

People & Places

Philanthropy

Native Americans hit

Zuckerbergs fight vaccine hesitancy

NEW YORK, Jan 18, (AP): Dallas Goldtooth, known for his role in the hit FX television series "Reservation Dogs," slowly swivels in his chair to face the camera in a recent TikTok video. As he looks at the audience, a voice-over announcer says, "When people refuse to get vaccinated but also talk about protecting future generations, that's stupid."

The Dakota and Navajo actor joins other influencers — people who have earned the community's trust — in a two-phase public outreach effort by nonprofit organizations IllumiNative, the Urban Indian Health Institute, and 13 Native groups in states including Alaska, Minnesota, and California. The goal is to overcome COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.



Chan

The latest phase of the For the Love of Our People campaign is using \$900,000 from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative to focus on family and generational pride to encourage vaccinations. Grassroots organizations in COVID hotspot states were each given \$30,000 as part of the outreach.

"We're highlighting the strength and resiliency of Native communities, while calling upon each other to get vaccinated: for our families, our culture and our people," said Crystal Echo Hawk, founder and executive director of IllumiNative, which works to increase the visibility of Native American people.

The effort comes as COVID continues to hit Native American people harder than other groups. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention November report shows that Native Americans are nearly twice as likely to test positive, three times more likely to be hospitalized, and two times more likely to die from COVID-19 than white people.

More than 1,000 Native Americans have been vaccinated at sponsored events, and more are expressing trust in the safety of the vaccines, but leaders and others say more work is needed. In September, the National Indian Council on Aging reported that 43 percent of American Indians who haven't gotten a vaccination said they have no plans to receive one.

Confidence

Priscilla Chan and Mark Zuckerberg are distributing \$15 million to an array of nonprofits working to build confidence in vaccines among people who have been most affected by the pandemic, according to Kishore Hari, program manager of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative.

"It's not about a one-time investment in this community but making sure they are set up for success for years to come," he said.

Echo Hawk said a primary reason for the COVID hesitancy is that many Native Americans distrust the government due to the discrimination and racism Native people have faced throughout American history.

A 2020 study by IllumiNative, Native Organizers Alliance, Center for Native American Youth, University of Michigan, and University of California, shows 95% of 6,460 Indigenous participants said they do not trust the federal government.

The work to build more trust in vaccines provided by the government, to overcome hesitancy, and to get more Native Americans vaccinated started a year ago when the Urban Indian Health Institute reached out to IllumiNative.

The two groups joined forces, with each kicking in about \$100,000 in the first phase of the outreach campaign. One task was figuring out through a focus group what was needed to motivate Native Americans to be vaccinated. "The number one motivator was protecting the community," Echo Hawk said.

Then IllumiNative used social media, such as the TikTok video featuring Goldtooth, to fight COVID misinformation. So far the #ForTheLoveOfOurPeople videos have gotten more than 100,000 views on TikTok and more than 100 Instagram posts.

The groups' work caught the attention of the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, which was eager to expand the effort.

IllumiNative used a portion of the institute funds to create more informational content with Native Americans in mind. It posted videos of doctors, health experts, and elected officials talking about why they got COVID vaccines and encouraging others to stay protected. The grassroots organizations that received money followed suit, working to appeal to the people they serve.

The Navajo Nation is made up of about 27,000 square miles of land in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah, where 175,000 people live. Protect the Sacred, a nonprofit aimed at empowering the next generation, was concerned that too many members of the Navajo Nation were not taking COVID seriously so it launched an education and vaccination effort.

Using the \$30,000 provided by IllumiNative, the Navajo group has hosted a number of vaccination clinics, including one New Mexico event in December in which 900 people were vaccinated. Much of the success of the outreach is due to young people getting involved.

"A lot of (the grassroots organizations) are really trying to work a lot with their youth to create content they think will speak to their peers," Echo Hawk said. The Native American Community Development Institute in Minnesota is working with the Native American Community Clinic and the American Indian youth nonprofit Migizi, which means "bald eagle" in the Ojibwe language.

