



**Seniors celebrate Halloween**  
**COMMUNITY ❖ 7A**

**New student council takes office at PECS**  
**EDUCATION ❖ 1B**

**Ahfachkee runners tackle cross country**  
**SPORTS ❖ 1C**



# The Seminole Tribune

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Kevin Johnson

Seminole leaders celebrate after a guitar-smashing ceremony at the construction site of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood's expansion project Oct. 25. From left, President Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Councilman Mondo Tiger, Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola and Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr.



Kevin Johnson

A model display features the Hard Rock expansion project, including a 35-story guitar-shaped hotel.

## Towering Hard Rock project starts to rise

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — When people hear ‘Hollywood,’ they might first think of the city in California, but the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida plans to change that.

In an official announcement event on Oct. 25, Hard Rock International Chairman and Seminole Gaming CEO Jim Allen announced that the hotel and casino are currently under construction to make Florida’s

Hollywood the go-to tourist destination. The \$1.5 billion expansion will create a 35-story, 450-foot guitar-shaped luxury hotel tower with 638 suites and guestrooms. Allen described it as the world’s first guitar-shaped hotel.

Allen was joined at the construction site ceremony by Seminole Tribe Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr., President Mitchell Cypress, Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola and Big Cypress Councilman Mondo Tiger.

“I can’t wait to see that tower,”

Councilman Osceola said. “It’s going to bring a whole new element to the property here. We’ve been doing the same thing for the past 10-12 years and this is just going to add a lot of excitement to what we do here.”

In a statement to a crowd of more than 100 guests — many wearing complimentary white construction hard hats with the logos of the Tribe and Hard Rock — Councilman Osceola added that the expansion plan is just proof that the Seminole Tribe of Florida is capable of anything.

“We’ve come a long way over the

years,” he said. “This is certainly going to put Hollywood, Florida on the map. When people say Hollywood, their first thought isn’t going to be LA anymore; it’s going to be right here in South Florida.”

Following the details of the expansion, Hard Rock officials and the Tribal Council participated in a celebratory guitar-smashing ceremony along with E Street Band guitarist and The Sopranos actor Steven Van Zandt. During the ceremony, which took place on the hotel and casino construction site, guitarist Mitch Tanne and long-time friend and Iron

Maiden drummer Nicko McBrain performed guitar and drum solos, respectively.

Surrounding the new hotel will be a dining, retail and relaxation oasis. Plans call for the casino to be revamped, doubling it in size and filling it with more than 3,267 slot machines and 178 table games. Additionally, there will be a new 60,000-square-foot area designated for retail and restaurants.

McBrain, who attended the original grand opening of the Hollywood Hard Rock in 2004, said that returning for the expansion

◆ See **HARD ROCK** on page 4A

## Jennie Shore named NIEA Elder of the Year

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**ORLANDO** — As a child, Jennie Shore never attended a conventional school. She lived in the camp of her grandfather George Osceola, who wouldn’t send her to school because he wanted her to speak both Creek and Mikasuki so she could carry the languages on.

“So here I am today, teaching the language for 30 years or so and I’m still teaching it,” Shore said.

An instructor in the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School immersion program, Shore was honored Oct. 6 as Elder of the Year at the 48th annual National Indian Education Association’s convention in Orlando.

One of the original ‘grandmothers’ and a founder of PECS, Shore was bestowed with the honor before a crowd of more than 350 educators at the NIEA award luncheon.

“Your commitment to lifelong learning and the survival of Native languages is to be commended,” wrote NIEA president Yatibaey Evans in a congratulatory letter. “You are a testament to the strength and importance of our elders and an excellent example of how elders can continue to create new avenues to ensure future generations have a connection to our past.”

A video of Shore speaking about her experiences was played prior to her receiving the award.

“I spent a lot of years teaching words and phrases to students, but not speaking fluently. Then we started a language immersion program and I just kept talking to the kids fluently waiting for them to talk back to me. Finally they started talking back to me. When the little students started talking to each other in the language, I knew my teaching was working,” she said.

Shore joined the immersion program at its inception two years ago. Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. congratulated her in a letter sent to NIEA.

◆ See **SHORE** on page 2B



Beverly Bidney

Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School immersion program instructor Jennie Shore is honored as Elder of the Year at the 48th annual National Indian Education Association’s convention Oct. 6 in Orlando. Yatibaey Evans, president of NIEA, presented Shore with the award in front of hundreds of Native American educators from all over Indian Country.

“Her selection as recipient of the award only speaks to her dedication and commitment to our Tribe, not only to our youth but also to the survival of our Seminole language. She has worked tirelessly to show the youth the importance of our language and culture. Some of those same students today serve in leadership roles for the Seminole Tribe of Florida,” wrote Chairman Osceola.

## Canoe unearthed in Irma’s wake likely not Seminole

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

Making waves after Hurricane Irma passed through Florida was the discovery of a canoe found near the Indian River in Brevard County. Original reports speculated the canoe was a piece of Seminole history, but after multiple tests conducted by the Bureau of Archaeological Research and Florida Department of State, the speculation has proved false.

Randy Lathrop said he found the 15-foot wooden dugout canoe while he was riding his bike along the Indian River in Brevard County after Hurricane Irma passed the area in September. As soon as he found the item, he claims he “knew exactly what it was.” He and a friend contacted archaeologists in the Florida Department of State to report the artifact and check its authenticity.

“I was shocked,” Lathrop said. “It looked like somebody had picked it up and placed it perfectly on the side of the road. It was the oddest thing I’ve ever seen.”

The state conducted radiocarbon dating on the canoe to determine its age and found three possible date ranges for the canoe. According to Sarah Revell from the Department of State, there is a 50 percent probability the wood used for the canoe is from years 1640-1680; a 37.2 percent chance it is from 1760-1818, and an 8.6 percent chance it is from 1930 or later. She explained these probabilities are based on when the wood used for the canoe died or was cut down and that other features of the discovery, such as paint and wire nails, indicates the canoe may be from the 19th or 20th centuries.

Revell summed up the findings in three explanations in an email to The Seminole Tribune: The canoe was made in the 19th or 20th century from an old log; the canoe was made in the 17th or 18th century and was modified over time, explaining the paint and



Courtesy photo

Randy Lathrop, of Brevard County, said he found this dugout canoe after Hurricane Irma rolled through the area.

nails; or, though unlikely, the canoe was built in the 20th century.

Originally, reports and Lathrop thought the canoe might be of Seminole origin because of its dated appearance; however, researchers have yet to announce any official confirmation or denial of this and are not leaning toward this idea. While the canoe’s origins and affiliations are still a mystery, many who heard of the find were not convinced of Seminole roots, including Pedro Zepeda, a village crafter at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in Big Cypress and expert in Seminole dugout canoes and their history.

