



INDIAN COUNTRY TODAY

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E-Weekly Newsletter - July 11, 2018



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Talking with Westworld Actor Zahn McClarnon - Could he get an Emmy Nod?

By Vincent Schilling

Zahn McClarnon is making a serious impression as Akecheta, leader of the Ghost Nation, in HBO's popular series Westworld. Some speculate he might even be on the radar for an Emmy.

McClarnon's role in the eighth episode, "Kiksuya" made waves in Hollywood and generated considerable positive commentary from media sources such as Gold Derby, known for making fairly accurate predictions of what's to come in the film and TV world.

In an interview with Indian Country Today's associate editor Vincent Schilling, McClarnon discussed his career and involvement on the show. He also took some time to share words on how to be successful in an industry that has not always been so gracious to Native actors. (continued)

Indian Country Today

#NativeEnvironment
Pruitt resigns, Wheeler steps in: Will change at EPA bring about change or not?

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Heitkamp's Commission on Native Children Begins Its Work to Address Challenges Facing Native Youth

#NativeSports
Iroquois Nationals to play in Israel, face controversy from Palestine supporters. Release Roster.

Talking with Westworld Actor Zahn McClarnon - Could Zahn Get an Emmy Nod? (continued)

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By Vincent Schilling

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Vincent Schilling: Great to talk with you Zahn, no doubt you have a lot of stuff going on. Let's cut to the chase, there's been some chatter about an Emmy.

Zahn McClarnon: Truth be told I don't know anything about it. That would be great, that would be awesome, and I would certainly welcome a nomination, but I really don't know how that stuff works. But I'll tell you it's even nice to be considered for a nomination.

Vincent Schilling: You have been doing a lot of great work and you have always shown a sincere effort to maintain sustainability as an actor. You have a lot of persistence and a consistent work ethic in my opinion.

Zahn McClarnon: I have been going at this for quite a few years. It is hard work yes, and I do enjoy the process of acting and discovering different things about different characters. That is very important to me and that is my way of expressing myself. Acting is something I enjoy, it is not work to me. I love to stay in class. When I'm not working, you will find me in class learning more, trying to keep sharp and stay on top of things. On the other hand, I don't have the skill set in anything else to fall back on. (laughs) I have been doing this for 28 years. This is what I do. This is what I enjoy doing. It just isn't work to me. It's very fulfilling and no matter what it is, if I'm on TV or if I'm in a film or doing a piece of Theatre in Williamsburg, sitting in class, going through an audition or I'm working on sides, this is all something I just enjoy very much. I am very lucky and very fortunate that I have been able to work for the last 20-plus years.



Courtesy HBO

Vincent Schilling: You are doing a lot of fantastic work in Westworld as one of the Native "hosts." It's pretty cool to see the Native traditional element combined with a computer / android short-circuiting type of theme.

Zahn McClarnon: It's a wonderful show, the creators Lisa Joy and Jonathan Nolan on the show, I'll tell you, you just don't see this kind of writing very often. I think it is imaginative, thoughtful profound and it is just an honor to be part of a team of people so dedicated. This show definitely meets my own personal criteria for good television writing. I'm just fortunate to be part of this.

Vincent Schilling: Now of course you've got Irene Bedard and Martin Sensmeier who are part of the series as well as other great actors.

Zahn McClarnon: I love those two very much. This is the first time I've worked with Martin. He is a young professional, he shows up prepared and we have a lot of fun on set together. We laugh a lot. He brings his experience growing up in Alaska, and I think it is so important that they do hire Native actors. If you bring somebody who grew up in their culture, and they bring that experience to their work to native characters, I think it is very important. I am not saying everyone has to grow up on the rez to bring something to the character. But this is all good to see.

Vincent Schilling: I've been enjoying your work for many years. There's been a recurrence of things I've seen with you and Jason Momoa which started with The Red Road and most recently on Amazon came Braven which was a great movie.

Zahn McClarnon: Jason is a very close friend of mine, we just had dinner on Thursday actually, I just love him to death. He is a good man and there is some stuff possibly in the future we are working on together. In the movie Braven, they kind of let me go and they let me do what I wanted to do. There was a lot of Improv we had a wonderful time working on it. It was cold as hell up there in Newfoundland. Jason asked me to come back to do the movie and of course I jumped on it. I like his process and he let me do what I wanted to do, it worked out very well.

