

## Lujan celebrates Native American Heritage Month

Written by Gallupsun Staff  
Friday, 27 November 2015 06:59

---



Santa Fe, NM – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District released the following statement today on Native American Heritage Month, which is celebrated during the month of November.

“During Native American Heritage Month, we take the time to honor the many contributions of Native peoples on New Mexico’s unique culture and our nation’s history. As proud home to 19 Pueblo nations, two Apache nations, and the Navajo Nation, New Mexico has been shaped by the richness of the art, language, and culture of our indigenous tribal populations. Native American culture and deep-rooted traditions will always be an essential part of the fabric of New Mexico.

“As we look back on the accomplishments and influence of Native Americans throughout New Mexico’s rich history, we must also look forward and work to strengthen tribal communities today and in the future. With respect for tribal sovereignty and by honoring our trust responsibility, we can partner with our Native brothers and sisters to meet the dreams and aspirations of tribal communities. Through investments in education we can support the next generation of Native American leaders in New Mexico who are shaped by their tribal colleges and universities. By increasing access to health care and building infrastructure, including broadband access, we can ensure that the doors of opportunity are opened wide for all Native Americans.”