

#1

January 2021

Turtle Island News Briefs #1 By Jennifer Rose (January 2021)



"Turtle Island News Briefs" is intended to be a regular, periodical news report by anarchist prisoner Jennifer Rose, cofounder of the Fireant Collective. Jennifer is a "white & identified, part-Native/Cherokee Two Spirit (or transwoman) and an aspiring prison journalist. Her purpose is to educate, inform, and raise public awareness in support of Indigenous Peoples' and Native Resistance struggles across the U.S. colonial occupied ceded/tribal territories of Turtle Island.

#FreeTheLand!



Native American Heritage Month 2020

November marks not only the U.S. elections and National Day of Mourning (known as "Thanksgiving") but also Native American Heritage Month. One of the earliest documented advocates of Heritage Month was a Seneca man named Dr. Arthur C.

Parker who was the Director of the Museum of Arts and Science in Rochester, New York at the time. Parker convinced the Boy Scouts of America to 'set aside a day for the First Americans', which they did for 3 years from 1912 to 1915. Around this same time, Rev. Red Fox James, also known as Red Fox Skiukusha, began a 4,000 mile trek on horseback to Washington, DC, to petition the U.S. government for an "Indian Day". The American Indian Association president Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapaho minister also issued a proclamation on September 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of May as an American Indian Day. Several states followed suit in 1919 by declaring days in early September honoring "America's First People".

In 1986, President Reagan signed a resolution proclamation designating November 23-30 American Indian Week. On April 3, 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a resolution declaring November as "National American Indian Heritage Month."

The National Congress of American Indians

says that Native American Heritage Month
"is a time to celebrate... and to acknowledge
the important contributions of Native People,
... to educate the general public about 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." (from Debajimon,
November 2020)



Certain Days 2021 Honors Sogorea Te' Land Trust

The 2021 Certain Days: Freedom for
Political Prisoners Calendar, for the month
of November, features the vibrant artwork
of Annie Banks, honoring the Sogorea Te'
Land Trust, the first urban Indigenous
woman-led land trust, with the slogan
"Rematriate the Land." An essay written by
Aric McBay discusses the intersection of
food, farming, and justice. November is
Native American Heritage Month, which also
celebrates the liberation of Assata Shakur,
the birth of the Zapatistas, and the ongoing
liberation struggles in Puerto Rico, Haiti

and amongst the Indigenous/Native Peoples
on the mainland of Turtle Island. Follow
Certain Days on social media:

Facebook: facebook.com/certaindays

Twitter: @certaindays

Instagram: @certaindayscalendar

(from Prison Break, - Certain Days Nov. 2, 2020;
<http://itsgoingdown.org/prison-break-nov-2020>).



Gray Wolf Loses ESA Protection

On October 29, 2020, following an announcement
by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ojibwe
Clan animal and central Anishinabe creation
story figure, Ma'lingan (Gray Wolf) lost
Endangered Species Act protection after
being delisted. Ojibwe tribal leaders
denounced the move as premature and spoke
out against wolf sport hunting seasons
expected to start in 2021. (from

Mazina'igan, Winter 2020/2021; Great Lakes
Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC),
2020; <http://www.glifwc.org/mazinaigan>).

End! — Jennifer Rose, I.A.C.