Vincent Schilling: I know I've asked you this before, but I always like to ask ways that we can share our thoughts with Native youth. What would you say to them about getting into acting or into the industry at all?

Zahn McClarnon: Study, study, study. I think I've told you that before. You have to make a commitment to your craft. Just go for it and jump in feet first.

To read the entire interview visit <https://goo.gl/t4j5yN>

Pruitt resigns, Wheeler steps in: Will change at EPA bring about change or not?

Scott Pruitt the controversial EPA administrator resigned last week after White House investigations, enter Andrew Wheeler ...

By Mark Trahant

Indian Country Today E-weekly Newsletter July 11, 2018



The acting head of the EPA, Andrew Wheeler - EPA photo

Scott Pruitt, the controversial agency administrator at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency resigned last week after the White House determined that scandal after scandal was finally too much. The list of allegations and infractions was long, including some 14 current investigations ranging from attacks on whistle-blowers to special personal favors from the industry he was supposed to regulate.

Pruitt was hostile to climate change science and even the process of government itself.

A columnist for The Guardian newspaper called Pruitt: "The worst. EPA administrator. Ever."

But will anything change now? The acting head of the EPA, Andrew Wheeler, is a former lobbyist for the coal industry. In addition to coming from industry, Wheeler also once worked on the staff of Oklahoma Sen. James Inhofe, long a critic of climate science. And the acting EPA leader is already involved in a controversy about the cleanup of abandoned uranium mines in the Navajo Nation.

Wheeler was once the lobbyist for Energy Fuels International. That Canadian company is now seeking federal contracts to clean up those mines as well as engage in new ones. Energy Fuels was one of the companies pushing to shrink the Bears Ears National Monument because the designation would have made uranium mining in the region unlikely.

Energy Fuels chief executive Mark Chalmers was quoted by CNN saying that the 500 abandoned mines – already on the Superfund list – should be cleaned up by his company because the company has the only mill in the area and routinely processes uranium there. "We offer the EPA an established, low-cost option to move material off the Navajo Nation, recycle it into fuel for carbon-free nuclear energy and dispose the remnants in our existing state-of-the-art facilities," Chalmers told CNN. "Our understanding is that Mr. Wheeler will not be involved in any decision on this Energy Fuels proposal."

The EPA has requested a budget of \$1.089 billion to clean up "many of the worst contaminated sites in the United States and return them to productive use." This contract also fits into a broader scheme for more uranium development in the Four Corners. A blog for The Grand Canyon Trust said: "Wheeler's name should ring a bell for those following the Bears Ears National Monument issue, and his ascension to EPA chief could be cause for concern."

According to Energy Fuels' letter to the Department of the Interior during the national monument review process, Bears Ears contains: "many known uranium and vanadium deposits located within the newly created BENM [Bears Ears National Monument] that could provide valuable energy and mineral resources in the future." The New York Times reported recently that Energy Fuels sold its Bears Ears claims to a smaller company, Encore Energy, in 2016. But Encore issued shares to Energy Fuels in return, making Energy Fuels Encore's largest shareholder, with a seat on its board.

Should President Donald J. Trump nominate him for the post permanently, he would need to get that nod again. Wheeler was confirmed by a vote of 53 to 45 for the Deputy post in April.

To read the entire article, visit - <https://goo.gl/fCzbSc>



Minority Business Development offering more than \$11 million in grants Deadline July 11, 2018

The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) within the Department of Commerce launched a search for innovative ideas to benefit minority-owned businesses, from projects that increase access to capital to resources that increase disaster preparedness and relief. MBDA's Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) is designed to solicit proposals that will positively impact minority-owned businesses and the communities they serve.

Read the entire article and see details for applying here - <https://goo.gl/UtA7qj>

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QUEENS WOODSIDE RE-OPENING WAITING LIST

WOODYSUN, HDFC is a 78 unit building including 77 units designated for the elderly 62 and older and elderly who are mobility disabled located at 44-20 64TH Street, Woodside, NY, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the waiting list for renting to those with limited income. Qualifications will be based on income guidelines.

