

# Regional News

## Eastern Cherokee Defense League to Host 7th Annual Protecting Mother Earth Conference

To feature the negative impact and discriminatory practices of toxic and radioactive poisoning of Native Americans.

CHEROKEE, NC — This year's Indigenous Environmental Network's Protecting Mother Earth conference will have a distinct and significant meaning for some of the hosts of the conference who were recently discriminated against at a Shoney's Restaurant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana while attending a national conference on the threats that toxic chemicals like dioxin have on health and the environment. Members from the Eastern Cherokee Defense League received national media attention when they led a protest march of 250 of the nearly 600 participants of the Third Citizens Dioxin Conference against the discriminatory practices of the Shoney's business.

The march and the dioxin conference brought to the surface the

the 7th annual IEN Protecting Mother Earth conference slated for June 13-16, 1996 in Cherokee, North Carolina. The conference will be held within the reservation boundaries of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The ECDL reports that the Eastern Band of Cherokee People are faced with a long history of ecological destruction as a result of the paper pulp and paper production, logging, tourism and other industrial impacts. The conference theme, "Our Rivers Are Life," relates to these developments which have resulted in diminished fish species and poorer water quality. The impacts of possible dioxin contamination from local pulp and paper industries are serious concerns of ECDL. "Since our attendance at the dioxin conference, we have learned things that call us to question the level of contamination that the local pulp and paper industry is putting into our

## Oklahoma City's Red Earth Festival Gets First Day Stamp Ceremony

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK — Oklahoma City's Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival, scheduled June 7-9, 1996, will host the first day of issue stamp ceremony for the American Indian Dances commemorative stamps. The ceremony on June 7 will kick-off the three day cultural event at the Myriad Convention Center in downtown Oklahoma City.

"Postage stamps offer us a unique view of our diverse heritage by giving us a glimpse of the people, places, and events that have shaped our nation," said District Manager for Oklahoma postal operations Terry Wilson. "bringing the American Indian Dances stamps to the Red Earth Festival is a fitting tribute to the cultures and heritage they represent."

Five dances are depicted on

the colorful stamps designed by Oklahoman Keith Birdsong. The Native American dances featured are the Fancy Dance, Butterfly Dance, Traditional Dance, Raven Dance and the Hoop Dance. Dedication of the stamps will follow the magnificent Grand Entry into the Myriad Convention Center Arena at 12 noon Friday, June 7.

"The Red Earth Festival draws representatives of nearly 100 tribes to Oklahoma City in a celebration of Native American cultures," said Christy Alcox Red Earth Executive Director. "Through dance and art we are able to share the richness and diversity of Native American cultures with the world. We are delighted to bring these stamps celebrating Native American dance to Oklahoma."

### Scholarship Money

Paumanauke Pow-Wow and Native American Living Arts Festival are encouraging and assisting tribally enrolled Native Americans attending colleges, universities, and accredited post-educational institutions on a full-time basis to complete their education. Scholarship Awards of \$500 to qualified applicants who apply. Applications must be submitted no later than December 1st for the spring season or June 1st for the fall season.

For an application please write:

Paumanauke Native American Indian Scholarship  
333 Lagoon Drive South  
Copiague, New York 11726

### INDIAN MODEL PROJECT

Studio EIS and The Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center are looking for Native American people of all ages and types to be models for a historical museum project. You will be paid for your time. All people interested in being a model for this project will need to send photographs of themselves to Studio EIS. Included with your photographs should be your name, age, height, weight, tribal affiliation and all pertinent phone numbers where we can reach you.

Please send information to:

Studio EIS  
35 York Street, 12th fl.  
Brooklyn, New York 11201  
Attn: Debra Schwartz

### Journalism Scholarships

Knight-Ridder is offering a 1996-97 journalism college scholarship of up to \$5,000 to a promising Native American student. The scholarship is designed to attract talented Native peoples to Knight-Ridder newspapers in the near future. The winner may be invited to apply for additional Knight-Ridder scholarships in succeeding acad-

emic years to complete his or her college degree. The winner also will be required to work at a Knight-Ridder newspaper intern for the summer of 1996 or 1997. For further information contact:

Linda Fullerton  
St. Paul Pioneer Press  
at (800) 950-9080 or  
(612) 228-5465

### F & L DESIGNS

(518) 358-9061

Francis & Linda Fullerton



The Akwesasne Employment Development Agency and F&L-Designs are offering an open information course about the Internet. This course is open to anyone interested in learning how to successfully use the Internet, the World Wide Web, e-mail, and Internet Home Pages. The course will be held Monday through Thursday, beginning 18 March at the AEDA office in Sweet Grass Manor. The course will be held during the evenings, from 6 PM to 10 PM. Seats are limited to ten, however the course will be repeated each month through the spring and summer. There will be a small tuition charge for administration and an Internet user's manual will be available for purchase. Participants will have free Internet access during the period of the course. Details and registration may be obtained by calling F&L-Designs, (518) 358-9061. This course is funded by a grant from the Akwesasne Area Management Board.

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