"As we talked to IllumiNative, we realized it's the young adults and youth who need to hear the message about vaccines," said John Williams, development director of the development institute.

So 12 Migizi students are working with the community clinic to understand myths surrounding the virus and vaccine. Then they will create a TikTok video to help dispel the misconceptions.

Motivating

The institute also distributed more than 200 flyers door-to-door and was able to attract 125 people to one vaccination clinic.

In Alaska, Native Peoples Action also used money from IllumiNative to help vaccinate people and distribute information about the virus in different languages and dialects used in Alaska, according to Kelsey Ciugun Wallace, communications director for Native Peoples Action.

The Alaskan nonprofit created social media and radio public service announcements about the virus. Several tribal leaders responded to the messages and agreed to be vaccinated, motivating others to do the same and helping establish more trust in the vaccine, Ciugun Wallace said.



Models wear creations as part of the K-Way men's Fall-Winter 2022-23 collection, unveiled during the Fashion Week in Milan, Italy, Monday, Jan. 17. (AP)



Fashion

Windbreaker brand steps into luxury fashion

K-Way taps new market with R&D line

MILAN, Jan 18, (AP): K-Way, the Franco-Italian brand synonymous with windbreaker, is stepping into luxury fashion with its first live runway show ever on the closing day of Milan Fashion Week.

The Milan-based brand has been edging into the space with collaborations for such fashion houses as Fendi and YSL, DSquared2 and Comme des Garçons. But it is also seeking its own profile in the streetwear/sportswear scene under designer Monica Gamberoni.

The combined men's and women's collection for next fall and winter that was shown Monday uses high-end materials — including upcycled sheepskin treated and colored for vibrant jackets and trousers with a sexy sheen. Recycled nylon was used for quilted garments and recycled feathers stuffed puffer jackets. Technical wool for knitwear was partially sourced from top producer Loro Piana.

Dubbed R&D, for research and development, the collection is strong on both styling and technical experimentation that departs from the brand's heritage as the maker of high-quality windbreakers and jackets, founded in Paris 57 years ago but long in Italian hands.

Marketing vice president Lorenzo Boglione, whose family controls the BasicNet parent company, said he expects many looks seen on the runway will hit the stores, and that participation in fashion weeks has helped the brand position the new line with consumers.

"We want to always twist and interpret our iconic product, but we don't want to become a fashion company," he said. "We are a sportswear company. But we want to be contemporary and modern, and that means also being

Out of this world: 555.55-carat black diamond lands in Dubai

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, Jan 18, (AP): Auction house Sotheby's Dubai has unveiled a diamond that's literally from out of this world.

Sotheby's calls the 555.55-carat black diamond — believed to have come from outer space — "The Enigma." The rare gem was shown off on Monday to journalists as part of a tour in Dubai and Los Angeles before it is due to be auctioned off in February in London.

Sotheby's expects the diamond to be sold for at least 5 million British pounds (\$6.8 million). The auction house plans to accept cryptocurrency as a possible payment as well.

Sophie Stevens, a jewelry specialist at Sotheby's Dubai, told The Associated Press that the number five bears an importance significance to the diamond, which has 55 facets as well.

"The shape of the diamond is

based on the Middle-Eastern palm symbol of the Khamsa, which stands for strength and it stands for protection," she said. Khamsa in Arabic means five.

"So there's a nice theme of the number five running throughout the diamond," she added.

Stevens also said the black diamond is likely from outer space.

"With the carbonado diamonds, we believe that they were formed through extraterrestrial origins, with meteorites colliding with the Earth and either forming chemical vapor deposition or indeed coming from the meteorites themselves," she said.

Black diamonds, also known as carbonado, are extremely rare, and are found naturally only in Brazil and Central Africa. The cosmic origin theory is based on their carbon isotopes and high hydrogen content.

on these kinds of stages."