Occupancy Guidelines:

Family Size *	Apt. Size	Monthly Tenant Portion of Rent *	Total Maximum Gross Annual Income **
1	Studio	Eligible resident pays 30% of income	\$36,550
1-2	1 Bedroom	Eligible resident pays 30% of income	\$41,750

Subject to occupancy standards

* Includes gas for heat and cooking

** Income guidelines subject to change

Monthly rent is based on 30% of the family's total household income (as per US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development regulations) and includes gas for cooking.

Completed application must be returned by regular letter sized mail only (Priority, certified, registered, express or overnight mail will not be accepted) to a post office box number, or its equivalent, that will be listed with the application and **must be postmarked by August 10, 2018**.

Applications postmarked after **August 10, 2018** will be set aside for possible future consideration. Applications will be selected by lottery; applicants who submit more than one application will be disqualified. Duplicate applications will not be accepted. Qualifications will be based on Section-8 Federal guidelines and additional selection criteria.

APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO MEET SECTION 8 CRITERIA and WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO A CREDIT & BACKGROUND CHECK & ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

To request an application, it can be downloaded from

www.phippsny.org

<https://phippsrentals.com/properties/woodysun>

or by mailing only a postcard no later than July 30, 2018:

**Woodysun, HDFC
902 Broadway, 13th Fl.
New York, NY 10010**

NO BROKERS FEE.

NO APPLICATION FEE. SHOULD BE PAID AT ANYTIME IN CONNECTION WITH THESE APPLICATION

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Iroquois Nationals to play in Israel, face controversy from Palestine supporters

Iroquois Nationals have been invited to play at the 2018 FIL World Lacrosse Championships, some oppose, some support

By Vincent Schilling

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Photo: Vincent Schilling

The Iroquois Nationals have been invited to play at the 2018 FIL World Lacrosse Championships, which takes place this year in Netanya, Israel from July 12th to the 21st. It is the first time the championships will take place in Israel and the 13th competition will see close to 50 countries competing for the gold medal, which is awarded every four years.

The Iroquois Nationals are in a precarious situation as Israel has already stated they will recognize those players who have Haudenosaunee passports -- thus the team says they will be asserting their independence and sovereignty as indigenous people. The Nationals have also had to abstain from playing in previous years due to non-recognition of their passports.

Palestinian groups have come forward to the Iroquois Nationals in a plea that the team abstain from the games. On July 4, 2018 one group, the Palestinian Campaign for the Academic and Cultural Boycott of Israel (PACBI) have asked the Iroquois Nationals not to participate, stating in an open letter, "We have both seen our traditional lands colonized, our people ethnically cleansed and massacred by colonial settlers."

Ansley Jemison, the Executive Director of the Iroquois Nationals says he has seen some of the requests to stay away from the championships in Israel, but said he and the team has to remain focused. "I think we are going to keep it as much about the game and as much about us understanding what we bring. What we are taking to the game is our medicine. And that can be a healing for both sides. We are an indigenous representative on the world level. We are not choosing a side. It is non-binary," he said.

Jewish Attorney Stanley Cohen, who has worked for both the interests of Palestinians and the Mohawk people for decades, told Indian Country Today he is extremely upset that the Iroquois Nationals will be attending the World Lacrosse Championships in Israel.

"I know that Israel is going to use this and exploit this. The notion that somehow Israel is going to allow a team to show up and can be put on the front page of the newspaper, is not going to accelerate or grant world recognition to the Confederacy or change any absence of self-determination and sovereignty in the United States. This will break any claim internationally of the Confederacy being an indigenous people in terms of other indigenous struggles. There are so many people who are furious over this. This is subsidizing and supporting and putting a stamp of approval on genocide. In the past nine weeks there have been 15,000 unarmed men, women, and children peacefully demonstrating who have been shot at."

Iroquois Nationals Executive Director Ansley Jemison acknowledged the struggles in Palestine, but mentioned as guests in a foreign country, he and his team, the Iroquois Nationals, needed to be mindful. "There is oppression that is happening in so many places in the world, particularly right in our own backyards, it is not our place to make comments about this, We are guests in this territory."

