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MollyOckett

It is important to celebrate MollyOckett Day to serve the purpose of recognition of the damage and impact the white man caused the to the Native American culture and society. The white man forcefully converted natives to christianity and calling MollyOckett by her catholic given name gives perspective on the control and force of the Europeans. It is important that Americans recognize the heroic acts of MollyOckett and other brave natives. Our respect is deserved by the Abenaki tribes which were attacked and slaughtered by Major Rodgers (AKA; the White Devil). Through all of the hardship that was caused to MollyOckett she continued to bless all men and women with food, provisions, crafts, and skills. She helped anyone in need and her courage and kind heart still effects the men and women of Bethel today.

The Abenaki deserve respect for the damages caused upon their society. The Abenaki Indians were forced to pick a side in a war that was not theirs. They treated the earth with respect and lived true lives. To the Abenaki the most important thing was nature. When the white man came to take and destroy all of it, the Abenaki suffered. Forced into the French side, they were than slaughtered by the British. A sad tale of the destruction of a tribe by a man known as the "White Devil." The attack killed most of the tribe while "MollyOckett witnessed... and" she, "survived by secreting herself in some bushes nearby"(Catherine S-C. Newell; Patricia Stewart; Pauline T. Bartow; and Bunny McBride.). MollyOckett Day allows people to pay respect to this fallen society that was caught in the crossfire. Major Rodger's ruthlessness and brutality is recorded through the novel, *White Devil*. Historians say that "when Rodgers struck, Canada was fighting for it's very survival"(Brumwell 206). Rodgers showed no mercy towards the native people and treated them and their land with complete dis-respect and disregard. The

celebration of MollyOckett Day draws upon the history of the natives. It gives the citizens of Bethel a chance to show condolence. It is a way of saying that the Abenaki have earned the respect of everyone in this community and that we all strive to be like MollyOckett and have a strong connection with what's important.

MollyOckett's courage and kindness towards all men serves as an example to all the people of Bethel. When her whole culture was demolished in front of her eyes she did not seek revenge or more blood. She only sought to use her talents to help people in need. She was a skilled medicine women, hunter, and craftswomen. She offered her services to men of all race even after what happened to her people. She serves as a symbol of compassion and kindness. Henry Tufts found himself unable to feed his family and on his trip to Bethel he received money from MollyOckett while "she rallied him on the score of his coming to borrow of the poor Indians, who (she said) were generally despised by the white people"(Tufts). Although the indians were poor and sought vengeance with the white man, she went out of her way and put trust into this white man and helped him when he was in a time of need. MollyOckett is someone that we would all be proud to be like. The annual celebration of her life reminds us of her heroics and compassion. She will always be remembered by the people of Bethel and she will be looked upon as a role model.