

# CELEBRATE THE NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE OF THE GULF COAST

By Scott Page  
Splash

The month of November is Native American Heritage month, and there are several Northwest Florida museums and events that celebrate this important part of American history.

Local Native American tribes are an integral part of the history of this area of Northwest Florida. The names of towns, rivers and other landmarks bear the influence of the many tribes that inhabited this region of the state.

Before we explore the November events celebrating Native American Heritage, let's take a quick look at two of the most well-known tribes that called this area home.

■ **Apalachicola:** The Apalachicola Indians lived south of the present Florida border with Alabama and Georgia. They gave their name to the great river which runs through the Florida Panhandle.

■ **Pensacola:** Meaning "hair people," probably from their own tongue, which in that case was very

close to Choctaw. The Pensacola tribe seems to be mentioned first by name in Spanish letters dated 1677.

## Special Events

■ **Thunderbird Intertribal Pow Wow:** The Thunderbird Intertribal Council in Niceville will host its annual intertribal pow wow from Friday, Nov. 6 through Sunday, Nov. 8 at the Niceville Mullet Festival Grounds. The weekend schedule is as follows:

Friday is Children's Day from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Powwow at 7 p.m. Grand Entry; Intertribal Dancing into the night.

Saturday begins with a Craft Competition from 10 - 11 a.m.; followed by Special Performances from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The Grand Entry and Opening Ceremonies begin at 1 p.m., followed by Intertribal, Exhibition, and Competition Dancing until 5 p.m.

The Night Grand Entry starts at 7

p.m., followed by Intertribal Dancing, Dance Exhibitions and Competitions into the night.

The Sunday fun begins with a Church Service from 10-11 a.m. in the Arena.

Intertribal Dancing, Dance Exhibitions and the announcing of Competitions Winners conclude from noon to 4 p.m.

The Niceville Mullet Festival Grounds are located at the corner of Fla. Highway 85N and College Boulevard. For directions or more information, call Kirby Locklear at 850-863-5311 or Glenn Farmer at 850-678-7714.

■ **Creek Indian Tribe Indian Day Celebration:** On Saturday, Nov. 21, and Sunday, Nov. 22, the annual two-day event of intertribal dancing, displays and teaching of heritage and customs, great foods and large groups of Native American vendors with authentic crafts invites you to join the celebration. Don't miss this

annual Pow Wow, which takes place at the Floridatown Park. It lasts from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: From Highway 90 in Pace, turn south at Walgreens and follow Floridatown Road approximately 1-1/2 miles to the banks of Pensacola Bay; Floridatown Park is on the left.

For more information, call 850-944-4882.

## Indian Temple Mound Museum in Fort Walton

The Indian Temple Mound Museum in Fort Walton celebrates

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## Gulf Breeze Hospital will become Smoke-Free

We care about the health of our patients, visitors and staff. To support a healing environment, we will become smoke-free on **November 19, 2009**.

This will apply to all indoor and outdoor areas of our hospital campus including the Andrews Institute.

We ask for your support as we work to make our campus safer and healthier for you and your family.

A Breath of Fresh Air



**BAPTIST**  
Gulf Breeze Hospital

**(850) 934-2000**  
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