“It doesn’t match any Seminole canoes at all,” Zepeda explained, citing the shape, size and type of tree used to construct the canoe. “The tree used had large knots in

it, but Seminole canoes usually use ‘clean’ pieces of wood with no knots.”

While Lathrop considers himself a “history buff,” as he has embarked on numerous educational history adventures, including historical shipwreck salvages, he maintains that he is not an expert.

“I think a lot of people gravitated toward [the idea that it was a Seminole canoe] because why wouldn’t that be a possibility? With their strong history here and the time period, it very well could have been,” he said. “There was still a lot of Seminole in this area in the late 1800s and early 1900s.”

The Bureau of Archaeological Research is conducting further tests on the artifact’s paint and other features to learn as much as

◆ See **CANOE** on page 5A

**INSIDE:**

Editorial.....2A  
Community .....3A

Health .....9A  
Education ..... 1B

Sports .....1C  
Announcements....6C

See page 6A for Howard Tommie honor

# Editorial

## A hard look at history's bitter truths and selective memory

• **Andy Gulliford,**  
High Country News

It has happened again. Near Española, New Mexico, the monumental statue of Spanish conquistador Don Juan de Oñate has been attacked. Though Oñate rides his horse behind a tall metal fence, someone painted his booted right foot blood red and spray-painted "Remember 1680" on a nearby wall. In the culturally diverse Southwest, schisms over history and heritage live on.

The statue is part of the Oñate Monument Center in Rio Arriba County. While many longtime New Mexicans want to commemorate Oñate's bold leadership in establishing the Spanish presence in the region, most Native Americans from the Pueblo villages along the Rio Grande River — and specifically Acoma — hold a different opinion.

Across the American South, the public is embroiled in controversy over statues of Confederate war heroes. For some white Southerners, statues of Robert E. Lee and Jefferson Davis represent states' rights, chivalry and valor. For others, including most African-Americans, Confederate leaders symbolize a Civil War fought over the evils of slavery and the perpetuation of racist attitudes.

When cities such as Richmond, Virginia, and New Orleans, Louisiana, erected their statues in the 1890s and early 1900s, white people lived and worked nearby. Now, whites have fled to the suburbs and black residents have no interest in being reminded that their ancestors were treated as property to be bought and sold.

In the West, many of our statues and monuments portray victory over Native

Americans. The obelisk at the plaza in Santa Fe once had the inscribed phrase "savages" in a memorial to the brave New Mexican pioneers. Someone has since chiseled out that word.

In front of the State Capitol in Denver, a 1909 bronze monument commemorates the volunteers who fought Civil War battles, including Sand Creek in Colorado, which left 150 Cheyenne and Arapaho dead, most of them women and children. In the South, many statues are being taken down or concealed and covered with tarps. In Denver, no one "toppled, desecrated, or put into secret storage" the 1909 monument, writes historian Tom Noel. Instead, it was "preserved in a process that was conciliatory." In 2002, thanks to Senate Joint Resolution 99-017, the statue received a new Sand Creek interpretive plaque that tells a brutal but accurate story.

The plaque explains, "By designating Sand Creek a battle, the monument's designers mischaracterized the actual events. Protests led by some Sand Creek descendants and others throughout the 20th century have since led to the widespread recognition of the tragedy as the Sand Creek Massacre."

And so, a grievous historical error was corrected as Cheyenne and Arapaho representatives attended the new plaque's installation. But in Española, there has been no dialogue. The magnificent, oversized statue of Oñate was erected in 1992 to commemorate 400 years of Spanish settlement in New Mexico. A few weeks after it was installed, someone cut off the statue's right boot. Why? It is a bitter story.

Spanish soldiers, seeking food, raided Acoma pueblo and raped a young native girl. Fighting back, Acoma warriors killed Oñate's nephew and a few other soldiers. Later, in retaliation, Oñate's soldiers overran

the pueblo and killed hundreds of Acoma warriors, also enslaving the surviving men, women and children. In addition, Spanish soldiers cut off the right feet of 24 men from Acoma as punishment for their defiance.

That's why the statue's right foot was hacked off in 1992 — it was recast and replaced, though the seam remains visible — and that's why the restored statue was recently vandalized. "The timing of the vandalism does not seem random," wrote Amanda Martinez in the Rio Grande Sun. "It occurred the same day as the entrada during the Santa Fe Fiesta, which marks the return of Don Diego de Vargas to the area after the 1680 Pueblo revolt."

Hispano families seek to commemorate de Vargas' arrival and permanent Spanish settlement. "With a (local) population 78 percent Hispanic, many wish to celebrate Oñate's arrival to the area," according to a Rio Grande Sun editorial. From another perspective, the editorial continued, Native Americans have every right to be offended: "The racism here is real, multi-directional and simmers just below the surface of conversations we need to have."

Across the West we need to look hard at our statues and our monuments. We must distinguish between the sometimes-bitter truths of history and the selective memories of heritage. Española could take a cue from Denver. And Rio Arriba County and the New Mexico state Legislature might want to add an interpretive plaque close to the right foot of the Oñate statue.

*Andy Gulliford is a contributor to Writers on the Range, the opinion service of High Country News. He is an historian and award-winning author and editor in Durango, Colorado.*

## "She taught him," three words that can reshape political thought

• **Mark Trahan,**  
Native News Online

It's easy to get discouraged reading the news or looking at the political landscape. It's a frightening mess: Mass murder, climate change, an election system that at its roots is unfair, and on and on.

But the thing is every new challenge is matched by opportunity. Our legacy — and the definition of legacy, is a gift — are the platforms where Native leaders come together and solve problems. The world of politics is one such platform. And so often it may seem like it's only a far off promise, but yet, that legacy kicks and we see a new generation answer.

Too much philosophy? Ok. I'll get to the news: Rep. Peggy Flanagan is running on Congressman Tim Walz' gubernatorial ticket for Minnesota's Democratic Farmer Labor party. Gubernatorial? That's a funny word. It's from the Latin gubernator, common in the 1500s, but pretty much only used by journalists these days. Yet such a stuffy word is also a good metaphor because of what Flanagan's candidacy represents on at least two levels.

First, it's another breakthrough race (think back to that word legacy). As a citizen of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, Flanagan would be the first American Indian woman to serve as a state Lt. Governor and would be the highest ranking Native woman ever in a state constitutional office. (The only other one is Denise Juneau when she was the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.)

The second level shatters the word "gubernatorial." Back in the day, well, pretty much since the 1500s, the power of office was represented by a single man making big decisions. There is even an explanation of history, the Great Man Theory, that aligns a singular moment with a Napoleon or a Winston Churchill. But Walz and Flanagan would be different (a product of our times) and the Lt. Governor's office represents a partnership. Partnerships and involving more people is how the best teams will govern from here on out.

