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JR American Horse, left, of the Standing Rock Sioux raises his fist while leading a march to the Dakota Access Pipeline site last year in southern Morton County North Dakota. Jennifer Edwards Weston, a researcher, author and member of the Hunkpapa Lakota who was raised on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, will speak today at HCC on "Living Standing Rock." (WILL KINCAID

/ THE BISMARCK TRIBUNE VIA AP FILE)

HOLYOKE

Standing Rock Sioux talk today

In recognition of Native American Heritage Month, Holyoke Community College will welcome researcher and writer Jennifer Edwards Weston of the Hunkpapa Lakota today for a talk about the Standing Rock Sioux and their resistance to the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline through their native lands.

Weston's presentation, "Living Standing Rock," will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the PeoplesBank Conference Room (301-303), in the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development at Holyoke Community College, 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke.

The event is free and open to the public.

Weston was born and raised on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in the Dakotas where she has served her tribal government as environmental outreach coordinator and a grant writer.

She is a researcher who has worked for the past two decades with tribal community programs focused on cultural resiliency, environmental justice, education, and language revitalization. She has written for the Lakota Nation Journal, Cultural Survival Quarterly, OurMotherTongues.org, and served as an associate producer for the PBS series "We Shall Remain: A Native History of America," and the Makepeace Productions film "We Still Live Here: Âs Nutayuneân." She also works

as a consulting producer for indigenous film and documentary projects.

She currently serves as project director for the Wôpanâak language nest, Mukayuhsak Weekuw: The Children's House, and as language department director for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. From 2014-2017 she co-taught a Civic Engagement Scholarship Initiative course, "Native American Women in North America: Indigenous Mother Tongues, Leadership and Self-Determination," at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

"Living Standing Rock" is sponsored by the HCC Student Activities office and the HCC department of Anthropology.