WINONA LADUKE

Winona LaDuke (b. 1959) is a prominent Native American activist, economist and author. Born in Los Angeles, California and an Anishinaabekwe (Ojibwe) enrolled member of the Mississippi Band Anishinaabeg, LaDuke's activism work began in the late 70's and early 80's while pursuing a degree in rural economic development at Harvard. As a student, she worked on a campaign to stop uranium mining on Navajo land, serving as a catalyst for her activism. LaDuke dedicated her life to protecting Native lands in the years that followed, founding several organizations that advocate for Native rights and land protection. In 2016, she led the protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline, but today she dedicates most of her time to her hemp farm. Winona's Hemp & Heritage Farm aims to create an Indigenous and eco-friendly, women-led economy that also touts the many benefits of hemp farming.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

November is Native American Heritage Month. The month was first observed at the turn of the 20th century as "American Indian Day." One of the first proponents was Dr. Arthur C. Parker of Rochester, NY, a member of the Seneca Tribe and director of the Museum of Arts and Science. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association called upon the country to observe the day nationwide. They issued a proclamation on September 28, 1915, declaring the second Saturday of May as American Indian Day, with New York being the first state to observe the day in 1916.

President Gerald Ford later proclaimed the week of October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week for the nation's bicentennial in 1976. Then, in 1986 Congress requested that the president declare November 23-30 as American Indian Week. Congress continued declaring one week in the fall as Native American Heritage week in the subsequent years until 1990, when President George H.W. Bush designated the entire month of November as Native American Heritage Month.

(Except from https://nativeamericanheritagemonth.gov/about/  Biographical info from https://www.womeninhistory.org/ Image from https://www_focusearth.org/)