"Peggy's vast knowledge and expertise will be something I rely on daily," Walz said in his campaign news release. "Walz and Flanagan first met at Camp Wellstone in 2005, where she taught him how to knock on doors during his first Congressional run. They've maintained a friendship ever since."

She taught him. Three words that ought to redefine politics.

The idea of a partnership in governing

is recent but growing more common. Bill Clinton and Al Gore changed the nature of the presidency. It's certainly true now in Alaska where Gov. Bill Walker and Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott swap issues and sentences with ease. (Walker and Mallott are also up for re-election next year.) But these are all bros. It's still a boys club.

Flanagan represents the challenge — and opportunity — for political representation by (and for) Native American women. This country has never elected a Native American woman to lead a state, or even as a Lt. Governor. And we still have never elected a Native American woman to Congress despite some really fantastic candidates. That, too, could be a barrier to fall in this election cycle. If you look at the number of elected Native American women across the country in legislatures, and in county governments, or in city hall, then you see the possibility of a slow wave, real change unfolding over time. (Previous: She Represents.) It's not a question of if ... only how long do we wait?

There are two groups within Indian Country that are underrepresented by a lot, women and urban residents. Most Native Americans live in cities and suburbs yet most of the elected representation comes from reservation and rural communities. We need both. In the Minnesota legislature, and in public life, Flanagan has been that voice for urban Native Americans.

Back to that word, legacy. Flanagan is prepared to govern. She already knows how government works, and, more important, why government matters. She's currently the state representative from District 46A, representing St. Louis Park, Golden Valley, Plymouth and Medicine Lake. She is a partner in the Management Center, and has trained progressive candidates on how to run for office through Wellstone Action. She is the former director of the Children's Defense Fund — Minnesota.

Flanagan was a speaker at Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia where she read a letter to her daughter, Siobhan. "Because, despite everything that has happened to our people, and no matter what Donald Trump says, we are still here. And I want you to grow up with our people's values: Honoring our elders, showing gratitude to our warriors, cherishing our children as gifts from the Creator."

Legacy. *Mark Trahan is the Charles R. Johnson Endowed Professor of Journalism at the University of North Dakota. He is an independent journalist and a member of The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. On Twitter @TrahanReports*

## Tribal elder beating unacceptable

• **Levi Rickert,**  
Native News Online

On Sept. 16, late Saturday night, 64-year-old Yankton Sioux tribal elder Raymond Cournoyer, Sr. received word his mother was going to make her journey to the spirit world. As any concerned and loving son would do, he attempted to rush to her deathbed at the Good Samaritan Center in Wagner, South Dakota.

Sadly, he never made it to her side before she walked on.

Unfortunately, for this tribal elder, he was driving while American Indian, in Wagner. Apparently, too fast. Upon arrival at the Good Samaritan Center, he was approached by two police officers who had followed him into the parking lot of the nursing home. He tried to explain his sense of urgency to get to his mother's side. He proceeded to walk towards the entry to the nursing home to be with his mother. The officers told him to stop. He said told them: No.

The two officers involved — one a Wagner Police officer and the other a member of the South Dakota Highway Patrol — apparently did not believe Cournoyer's story. One of the officers proceeded to slam

Cournoyer to the ground, while the other opened fire on him with a taser gun. He was immediately handcuffed.

Some 45 minutes went by as the officers detained the tribal elder — all the while his mother passed away inside the nursing home — so the Wagner Police chief could arrive to figure how to charge Cournoyer.

Photographs of the tased tribal elder were posted by his daughter on social media. The disturbing photographs showed numerous places on Cournoyer's body where he was injured by the taser gun and the excessive force of the officers.

As do other Americans who read about the national epidemic of police brutality, I often try to give the law enforcement officers the benefit. However, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to do so. I know American Indians, on a per capita basis, are more likely to die as the result of law enforcement than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States.

In the case of this tribal elder, it is a complete disgrace the two overly aggressive law enforcement officers were so blatantly insensitive to him while his mother was dying. It would have taken just minutes for one of the officers to call the facility—or better yet, walk into the nursing home to

corroborate Cournoyer's story.

News reports out of Wagner say the two officers are now under investigation. Hopefully, the investigation does not take long. I think they should be immediately fired for such abuse against this tribal elder and made to publicly apologize for such inhumane treatment of a human being during a family crisis.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe released a press statement this past week. It read, in part:

"The Business and Claims Committee and tribal public are outraged at this incident. While there are still many unknowns, the pictures speak for themselves. It is unacceptable for anyone, much less an elder, to be deprived of their rights at the hand of law enforcement, and be treated with such force that they are bloodied, bruised and injured," exclaimed Yankton Sioux Tribal Chairman Robert Flying Hawk. "We do not know if there is room to have a respectful discussion about the incident but we must try."

*Levi Rickert, a tribal citizen of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, is the publisher and editor of Native News Online. Previously, he served as editor of the Native News Network. He is a resident of Grand Rapids, Michigan.*

## Moment of unity in a disintegrating world

• **Patrick Buchanan,**  
The Brunswick News

"An act of pure evil," said President Trump of the atrocity in Las Vegas, invoking our ancient faith: "Scripture teaches us the Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

"Our unity cannot be shattered by evil. Our bonds cannot be broken by violence." Trump went on in his most presidential moment, "and though we feel such great anger at the senseless murder of our fellow citizens, it is love that defines us today and always will. Forever."

Uplifting words. But are they true? Or will this massacre be like the Sandy Hook Elementary School slaughter of 20 children in Newtown, Connecticut, or Charleston massacre of black churchgoers by Dylan Roof — uniting us briefly in "sadness, shock and grief" only to divide us again and, more deeply, in our endless war over guns.

"In memory of the fallen, I have directed

that our great flag be flown at half-staff," said the president. As he spoke, the mind went back to yesterday afternoon where the NFL was roiled anew by athletes earning seven-figure salaries "taking a knee" in disrespect of that flag.

Also on Oct. 1, cable TV was given over to charges that Trump, attending a golf tournament in New Jersey, cared nothing about the suffering of "people of color" in Puerto Rico.

And we just closed out a summer where monuments honoring the explorers and missionaries who discovered the New World and the men who made the America we have been blessed to inherit have, along with those of Confederate soldiers, been desecrated and dragged down.

Only the 1960s, with Vietnam and the great cultural revolution, and the War Between the States from 1861-1865, rival this as a time of national disunity and civil discord.

To understand what is happening to us, we should look to Europe, where the disintegration appears more advanced.

Oct. 1, 4,000 national police, sent

by Madrid, used violence to break up a referendum called by the regional government of Catalonia on secession. Nine in 10 of those able to cast a ballot voted to secede from Spain.

Televised pictures from Barcelona of police clubbing and dragging voters away from the polls, injuring hundreds, may make this a Selma moment in the history of Europe.

