

American Indian Center of Springfield's Newsletter



Missouri State University student Shawnewa Dehozy (Navajo-Hopi) has been chosen by Harvard University for the 2025-2026 Medicine Pathways for Advancing Tribal Healthcare (M-PATH) program. The program includes a fully funded + stipend supported 3-week summer immersion program at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts. She will also work on a research project with a Harvard faculty member over the next year. The program sponsors only eight students per year nationally. Shawnewa is majoring in Bio-Medical Sciences, has multiple minors including Anthropology, and plans on a future career in medicine. Congratulations Shawnewa!



AICS Hosted our annual Spring Potluck in April at Springfield Lake! Thank you to everyone that helped make it happen! The kids had a lot of fun hunting Easter eggs and great food was shared in the great spring weather.



Our community came together and celebrated the Earth on Earth Day by making dream catchers out of natural materials! Thank you Debra Davis and Cori Jae for teaching this class for us!



We had a great time at our Wrap Beading Class! We are so glad so many people walked away with finished keychains! Thank you, Valerie Badhorse, for teaching our class!

RISE Program at AICS!

Our RISE Program is starting again at our office! RISE teaches financial literacy, communication skills, and accountability.

14 Week Course

Meeting Every Thursday at 6:00 PM
Starts May 1st at AICS Office

Any questions? Email RISE Instructor
Valerie – valerie@aicspringfield.org



The American Indian Center of Springfield has received a grant from the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP!) in Springfield. This grant is managed by the Community Foundation of the Ozarks, and the winners are chosen by a group of High School students from the Springfield School District. The students learned about philanthropy and non-profits in the area throughout the year and even toured our office this fall. We are very appreciative to have been chosen as recipients of this grant.

AICS Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry is open to everyone, regardless of tribal membership or income level.

Thursday 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Call and make an appointment if our hours do not work for you.

This grant is funding three of our Youth Programs for this summer. The first is adding a second drum to our Drum Practice group. The second is hosting a Indigenous Teen Book Club for the summer and the third is hosting garden classes to teach about planting and caring for a garden. Check out the flyers in our newsletter!



MAY EVENTS

- Health Scripts
 - May 1st 4:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Gourd Class with Springfield Community Gardens
 - May 3rd 1:00 - 3:00 PM
 - Building 1126A
 - 1126 N. Broadway Ave.
 - Free and Open to the public
- MMIW Awareness Day
 - May 5th 5:30 PM
 - Fairbanks Gym
 - 1126 N. Broadway Ave.
 - We will be watching the film *Women of the White Buffalo*
- Bow Class
 - May 7th 5:30 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Drum Practice
 - May 14th 5:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Health Scripts
 - May 15th 4:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Plant Flower Seeds
 - May 17th 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 - AICS Garden (outside office)
 - Youth Gardening Series
 - Flyer on Page 6

- Bow Class
 - May 21st 5:30 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Memorial Day – AICS Closed
- Teen Book Club Open House
 - May 27th 4:00 - 6:00 PM
 - AICS Office – flyer on pg. 7
 - Pick up your books and have pizza!
 - Sign Up for Book Club on our website!
- Snack and Yak Ladies Night
 - May 27th 6:00 - 8:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Bring a Snack and make new friends!
- Drum Practice
 - May 28th 5:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Health Scripts
 - May 29th 4:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Free and Open to the public
- Three Sisters History and Planting
 - May 31st 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
 - AICS Garden (outside office)
 - Youth Gardening Series
- Youth Nature Journaling
 - June 2nd 4:00 PM
 - Springfield Lake
 - Free!
 - Reserve your spot on our website!
- Garage Sale
 - June 6th and 7th 8:00 - 3:00 PM
 - AICS Office
 - Donations are Welcome

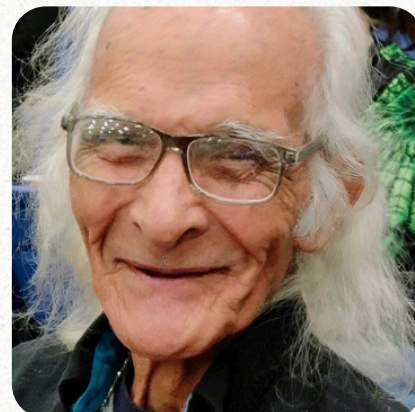


IN MEMORIAM



“Big” John Hernandez

John was a pillar in the Native American community. He was always ready to lend a hand or drum for anyone who asked. We sure do miss him!!



Vince Aragon

Vince was a founding member of the original and current American Indian Center. He was instrumental in rallying the new Center and was one of our biggest supporters.



Ed Loonsfoot

Ed was the Original Founding member of the American Indian Center and worked there for 27 years helping people within the Springfield area.



Jolene Yazzie-Oehring

Jolene was always ready to jump in and help. She was at every event, whether she was making the best Navajo Frybread, beading, sewing or quilting. She was a major part of the AICS.



