

PRFTA Celebrates Native American Heritage



Joseph Stahmer (standing) along with the Turtle Nation Singers play a ceremonial drum during the start the Camp Parks Native American Heritage Celebration. Members of the band are: Elizabeth Stahmer, Aileen Aydelott, Angela Hoehne, Carmen Scott and Willy Scott. [Click on image to see a video.](#)



Mary Puthoff (right) and Jasmine show-off their traditional dresses as part of their presentation during Camp Parks Native American Heritage Celebration. Click on the image to see a video of Mary demonstrating the "Woman's Traditional" dance.

On Friday Nov. 30th Camp Parks Celebrated The Native American Heritage by conducting one of it's many ethnic and cultural observances. Mary Puthoff (far right) opened the events with a traditional Native American Prayer and the Turtle Nation Singers (above) from Livermore CA, provided renditions of sacred Pow Wow chants and drum music. The Command and Staff then participated in a ["Friendship Dance"](#) and concluding in the sharing of samplings of Native American foods.

The Turtle Nation Singers are part of the Livermore American Indian Center whose mission is to promote

educational opportunities to the families of needy American Indians. Also, to promote the culture and traditions of the American Indians and to provide scholarships for American Indian students in the Tri-Valley area. Joseph Stahmer (standing, left inset) was the honored guest speaker where he talked about his experiences growing up here in the Bay Area.

Throughout the Army's 237-year history, American Indians have served valiantly and with distinction in times of peace and war, while also fighting for the right to be an equal part of our nation. American Indians

have a distinguished legacy in the Army - from the courage displayed as Scouts with the U.S. Cavalry, to the distinguished service rendered as Code Talkers in World War II, to the true warrior spirit and acts of heroism shown in our brave Soldiers serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world today.



[For more photos of the event click here.](#)