This is the first of the specters haunting Europe: the desire of ethnic minorities like Catalans in Spain and Scots in Britain to break free of the mother country and create new nations, as the Norwegians did in 1905 and the Irish did in 1921.

The second is the desire of growing millions of Europeans to overthrow the transnational regime that has been raised above them, the EU.

The English succeeded with Brexit in 2016. Today, almost every country in Europe has an anti-EU party like the National Front in France, which won 35 percent of the presidential vote in 2017.

Beyond the tribal call of ethnic solidarity is a growing resentment in Northern Europe at having to bail out the chronic deficits of

the South, and in Southern Europe at the austerity imposed by the North.

The German elections underlined a new threat to European unity. The ruling coalition of Angela Merkel's CDU and SPD suffered major losses. The Bavarian-based sister party of the CDU, the CSU, was itself shaken.

Angela Merkel as the new "leader of the West" in the time of Trump is an idea that has come and gone. She is a diminished figure.

Some 13 percent of the votes went to Alternative for Germany, a far-right party that, for the first time, will enter the Bundestag. In states of the former East Germany, the AfD ran second or even first.

What produced this right turn in Germany is what produced it in Hungary and Poland: migration from Africa and the Middle East that is creating socially and culturally indigestible enclaves in and around the great cities of Europe.

Europeans, like Trumpians, want their borders secured and closed to the masses of the Third World.

Germans are weary of 70 years of wearing sackcloth and ashes.

Race, tribe, borders, culture, history —

issues of identity — are tearing at the seams of the EU and pulling apart nations.

We Americans may celebrate our multiracial, multiethnic, multilingual, multicultural diversity as our greatest attribute. But the acrimony and the divisions among us seem greater than ever before in our lifetimes.

Blacks, Hispanics, feminists, Native Americans, LGBT — all core constituencies of the Democratic Party — seem endlessly aggrieved with their stations in American life.

In the Republican Party, there is now a vast cohort of populist and nationalists who agree with Merle Haggard, "If you're runnin' down my country, man, You're walkin' on the fightin' side of me."

A massacre of Americans like that in Las Vegas may bring us together briefly. But what holds us together when issues of race, religion, ethnicity, culture, history and politics — our cherished diversity itself — appear to be pulling us ever further apart?

*Patrick J. Buchanan is the author of a new book, "Nixon's White House Wars: The Battles That Made and Broke a President and Divided America Forever."*

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# Community



## Competitive grazing field trial underway in Brighton

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — Smutgrass is the bane of cattle ranchers throughout Florida, who spend a lot of money trying to eradicate it. The invasive grass, originally from Asia, has a strong foothold in Tribal pastures in Big Cypress and Brighton.

Aaron Stam, federally-recognized Tribal extension program agent, knows that most ranchers, academics and the federal conservation service are focused on killing the weed, but he believes managing it can be profitable for the Tribe. He is working to prove his theory through a competitive rotational grazing field trial in Brighton.

"Smutgrass is very good forage if it is managed properly," Stam said. "It's like a banana farmer who doesn't let the bananas go rotten on the trees; they pick them before that. Smutgrass is the same way in that we have to have cows eating it before it gets unpalatable and unable to be eaten."

Competitive rotational grazing places more cows on smaller pastures to promote grazing while the smutgrass is young, tender and nutritious. When smutgrass grows to maturity it produces a seed head with no nutritional value, only fiber. When young, it has its highest crude protein and total digestible nutrients. The cows are moved from paddock to paddock so they always eat 21- to 28-day-old grass, the optimal time to grab all the nutrition.

"It grows back great in high volume and has close to, if not better, nutrition than Bahia grass," Stam said. "It's a weed and grows like one, so we are just taking those characteristics and putting them to work for us."

The 20-acre Brighton parcel is divided into four, five-acre paddocks; 36 heifers are rotated to a new one every seven days. The normal stocking density for that amount of cows is 110 acres. Stam believes there has

never been a field trial like this done in Florida.

Natural Resource Director Alex Johns is pleased with the trial so far and said it is going as they predicted. He and Stam believe it will take about two and a half years to fully know the results of the study.

"This trial is different because no one does this kind of research," Johns said. "Everybody uses the grass but they also try to kill it. It's so expensive to eradicate it so people try to manage around it. He [Stam] has the land stocked extremely heavy. Time will tell."

Johns thinks the study can help the Tribe increase stocking density. He believes they will find out they can run double the cattle and eventually profit more per acre, or find out that it is possible to over graze smutgrass. Either way, he believes the results will be useful.

Most academic and professional articles about smutgrass describe how to kill the invasive weed, not how to use it. Most call it unpalatable to cattle, which Stam is proving to be incorrect; his heifers eat it voraciously.

"We are three months in and it's been very promising," Stam said. "These 36 heifers can't eat all the grass that's being grown right now. That's an exciting thing to us. It means we can add more cows on fewer acres."

Smutgrass thrives in subtropical Florida and is here to stay. The Tribe has been battling smutgrass for years and spends a lot of money to get rid of it, but Stam believes if it is managed properly, it will be great for cows and the bottom line.

The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences refers to smutgrass as the state's most problematic weed; however, in a 2015 article it stated that although mature smutgrass plants are unpalatable to livestock, regrowth of smutgrass is similar in quality to Bahia grass, a heat-tolerant grass typically used for Florida cattle, and can be grazed for two or

three weeks.

Stam said getting cows to eat smutgrass and the other weeds, like dollar and broadleaf weed, which they normally don't consume due to their bitter taste, is like getting a child to eat healthy food instead of just "pudding and pizza."

"We know we can make cows eat it even if they don't want to," he said. "That's where the competitive side of it comes in. Once they get in an environment where they are competitively eating and the other cows around them have their heads down and going, they will eat those weeds."

There is a cost to competitive rotational grazing, but by feeding the animals weeds as well as a molasses supplement and minerals, the Tribe can save money. The biggest cost is the infrastructure of fencing, water and shade structures if necessary. It also takes more labor to move the cows every seven days instead of every two weeks.

"It's a farmer mentality," Stam said. "You have to manage those animals and make sure they aren't running out of water and be hands on with them."

Stam believes it will also improve soil quality. His theory is that as cows eat smutgrass with high protein and digest and excrete it, nitrogen is returned to smaller areas in the soil, which will fertilize the grass and make it more nutritious. Competitive rotational grazing will also allow ranchers to make management decisions for land not being grazed, by adding cows or using it for something else, and increase overall profitability.

"That's my big goal in this," Stam said. "Some people think it's crazy and some people think it's genius; it's probably somewhere in between."