Robert Tallbird Ryan

Robert was a Storyteller and silversmith. He worked with many tribes throughout South Dakota, hosting various ceremonies.

HealthScripts: Community Health Circle Program

Health Circles are co-facilitated by local family doctors, dietitians, community members, and elders. These circles are focused on connection, community, and supporting each other in building a healthy life. Every health circle has a theme to explore as we approach health in ways that are informed, sustainable, loving, and nurturing.



Next Session: May 1st at 4:00 PM

Health Circles will be held every two weeks. Attendance is not mandatory to continue with the program, but each session builds on each other.



Topics Include:

- Wise Nutrition
- Food as Medicine: Eating to treat, prevent, and reverse chronic disease
- Movement for vitality and joy
- Healthy mind and spirit
- Connection and Community
- Sleep and Rest
- Other topics based on participant interest

Some sessions will include hands-on workshops such as foraging and cooking.

To Register:

Please fill out the form listed on our website!



📍 American Indian Center of Springfield
1126 N. Broadway Ave, Springfield, MO

✉ info@aicspringfield.org

🌐 aicspringfield.org

Gardening With Kids!

AICS Youth Gardening Series

Plant Flower Seeds
MAY 17TH @10AM-12PM

Participants will learn the proper way to plant seeds and learn how a seed turns into a sprout! Take home your planted seeds to watch them grow!

3 Sisters History and Planting
MAY 31ST @10AM-12PM

Participants will learn about the Three Sisters (corn, beans, and squash) and help our garden leaders plant these Indigenous crops in our Community Garden!



Soil and Compost
JULY 12TH @10AM-12PM

Participants will learn about the importance of soil and how we need to care for it to make our gardens grow! We will also learn about composting!

Water Conservation
JULY 26TH @10AM-12PM

Participants will learn about the water cycle and ways to have fun in the summer while caring for our planet!

Harvesting Veggies
AUGUST 9TH @10AM-12PM

Participants will learn how to properly harvest vegetables out of our community garden and taste the fruits of their labor!

Garden Party!
AUGUST 23RD @10AM-12PM

Relax and celebrate nature in our Garden! Fun games and snacks will be provided!

PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTEND MOST CLASSES WILL RECEIVE AN EXTRA GIFT AT OUR PARTY!

Suggested Age Range: 7 & UP

Class size maximum is 15 due to supply restrictions.

Learn the Full Life Cycle of a Plant!



Any Questions? Contact Us!
American Indian Center of Springfield
info@aicspringfield.org
417-880-1570



American Indian Center of Springfield's

Indigenous Teen Book Club!

SIGN UP TODAY!

One of the most empowering things is to see yourself represented by a strong, fearless main character. Our Book Club will focus on books with Native characters that are written by Native American authors. The books will be provided for free for participants!



Our first book is *The Storyteller* by Brandon Hobson! This story follows Ziggy, who is on a mission to find his mother and discovers his story is tied to all the stories of the Cherokees that have come before him.

PICK UP YOUR BOOK AT OUR OPEN HOUSE:

May 27, 2025 @ 4-6 PM
AICS Office
1126 N. Broadway Ave., Springfield, MO

PIZZA PARTY!

The books in this book club are classified as Young Adult. These books are typically recommended for ages 12+.

Book Club Schedule:

The Storyteller: June 3rd @ 4-5:30 PM
Elatsoe: June 17th @ 4-5:30 PM
Braiding Sweetgrass: July 1st @ 4-5:30
TBA: July 15th @ 4-5:30
TBA: July 29th @ 4-5:30
TBA: August 12th @ 4-5:30

FUN
ACTIVITIES
AT EACH
MEETING!

SIGN UP HERE:

aicspringfield.org/events





AICS YOUTH POWWOW

OCTOBER 11, 2025

WEBSTER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
MARSHFIELD, MO 65706

SCHEDULE

Gourd Dance 1 -2 PM
Grand Entry 2 PM
Intertribals 2-5 PM
Dinner Break 5-6 pm
Gourd Dance 6-7 PM
Grand Entry 7 PM
Intertribals 7-10 PM

COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR NEXT GENERATION!
JOIN US FOR VENDORS, INDIAN TACOS, AND
COMMUNITY BUILDING.

Head Singer: **Kawliga Leroy**
Eucha, OK

Head Man Dancer: **Jesse Yazzie**
Miami, OK

Head Lady Dancer: **Sadie Barnett**
Kansas City, MO

Head Gourd Dancer: **Logan Aguilar**
Columbia, MO

Emcee: **William Branson**
Sturgeon, MO

Arena Director: **Preston Adams**
Kansas City, MO

AICS Powwow Princess: **Brailynn Blevins**
Jay, OK

No drugs, weapons, or alcohol.
We are not responsible for accidents
or lost or stolen items

For Information:

American Indian Center of Springfield
1126 N Broadway, Springfield, MO 65802
417-880-1570 info@aicspringfield.org