K-Way took the first step two years ago by showing at the Pitti menswear shows in Florence in January 2020, just before the pandemic hit. Last year it featured a digital presentation during Milan Fashion Week.

The silhouette for next winter has a youthful appeal. It featured cropped sheepskin hooded jackets with utility pockets in shimmering, vibrant orange worn with slim yellow trousers with zipper details on the hem; leather mini- or midi-skirts with matching

puff-sleeve jackets with shearing details; and quilted long skirts with cropped nylon jackets. Knitwear can be oversized or slim, at times featuring the season's motif, the argyle.

The season's anoraks are ample, almost flowing like dresses, and the famous pocket for storing the jacket is hidden.

"This R&D label gives us the possibility to go beyond our classic or standard looks," Gamberoni said. "K-Way is still sporty more in the spirit than in the sport per se."



A model wears a creation as part of the K-Way men's Fall-Winter 2022-23 collection, unveiled during the Fashion Week in Milan, Italy, Monday, Jan. 17. (AP)



Marquez



Schapiro

Variety

NEW YORK: Steve Schapiro, a prize-winning photographer whose indelible images ranged from the March on Washington to the set of "The Godfather" and other films, has died at age 87.

Schapiro died Saturday at his home in Chicago, according to spokesperson Heidi Schaeffer. The cause of death was pancreatic cancer.

A New York City native who studied under the World War II photographer W. Eugene Smith, Schapiro started out as a freelance photographer in the early 1960s and was on hand for many of the decade's historic moments, whether the 1963 March on Washington or Robert F. Kennedy's presidential run in 1968. His work appeared in Time, Rolling Stone, Life and other publications.

On Monday, the national holiday for the Rev. Martin Luther King's birthday, "Selma" filmmaker Ava Duvernay cited the contributions of Schapiro, who photographed the 1965 march from Montgomery, Alabama, to Selma.

She included a Schapiro image of King, looking out anxiously amid other civil rights leaders.

"He was important to the movement," Duvernay wrote. "He photographed the March on Washington and Selma to Montgomery march. His images moved minds during a crucial time."

In the 1970s, Schapiro became a favorite among filmmakers and actors in New York and Hollywood and was on the set for "The Godfather," "Chinatown," "Taxi Driver" and more recent movies such as "The Man Who Fell to Earth" and "Billy Madison." His subjects included Jack Nicholson, Marlon Brando, Orson Welles and Barbra Streisand. (AP)

BOGOTA, Colombia: For decades renowned Colombian author Gabriel Garcia Márquez kept the public from knowing about an intimate aspect of his life: He had

a daughter with a Mexican writer, with whom he had an extramarital affair in the early 1990s.

The closely guarded secret was



An employee of Sotheby's Dubai presents a 555.55 Carat Black Diamond 'The Enigma' to be auctioned at Sotheby's Dubai gallery, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Monday, Jan. 17. (AP)

published by Colombian newspaper El Universal on Sunday and confirmed to the Associated Press by two relatives of the Nobel Prize-winning author, who is famous for novels like One Hundred Years of Solitude and Love in the Time of Cholera.

García Márquez died in Mexico City in 2014, where thousands of his readers lined up to see his casket in a concert hall. He was married for more than five decades to Mercedes Barcha and the couple had two children named Rodrigo and Gonzalo. They lived in Mexico City for much of their lives.

El Universal said that in the early 1990s García Márquez had a daughter with Susana Cato, a writer and journalist who worked with García Márquez on two movie scripts and who also interviewed him for a 1996 magazine story. Cato and García Márquez named their daughter Indira: She is now in her early 30s and uses her mother's surname. (AP)

BERLIN: German police are looking for witnesses after burglars broke through the wall of a toy store to steal dozens of Lego sets.

Police said that the theft took place over the weekend in the western town of Lippstadt.

The burglars left about 100 empty cardboard boxes behind, German news agency dpa reported. (AP)