An Iowa native who grew up on a dairy farm, Stam had a lot to learn about smutgrass when he moved to Florida four years ago. Since it is so prevalent in Big Cypress and Brighton pastures, he believes managing it for forage could be the long-term answer



Beverly Bidney

Federally-recognized Tribal extension agent Aaron Stam gives the cows in the competitive rotational grazing paddock a treat as he pours 100 pounds of pellets in the pasture for them Oct. 17 in Brighton.

and turn smutgrass from a problem into a resource.

Stam also believes if competitive rotational grazing proves successful, it will give more people without the means to purchase large amount of acreage the ability to go into ranching.

"I'm not a landowner and will never be able to buy 1,000 acres, but I may be able to lease 20 to 40 acres and have a reasonable herd," he said. "The idea that this could make cattle ranching more accessible to someone like me is very exciting."

The real measurement of the trial's success will be based on conception rate, weaned calf crop and weaning weight. Johns doesn't expect to have those results for two or three years.

"You want to get your first calf and see what the breed back is for a second calf," Johns said. "Usually the second one is the hardest time for a cow to breed, since it has to gain all that weight back to breed again."

Stam is "tickled" to work with the Tribe and have the opportunity to conduct the field trial. Johns is looking forward to knowing what the sustainable number of cows is to manage the grass as forage.

"It takes a different mentality to manage an operation like this," Johns said. "Most people think he's crazy to fertilize and grow smutgrass while everyone else is trying to kill it. The unique thing about us is we have the resources to do this kind of trial work and think outside of the box. I've been blessed with out of the box thinkers on my staff."

## Tribe shows appreciation for Irma workers

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — A disaster, no matter how devastating, tends to strengthen ties between people as they work together to overcome adversity. The Seminole Tribe's employees came together valiantly before, during and after Hurricane Irma to help Tribal members get through the ordeal safely.

Nearly 600 employees were honored

and thanked by Tribal leaders for their storm-related service with a two-hour luncheon at Hard Rock Live arena Oct. 19. Emergency Management, Seminole Police Department, Fire Rescue, Buildings and Grounds, Human Resources, Recreation, Housing, Information Technology (IT) and other departments listened as Tribal leaders praised their efforts.

"We appreciate everything you do and thank you very much for your service to the Tribe," said Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola

Jr. "The tireless effort that you put in to make sure we made it through, I can't tell you how proud I am to be standing here today and addressing you; it's truly an honor and a pleasure."

Big Cypress Councilman Mondo Tiger never expected to see a storm of such magnitude hit the reservation.

"We couldn't ask for better employees," he said. "If I ever have to go to war with any country, I'd be very happy and proud to walk side by side with you guys."

After a shout-out to his beloved New York Yankees, who were fighting for a spot in the World Series, Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. thanked the employees.

"We appreciate your service and sacrifices because you are the spokes on the wheel that makes this big wheel called the Seminole Tribe turn," Councilman Bowers said. "We need you probably more than you need us. We're just elected folks, we aren't firefighters, engineers, school teachers, IT folks and others with the skills; we appreciate you. Without you, we wouldn't be operating the way we are."

Councilman Bowers also mentioned the disaster that Hurricane Maria inflicted on the Caribbean.

"If we sent Seminole Tribe employees down there, they would probably get better results than what they are getting now," he said to enthusiastic applause.

"I know when our community got hit hard, the employees out there stepped up," said Big Cypress Board Rep. Joe Frank. "I definitely want to say a big thank you."



Beverly Bidney

Fire Rescue employees gather for a photo at an employee appreciation lunch at Hard Rock Live Oct. 19

Rep. Frank took a big lesson from the devastation suffered by the Miccosukee Tribe 25 years ago from Hurricane Andrew and knew the Tribe needed to be ready for the next big one.

"Today, with the accelerated climate change we're going through, the oceans are getting warmer and we're going to see more of these," Rep. Frank said. "As they come across the Atlantic, they will have time to gather more energy. So don't lose your skills, we may need them."

Hollywood Board Rep. Gordon "Ollie"

Wareham described what happened in the aftermath of the storm at the Hollywood Trading Post.

"We got lucky on this side, we didn't get much of the breeze," Rep. Wareham said. "We knew we needed SPD at the gas station and that there was going to be chaos in the streets and at the other gas stations. We heard from our customers that it was a mess out there, at each gas station there was

♦ See IRMA on page 5A



Beverly Bidney

Nearly 600 employees were honored for their work helping the Tribe get through Hurricane Irma and its aftermath with a luncheon at the Hard Rock Live in Hollywood.

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## ◆ HARD ROCK From page 1A

announcement was an honor and he hopes to bring his restaurant, Rock 'n Roll Ribs BBQ, which he runs with Tanne, to the new site.

"It's all based around the music," he explained of the plans. "We all love music, whether it's rock and roll or whatever. It's wonderful that somebody decided to do this and make a hotel in the actual shape of a guitar."

Along the base of the guitar tower will be a luxury 10-acre pool complex with a man-made lake, private villas and pools, waterfalls, chickee cabanas and butler service. The pool area will also feature water activities, such as canoes and paddleboats, which will be available to all guests.

Hard Rock Live patrons will also gain a new experience, as the arena is getting a \$100 million makeover. Hard Rock International is completely rebuilding the music venue, which currently holds 5,500 people and is a popular concert and comedy show location. Beginning in March 2018, construction will replace the arena with a 7,000-seat, theater-style building.

The relaunch of the Hard Rock Live will also introduce its own television studio and broadcast center, which Hard Rock International hopes will produce and televise awards shows and other major events. Upon this venue opening in 2019, the old Hard Rock Live will become a 37,000-square foot ballroom used for meetings and other events.

Since the hotel's inception in May 2004, it has maintained an occupancy rate of 96 percent or more every day, according to Allen.

"There's not many hotels that have that kind of success," he said, adding that the hotel itself will be the must-see attraction for the location, rivaling anything in California.

### Making history

The Seminole Tribe of Florida bought Hard Rock International from the Rank Group of Britain for \$965 million in 2007. According to the New York Times, this was one of the largest purchases ever conducted by a Native American tribe. The purchase introduced the Tribe to a global audience, as Hard Rock International has casinos, cafes and hotels throughout the world and thousands of employees. The Hollywood expansion is projected to create another 20,000 jobs.

Tribal Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. said that acquiring the Hard Rock franchise was an exceptional accomplishment.

"We've made a lot of sacrifices. We did a little thing, something no tribe has done before – any tribe in its history – and we went international," he said. "We bought Hard Rock International just over 10 years ago and



Kevin Johnson

Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola, center, celebrates the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's construction project with Big Cypress Councilman Mondo Tiger, left, and E Street Band guitarist and "The Sopranos" actor Steven Van Zandt during a ceremony Oct. 25.

that's an amazing feat."

