Disney’s “Stories Matter” Initiative

Disney is now addressing controversial films that have featured racially offensive and stereotypical images and themes by utilizing their new “Stories Matter” Initiative.

As part of the initiative, Disney Plus has now blocked children under 7 from viewing films that depict ‘negative depictions of race’. The list so far contains Peter Pan, Dumbo, The Aristocats, and the Swiss Family Robinson.

This initiative also includes a webpage featuring videos of people from diverse communities discussing representation. This and more information can be found at www.disney.com/storiesmatter.

Fort Peck Tribes Health Board Order

On Thursday February 11, 2021 the Fort Peck Tribal Health Board issued an updated Health Order for the Tribe. This health order included changes such as:

- No Curfew (Removed from last order)
- Casinos return to regular operating hours on the grounds that they continue to follow guidelines such as: Installing and maintaining plastic or Plexiglas shields between machines and following both mask wearing and social distancing guidelines.
- Tribal buildings return to regular operating hours of 8 AM – 4:30 PM, however buildings will remain closed to the public except by appointment.
- No more than 50 people (increased from 30) to gather in a public space. Meals to-go only, no sit down meals.

Please bear in mind that mask wearing and social distancing guidelines are still in effect on the Fort Peck Reservation!
COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic

Q: What is fry bread?
A: A type of bread fried in oil or lard, a staple in many Native households.

Fry bread is believed to have originated over 140 years ago with many tribes claiming to have originated the first recipe, though the Navajo style has become the most popular.

With many tribes being displaced on reservation far from where they would be able to typically plant and hunt for their tradition foods, Natives were given canned and dried goods for survival. Staples included flour, sugar, and lard – the makings of fry bread.

Dustyn Azure named Cascade Men’s Wrestling Coach of the Year

Poplar Native Dustyn Azure was named the Cascade Collegiate Conference men’s wrestling coach of the year on Tuesday February 23, 2021. Azure was previously an NAIA All American wrestler at Montana State – Northern where he graduated in 2006, and former Ronan wrestling team coach until being hired to lead the Eastern Oregon University’s Mountaineers men’s wrestling program in 2016.

Azure has produced four individual All-Americans in his 5 seasons coaching for EO so far.

Who We Are >>>

Montana Ranks #1 in Nation for Hate Groups

According to research performed by the Southern Poverty Law Center, Montana is home to six active hate groups. With a hate group per capita of 5.55 groups per million residents, Montana is more than double the average US rate of 2.5 hate groups per million.

As of 2020, it was also determined that Montana was the nation’s 5th least diverse state, with 85.8% of its residents identifying as white. This lack of diversity could be a potential correlating factor to the higher number of hate groups.

The active groups within Montana are the Acts for America (anti-muslim), American Front (racist skinhead), American Freedom Party (white nationalists), International Conservative Community (white nationalists), Proud Boys (general hate), and topping the list as the largest group is the Last Chance Patriots (anti-muslim).

More information can be found at: SPLCenter.org
Many of these recordings were taken during the civil rights movements of the 60’s and 70’s, which increased minority visibility and helped spark the fight for Tribal sovereignty and treaty rights. The Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums will be serving as the national coordinator for this project, which hire an archivist to consult with tribes before any material is released. This was a vital step that was often neglected by the original researchers during the recorded interviews.

COVID-19 Vaccine Myths and Facts

Myth: The vaccine will make me sick with COVID-19.
Fact: No. None of the authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines or any COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the US contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. The vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

Myth: The COVID-19 vaccine will alter my DNA.
Fact: No, the COVID-19 mRNA vaccines do no change or interact with your DNA in any way. Messenger RNA vaccines, also called mRNA vaccines, are the first COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the US. mRNA vaccines teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response. mRNA never enters the nucleus of a cell where DNA is kept.

Myth: I don’t need the vaccine if I’ve already recovered from COVID-19.
Fact: You should be vaccinated regardless of whether you’ve had COVID-19 or not because experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering.


Suicide Prevention Research Study

Washington State University, in collaboration with the Fort Peck Tribes is seeking volunteers.

Have you recently had thoughts of ending your life? We want to help you stay connected with life.

You may be eligible to participate if you are:

- age 18 years or older,
- an Alaska Native and/or American Indian person,
- willing to meet 3 times with research staff over 1½ years, and
- can be contacted by text message, email, or postal mail

Taking part in this study is voluntary and confidential.

Participants will receive $20 for screening and an additional $30 when enrolled, and up to $50 for follow-up interviews.

Or text or call us at 406-688-9582 or 406-768-7129 or email at fortpeck@uw.edu or complete contact form here https://www.stayincontact.org/fort-peck-paid-study-info.html

This study is collaboration between Washington State University, the University of Washington and the Fort Peck Tribes. The Washington State University Institutional Review Board and the Fort Peck Institutional Review Board have approved this study.
About The Editor

Misty Daniels graduated from the University of Montana with a BA in Media Arts in May, 2020. Prior to her college career, she grew up and worked in Wolf Point, MT and attended Fort Peck Community College. Now she spends her spare time reading, playing video games, remodeling her home, and prepping her yard for next year’s gardening and chickens.

In The Next Issue

We cordially invite everyone to submit your ideas and articles for our next issue. Please email all submissions to: MDaniels@FortPeckTribes.net

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Fort Peck Tribal Building Operating Hours

The Fort Peck Tribes has entered Phase II, ALL tribal employees will return to work January 15th. Tribal buildings are closed to the public except by appointment. Employees will be available by phone and appointment between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.