blackfeet), rode his horse around the country to ultimately secure endorsements from 24 state governments in favor of a day honoring American Indians. Although he presented the resolutions to the White House on Dec. 14, 1915, the Library of Congress reports that there is no record of such a day ever being proclaimed.

In 1986, the U.S. Congress passed a proclamation authorizing “American Indian Week,” and in 1990, President George H. W. Bush approved a joint resolution designating November 1990 "National American Indian Heritage Month."

We encourage you to learn more about the traditions and contributions of Native Americans and Alaskan Natives in education, medicine, art, literature, government, sports, science and technology past and present.

**Fall Back This Weekend!**

Daylight Savings time ends this weekend and that means we “fall back” one hour as Day Light Savings ends. This year's time change happens on Sunday, Nov. 7, at 2 a.m., shifting back to 1 a.m. Daylight saving time is coming to a close this weekend, meaning we'll get to turn back the
Transform Rhode Island Scholarship
If you had $1 million, how would you change Rhode Island’s BIPOC community?

Students Grade 9-12 Enter to Win a Scholarship: First place is $25,000. Second place is $15,000. Third place is $10,000.

• **WHAT IS THE POC TRANSFORM RI SCHOLARSHIP?**
Simply put, it is an opportunity for young Rhode Islanders of color to express their hopes and dreams for how they would create change in their community, while providing financial assistance to them for higher education and related costs, such as healthcare and housing. To submit your idea and the chance to win, visit the Papitto Opportunity Connection.

• **HOW DOES IT WORK?**
High school students in grades 9-12 are asked to answer only one question as part of their scholarship application: “If you were given $1,000,000 to better the lives of Rhode Island’s BIPOC communities either through education, job skills training, business, housing or healthcare, how would you do so?” The top three entries will receive a one-time scholarship award, and the Papitto Opportunity Connection will invest $1,000,000 to activate the first-place entry.

• **WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP?**
Any high school student of color in grades 9-12 that is a resident of the State of Rhode Island and attends a public, private, or parochial school or who is in a registered home-school program.

• **HOW MUCH ARE THE SCHOLARSHIPS?**
First place is $25,000. Second place is $15,000. Third place is $10,000. These scholarships are one-time only and not renewable.

• **WHEN CAN I SUBMIT MY APPLICATION?**
Applications are accepted between November 1, 2021, and January 31, 2022. Winners will be announced at an event on the evening of March 15, 2022.
First Native American Nurse
Susie Walking Bear Yellowtail, RN

Susie Walking Bear Yellowtail, RN (1903-1981) was a nursing pioneer whose life was filled with groundbreaking accomplishments. And even after her death, she continues to make history: On July 1, she became the first Native American nurse to be inducted into the American Nursing Association’s prestigious Hall of Fame.

Born on the Crow Agency reservation in Montana, Susie Walking Bear Yellowtail was the first American Indian registered nurse in the U.S., as well as an activist who fought tirelessly to achieve better health care for Indian people. After graduating from Boston City Hospital School of Nursing in 1923, she returned to Crow Agency to work in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Hospital. The injustices she witnessed there—such as the forced sterilization of Crow women without their consent—galvanized her into a lifelong fight to end abuses in the Indian health care system.

From 1930 to 1960, the Crow/Sioux nurse traveled to reservations throughout the country to assess the problems American Indians faced. One of Yellowtail’s assessments revealed that seriously ill Navajo children were literally dying on the backs of their mothers, who often had to walk 20 miles or more to reach the nearest hospital. To fight these iniquities, she joined state health advisory boards and quickly became well known among national health care policy-makers.

Susie’s accomplishments were well recognized during her lifetime. She was awarded the President’s Award for Outstanding Nursing by President John F. Kennedy in 1962 and continued to serve the State and Federal Government as an advisor through the 1970s. In 1978, she was honored by the organization she helped start, the American Indian Nurses Association, as the “Grandmother of American Indian Nurses”. She passed from this celestial plane in 1981 at her home and was posthumously inducted into the Montana Hall of Fame (1987) and the American Nurses Association Hall of Fame (2002). She was the first Indigenous American inductee into the ANA’s Hall of Fame.
Meet the RINI Staff
Angelina Newbury
College and Career Readiness
Department Chair (CCR)

My name is Ms. Newbury, and I am originally from Providence, Rhode Island. I was raised in the South Elmwood section of Providence. I consider myself blessed with the opportunity to grow up in a diverse community much like our school. While I am originally from Providence, like many, I have lived in other states such as North Carolina, Florida, and Connecticut. Cooking and walking are two of my favorite hobbies. I have a Bachelor’s of Science in Community Health from Rhode Island College and a Master of Science in Allied Health from the University of Connecticut.

My first professional experience in healthcare was at Women & Infants’ Hospital for 18 years. My primary role was to educate the Rhode Island community on a variety of health related topics and refer to care as needed. In 2018, I was presented with the opportunity to join the RINI community. I accepted this new role open heartedly. During my childhood years, there was one particular person that motivated me to try hard in school and establish higher learning goals. That memory has fueled my desire to be that same type of motivator in our community. If I can be the voice of inspiration for at least one person, I have done my job.

My title at RINI is the College and Career Readiness Department Chair (CCR). I also teach CCR 9 and CCR 10. Here at RINI, we work together to provide our students with the necessary fundamentals to be successful in future higher education and ultimately the nursing profession. It is my honor to be part of this community.

What to Read Next: Book Recommendation
Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Angeline Boulley’s debut novel, Firekeeper’s Daughter, is a groundbreaking YA thriller about a Native teen who must root out the corruption in her community. Now, as the deceptions—and deaths—keep growing, Daunis
must learn what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman) and how far she'll go for her community, even if it tears apart the only world she's ever known.

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