Since the Tribe's acquisition of the corporation, HRI has received high ratings from three major credit rating agencies – Standard and Poor's, Moody's and Fitch Group. According to releases by the agencies, the reason for this lies in the Tribe's increasing trustworthiness, political stability and strong operating and financial profile.

According to Allen, Hard Rock International is the only hospitality company with an investment-grade rating from those three agencies, and a large reason for that

secure and in place and is unchallengeable by anyone until 2030," Allen said, referencing the Tribe's ability to conduct banked games, as per a 20-year term compact with the State of Florida.

The AAA Four Diamond-rated location expects to open the renovated resort in mid-year 2019, just in time to welcome those coming to South Florida for Super Bowl LIV in February 2020 at Hard Rock Stadium, a few miles away in Miami Gardens. Kicking off the new Hard Rock location is the best situation the Tribe could have asked for



Kevin Johnson

Christine McCall and her mother Wanda Bowers, along with Kyle Doney, at right, were among the Tribal members and other guests who attended the ceremony.

is the dedication of the Tribal Council and Florida Gov. Rick Scott.

"We had this project in a holding pattern for quite some time. ... We wanted to make sure the Tribe's future and security was in place. By working with the governor and representatives from the House and the Senate, the Tribe's compact is 100 percent

according to Councilman Osceola.

"The Super Bowl is going to be the most exciting thing. It's all going to go down here at the Hard Rock Stadium and the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino," he said. "It doesn't get any better than that. ... I'll be right in the middle of it. I wouldn't miss it for the world."



Kevin Johnson

Chickee Baptist Church Rev. Van Samuels provides an opening prayer at the start of a ceremony Oct. 25 celebrating the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's construction project in Hollywood.



Kevin Johnson

Trail Council Liaison Norman Huggins chats with Iron Maiden drummer Nicko McBrain during a ceremony celebrating the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood's expansion project Oct. 25.



Kevin Johnson

Officials get ready to smash guitars during a ceremony at the construction site of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood's expansion project.

# Breast cancer survivor stories hit home

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

more years to my life, my hair will grow back."

While October in northern climates brings a change in the color of leaves, the most noticeable change in Florida is the prevalence of the color pink, which popped up around reservations to commemorate Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Tribal members wore pink as they walked together, posed for photos and listened to speakers recount their breast cancer survival stories throughout the month. On Oct. 13 in Immokalee, a group of women listened intently as Maggie Billie Porter shared her story.

"The more we talk about it and educate ourselves, the better off we will be," said Porter, who was diagnosed in 2012. "I was raised in the traditional way in a camp, but we need to use modern medicine to tackle this disease."

Early detection is crucial to surviving breast cancer, which is the second most common cancer in women after skin cancer. Native American women have the lowest incidence based on race and ethnicity, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). White women have the highest rate of breast cancer followed by black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) women.

A 19-year study, published in 2014 in the American Journal of Public Health, cited breast cancer as the most common cancer and leading cause of cancer mortality in AI/AN women. Despite having lower incidences of breast cancer than white women, AI/AN women are more likely to be diagnosed at younger ages and later stages.

At age 61, Porter was feeling good after she lost some weight, but a routine mammogram detected cancer in her breast and lymph nodes.

"It was really a blow," she said. "I was ready to fight and do whatever I had to do to survive. Some women are afraid of radiation. The key to me was if it's going to give me

Porter had six chemo and 34 radiation treatments. She is still fighting and sees her doctor every six months, eats healthier and exercises regularly.

"It's important to get a mammogram every year," she said. "I skipped one year and the following year they discovered I had breast cancer."

For older generations brought up traditionally, it can be an uncomfortable topic to discuss. Porter generously offered to be a resource and speak privately to those who have more questions about the disease.

"It's a killer but it doesn't have to be," said Health Nutrition Counselor Andrea Kuzbyt. "Screening for it and getting checked can save your life."

This mentality saved Kuzbyt, who was diagnosed with breast cancer when she was 32. She received chemotherapy and radiation to battle the disease and has been cancer free for about 10 years.

While a family history of breast cancer can increase its risk, breast cancer can strike anyone. Neither Porter nor Kuzbyt had a history of breast cancer in their families.

"You just thank God that you get up every day," Porter said. "It affects you physically and mentally."

Prior to the event, Immokalee Council Project Manager Raymond Garza welcomed those in attendance.

"They teach us to use our medicine," he said. "But we have to talk about diseases that kill our people. Hopefully, they will find a cure for it one day."

The Radiology Regional Center mobile mammogram bus will be at the Big Cypress Medical Center Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To make an appointment, contact Health Educator Jamie Diersing at 863-983-5798. The bus will be in Brighton Nov. 30. To make an appointment contact Health Educator Staci Hale at 863-763-0271.



Kevin Johnson

The Big Cypress Reservation and the Wellness Center showed their support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month with a series of educational programs and activities, including gathering for a photo Oct. 13 for the community's Wear Pink Day.

## Brighton participates in Indigenous Pink Day



Photos courtesy Staci Hale

Allied Health's Health Education at the Brighton Medical Center held weekly walks in the month of October. The Walktober program included participants who wore FitBits. Tribal members wore their pink on Indigenous Pink day Oct. 19. Above, (back row) Farrah Lytle and Lewis Gopher, (front row) Dinorah Johns, Molly Jolly, Stacey Jones, Cattina King, Elbert Snow, Reese Bert Jr. and Abriil Maldonado. Below, Patty Waldron, Marilyn Doney and Toni Johnson.





U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, left, discusses the damage from Hurricane Irma in Everglades National Park with Park Superintendent Pedro Ramos, center, and Sen. Marco Rubio.

## During Everglades visit, Zinke wishes Congress would 'take their cue'

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

**EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK** — Similar to the rest of South Florida, Everglades National Park didn't escape Hurricane Irma's wrath in September. To better understand the extent of the damage and prepare a relief plan, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and Sen. Marco Rubio visited the area Oct. 7.

The Flamingo Marina and Visitor Center, for example, took a hard hit from the storm. The building, approximately 40 miles from the park entrance, was devastated by flooding, debris and some structural damage. The floor of one area was completely covered in sand and water.

The campgrounds near this area also saw damage, as flooding destroyed trees and created conditions unsafe for visitors. Though the Flamingo portion of the park is open, there are still no visitor services available. Other areas of the National Park are fully accessible.

Led by Everglades Park Superintendent Pedro Ramos, Zinke and Rubio walked through National Park campgrounds, the Flamingo Marina and Visitor Center and other sections of the park to the rebuilding process with park officials, which Rubio said will make the park even better than before.

"This is an enormous part of our identity as a state and an incredible part of our economy," Rubio said of the park, where he recounted spending memorable experiences with his family. "This is a key part of what we wanted to see here today and to be able to go back and work with our colleagues, both in the administration and in Congress, to make sure we rebuild and bring back the facilities like this in the Everglades stronger than ever."