To read the entire article, visit - <https://goo.gl/9jysNC>

2018 IROQUOIS NATIONALS WORLD TEAM

ATTACK

Austin Staats
Lyle Thompson
Ty Thompson
Tehoka Nanticoke
Randy Staats
Miles Thompson
Kyle Jackson

MIDFIELD

Brendan Bomberry
Hiana Thompson
Ron John
Jeremy Thompson
Frank Brown
Mike Lazore
Oran Horn
Zed Williams

DEFENSE

Tyson Bomberry
Johnson Jimerson
Liam Anderson
Jerry Staats
Jake Fox
Taylor Smoke

GOAL

Warren Hill
Tyler Armstrong

HEAD COACH: Mark Burnam

ASSISTANT COACHES: Scott Marr, Brett Bucktooth, Lars Tiffany



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RE-OPENING WAITING LIST

Joseph J. Yancey, HDFC is a 66 unit building including 65 units designated for the elderly 62 and older and elderly who are mobility disabled located at 140-146 West 142nd Street, New York, NY, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the waiting list for renting to those with limited income. Qualifications will be based on income guidelines.

Occupancy Guidelines:

Family Size *	Apt. Size	Monthly Tenant Portion of Rent *	Total Maximum Gross Annual Income **
1	Studio	Eligible resident pays 30% of income	\$36,550
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* Includes gas for heat and cooking

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To request an application, it can be downloaded from

www.phippsny.org

<https://phippsrentals.com/properties/joseph-j-yancey/>

or by mailing only a postcard no later than July 30, 2018:

**Joseph J Yancey, HDFC
140-146 W 142nd Street
New York, NY 10030**

NO BROKERS FEE. NO APPLICATION FEE.

SHOULD BE PAID AT ANYTIME IN CONNECTION WITH THESE APPLICATION

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Senator Heitkamp's Commission on Native Children Begins Its Work to Address Challenges

Commission Holds First Meeting to Address Challenges Native Children Face, such as Poverty, Abuse, Suicide, Education

News Release

Indian Country Today E-weekly Newsletter July 11, 2018



Commission Gets to Work & Holds First Meeting to Address Challenges Native Children Face, such as Poverty, Abuse, Suicide, Educational Challenges.

Since Introducing the Bill to Create the Commission in 2013, Her First Bill as a U.S. Senator, Heitkamp has Pushed for its Passage, Funding & Prompt Appointment of Commission Members

Since introducing her bill to create the Commission in 2013, her first bill as a U.S. senator, Heitkamp successfully pushed for its passage which happened in 2016, fought to get the Commission funded, and pushed for the prompt appointment of Commission members after it became law. Now that every position on the 11-member Commission has been filled, the Commission is studying strategies to address the major economic, social, justice, health, and educational disparities experienced by Native American children— and offer sustainable solutions to significantly improve outcomes.

“The upsetting circumstances facing Native children— including generational poverty, adolescent depression, high rates of abuse, and a lack of adequate educational opportunities— have been largely ignored by the general public and improperly addressed by the federal government. These conditions are simply unacceptable, and our nation needs to honor its sacred obligation to our tribes and truly improve the outcomes of Native youth,” said Heitkamp.

“Since first arriving in the U.S. Senate, I’ve fought to create, fully fund, and fully staff this Commission. With today’s first meeting, the Commission can finally begin examining solutions designed to expand the range of opportunities for children in Indian Country. We can’t continue to do what we’ve always done and expect a different result. Now is the time to alter our approach as we work to improve graduation rates, intervene in abusive situations, build better career paths, and treat the effects of childhood trauma. With the Commission’s findings, we can build hope in our tribal communities and work to dramatically change the futures of these kids— our kids— so every child has the opportunity to succeed.”

The Commission is comprised of individuals specializing in juvenile justice, social service programs, Indian education, and mental and physical health, and includes several members from North Dakota.

You can read the full article here - <https://goo.gl/MfcKg7>

Have a question about this newsletter? Reach out to associate editor Vincent Schilling at vschilling@indiancountrytoday.com. You can also reach out to him on Twitter at [@VinceSchilling](https://twitter.com/VinceSchilling)

Thanks For Reading!

Indian Country Today E-weekly Newsletter

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