Zinke estimates repairing the Everglades will take millions of dollars. Though costly, he said that repairing communities and parks is crucial, not only for stewardship and protection, but also for the global community.

## Prepare to Pow Wow

**HOLLYWOOD** — The 47th annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow Wow will be held Feb. 9-11 at the Hard Rock Live at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood. The free event will feature live

music, alligator shows, contests, basketball tournaments, arts and crafts, and dance competitions. For more information, visit [semtribefairandpowwow.com](http://semtribefairandpowwow.com).

## ◆ CANOE From page 1A

possible about the item. Once the Department of State's conservation lab in Tallahassee stabilizes and preserves the canoe, the state will put it on display in Brevard County.

The University of South Florida created a 3D model of the canoe, which is available

at [sketchfab.com/models](http://sketchfab.com/models). Search for "wooden canoe" and look for the submission from USF.

"I'm thrilled we were able to save the canoe for everybody. It is a part of our history here," Lathrop said. "I'm anxious to learn more."

# Tampa brothers set out to help Hurricane Irma victims

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

When Connie Osceola learned of the devastation Hurricane Irma caused in September, she used it as an opportunity to teach her grandsons Nigel Osceola, 12, and Dominic Osceola, 11, about giving back to the community.

The two brothers, who live in Tampa, went with members of New Day Church in September to provide free laundry services to hurricane victims. The boys spent hours helping advertise the service and carry bags of clothes.

"I wanted to help the people who had no electricity and couldn't wash their clothes," Dominic said, saying that seeing the devastating impacts of the hurricane opened his eyes. "It made me want to help them so much."

Nancy Hailey, who helped bring Nigel and Dominic to the service, explained that the free laundry program is a quarterly initiative held by the Brandon-based church. Throughout the year, church members collect quarters so that they can provide about \$500 of free laundry to the communities they visit.

"The boys volunteered to come and help and were very excited to be doing it," she said. "They smiled and greeted everyone that came in."

Nigel said volunteering with the church was a good experience.



Dominic Osceola, left, and Nigel Osceola hold up a sign advertising the free laundry provided by New Day Church.

"I just thought it would be nice to help them," he said. "It was fun."

While the boys completed the service opportunity to help the community, Connie added that it serves as a testament to the

boys' perseverance.

She explained that the brothers come from a broken home and that she has raised them on and off for the past 12 years. The brothers excel in school and have remained on honor roll and are on track to partake in Brandon Academy's International Baccalaureate (IB) Program, a rigorous international initiative aimed at holistically preparing students for higher education. The service hours the boys accrue also help qualify them for induction into the National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society.

"Against all odds, they've exceeded my expectations," Connie said. "They've surprised me that they can still continue on and learn."

Accruing service hours will also help ensure the boys prepare for college, Connie explained, saying that if they continue with community service, it will help them qualify for Florida's Bright Futures Scholarship. Regardless of the academic opportunities, Nigel and Dominic just want people to know that giving back to the community is a good experience. They plan on going to another community service event with New Day around Christmas.

At the end of it all, Dominic just has one message for those still recovering from Hurricane Irma or other situations, "Keep your hopes up, anything can be accomplished."

## Everglades City tries to transform disaster into triumph

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

Hurricane Irma's devastating blow on Everglades City did not keep the small town down for long. Only weeks after destruction hit, the city's historical society is planning to rebuild a town that's better than ever.

Marya Repko, president of Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, explained that a 4-foot storm surge left numerous homes and businesses flooded, many of which were completely destroyed and deemed uninhabitable. Even still, many areas are covered in grey, silt muddy and many people have limited access to grocery stores.

"There was a terrible amount of debris everywhere," she said. "It was clothes, furniture, appliances and everything."

While many ruined goods and personal items have been sent to landfills, Repko said they have other plans for dilapidated buildings. Instead of tearing them down, the historical society plans to relocate them and develop a historical village to create a focal point for tourists and locals.

The project is envisioned as having a native plant garden, small businesses — such as cafes, boutiques, coffee shops and book stores — historic fishing boats, and even the town's Chamber of Commerce.

The historical society hopes that businessmen and women whose buildings were damaged by Hurricane Irma will donate the buildings for the historical village. They are still in the process of finding a plot of land to construct on.

Repko explained that they intend for the village to represent the city's large tourism and fishing components. Partially inspired by the beginning of stone crab season, a major event for locals on Oct. 15, the Everglades Society wants only to represent the culture of the town.

"Because fishing is so important down here, we should also have some old boats if



The local Everglades City grocery store was out of commission as the owners repair damage from September's hurricane.

we can find old ones that are not seaworthy but can represent what life was like," she said.

While the Historical Village is the primary focus for Repko and her team, they are also working on gathering donations to help individuals in their community get back on their feet. They have already received a few thousand dollars to help families get supplies, food, new furniture and the other goods and services required to rebuild their lives. There is no specific monetary goal in mind, but Repko explained that they are seeking as much help as they can get.

"Almost everybody in the town needs to replace their possessions," she said. "Because we're so far away from anything else — it takes 30 miles to get to the nearest Publix or anything — we're really remote and we have to take care of ourselves and get on with life."

More information and donation forms can be found on the Everglades Society's website, [evergladeshistorical.org](http://evergladeshistorical.org). Hurricane relief donations can be made through [reachouteverglades.org](http://reachouteverglades.org).

## ◆ IRMA From page 3A

order out of this chaos. SPD kept order and our customers and Tribal members were happy. Fuel trucks were escorted by SPD

officers, we made sure our employees were safe and that those lines were open."

In addition to the lunch, employees were rewarded for their service with a day off with pay, courtesy of the Tribe.

"Call it a holiday/Hurricane Irma day,"

said SPD Chief and Director of Public Safety William Latchford. "On behalf of the Tribe, we thank you for what you did and do every day for the Tribe."



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# USET/USET SPF honors Howard Tommie

Presented this 9th day of October 2017

USET Board of Directors  
2017 USET SPF Annual Meeting

Throughout their history, the Florida Seminoles have been an exemplar of leadership and courage, from Halleck Tustenuggee to Bill Osceola to Betty Mae Jumper. Howard Tommie is but one example of the "unconquered" spirit and determination that has led to the success of the Seminole Tribe and benefited Tribal Nations throughout the United States.

Tom Gallaher, a former Seminole Tribe employee, is grants coordinator for United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.

**TOM GALLAHER**  
Special to The Tribune

**CHEROKEE, N.C.** — Former Seminole Tribe Chairman Howard Tommie was honored Oct. 9 at the 2017 annual meeting of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., (USET) and USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF), held within the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians homelands.

Tommie's family accepted gifts from USET Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Sam Lambert. Family members included Tommie's wife Dorothy, daughter Karen Tommie Two Shoes, son Clinton, and sister Nancy Willie, along with Tommie's grandchildren. Two Shoes accepted an

honorary plaque and Clinton accepted a limited edition Pendleton "Standing Strong" blanket. Tommie passed earlier this year, aged 78.

"We were honored to be invited to the important event for my father," Two Shoes said. "He was a very big part of USET and he did a lot to enhance the lives of people throughout Indian Country. We loved being in North Carolina. My father brought us there a lot when we were kids. And he sure did love his grandchildren. I'm especially glad they could attend the ceremony."

The limited edition Pendleton blanket depicts three warriors. The wording on the label could hardly have been more appropriate of Tommie: "This image honors all those who have stood strong for us as

Native Americans and this country."

In 1959, Tommie enlisted in the Army and served eight years in the National Guard Reserves. He served as Seminole Tribe Chairman from 1971 to 1979 and brought closure to the Seminole Land Claim case that had dragged on for decades. Also during his tenure, Tommie provided the foundation for high stakes gaming in Indian Country, and the Seminole Bingo Hall opened on the Hollywood Reservation on December 14, 1979.

From 1973 to 1975 Tommie was USET President and was instrumental in moving USET headquarters from Sarasota to Nashville, as well as adding the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana and the Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana as USET member Tribal

Nations.

"I want to thank Steven Bowers for recommending Howard Tommie for the presentation," Lambert said. "We give this honor not only to people who have served their country, but also for the service and leadership they provide their Tribe after returning from military duty."

The honorary plaque states:  
*For his United States Army National Guard Service 1958-1959 as Infantryman and eight years of service in the National Guard Reserves; for his Exemplary Leadership as USET President and Board of Director; and for his Unwavering Determination and Guidance as a Seminole Tribe of Florida Tribal Chairman*



Harrell French/United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (2)

At left, USET Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Sam Lambert presents a plaque to Karen Two Shoes in recognition of Karen's father Howard Tommie for his service and leadership in the U.S. military, as USET president and board of director, and as chairman of the Seminole Tribe. Above, Howard Tommie's son Clinton shows the Pendleton blanket that was presented to the Tommie family.

## Cherokee Nation's Bryan Rice named BIA director

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**WASHINGTON** — U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced Oct. 16 the selection of Bryan Rice, a veteran federal administrator and citizen of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, as the new Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the federal agency that coordinates government-to-government relations with 567 federally

recognized tribes in the United States.

"Native Americans face significant regulatory and bureaucratic hurdles to economic freedom and success," Rice said in a press release. "I am honored to accept this position and look forward to implementing President Trump's and Secretary Zinke's regulatory reform initiative for Indian Country to liberate Native Americans from the bureaucracy that has held them back

economically."

Rice recently led Interior's Office of Wildland Fire, and has broad experience leading Forestry, Wildland Fire, and Tribal programs across Interior, BIA, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. His federal government career has spanned nearly 20 years, beginning with service on the Helena Interagency Hotshot Crew for the U.S. Forest Service in Montana. He served as a

Peace Corps Volunteer in Nepal, working in both community forestry and rural development and supervised numerous timber operations as a timber sale officer on the Yakama Reservation as well as a forester on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. Rice also served in leadership capacities internationally in Tanzania, Mexico, Brazil and Australia for both Interior and the U.S. Forest Service.

Rice has served in two Senior Executive Service natural resources management leadership positions, including as Deputy Director for the BIA Office of Trust Services from 2011 to 2014.

Rice holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Alaska - Southeast.

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# Happy Halloween



Donna Frank celebrates winning Funniest Costume at Hollywood's Senior Halloween Party on Oct. 10.

Li Cohen



Rosie Grant, right, shows off her "Most Original" costume to the rest of the Tribal seniors at the Halloween Party in Hollywood.

Li Cohen



Male contenders for the funniest costumes show the audience that any age depiction can make a hilarious costume.

Li Cohen



The scariest costumes contestants show off their outfits to the Hollywood crowd at the Senior Halloween Party Oct. 10.

Li Cohen



Alice Smith, left, and Molly Shore play a game of Bingo while Naomi Seymour, center, greets guests dressed as a Ghostbuster.

Li Cohen



Patrick Doctor Sr., left, and Joe Dan Osceola, right, laugh about their costumes at the Senior Halloween Party in Hollywood.

Li Cohen

# Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum reopens after Irma clean up

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Despite the devastating blow from Hurricane Irma, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum bounced back quickly and is welcoming guests again.

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki and its grounds are ready for the 20th annual American Indian Arts Celebration on Nov. 3 and 4. The annual event is a celebration of Native arts, but this year seems different to visitor services and development manager Carrie Dilley.

"It's also a time for us to celebrate that



The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum cleared debris, shown left, caused by Hurricane Irma from the boardwalk. The boardwalk is now ready for use, shown right.

The museum partially opened Sept. 25, about two weeks after the storm hit. All the artwork was well protected in climate controlled vaults and was reinstalled after the storm by Sept. 29.

The museum's boardwalk sustained the most damage, as trees fell on the wooden walkway and destroyed it in a few places. Museum officials originally thought it would take a significant amount of time to repair the boardwalk, but all the repairs were complete by Oct. 4.

we are back again," Dilley said. "We went through a hard month in September, but we are back to normal. We hope the community comes out to celebrate with us."

The event will feature Native American arts, crafts, food, storytelling, musical performances, dance demonstrations, a wildlife show, alligator wrestling and plenty of opportunities to shop for Native arts and crafts. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

## SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA AH-TAH-THI-KI MUSEUM A PLACE TO LEARN, A PLACE TO REMEMBER.

# Pointing the way

BY SIOBHAN MILLER  
Exhibits Coordinator

Have you ever wondered how the Pointing Man signs came to be and why the likeness of Jack Tigertail became the "poster" image for more than his own Seminole community?

The story is as much about Jack Tigertail's presence as it is about a clever marketing ploy used to sell a new, great idea to the American consumer-investor — drain Florida's swamplands and create a "burgeoning tropical paradise."

Transportation made available by Henry Ford's Model-T automobile and the United States' newly-found prosperity from its presence in WWI encouraged more Americans to search for opportunities beyond their home states. In Florida, development through dredging, the railroad and land boomers quickly carved out a new landscape. Road expansion projects, under the Federal Highway Act of 1921, brought more motorists and the emergence of new towns in Florida, necessitating new way-finding signs.

For those who have driven the length of the eastern seaboard and back, you're familiar with the unending stream of billboard signs counting down the hundred or up to ten miles before you reach the roadside attraction "South of the Border" in Dillon, South Carolina. Perhaps you would rather not admit it, but your "kids" made you pull over. So, what is the connection between the two signs? It's done in the spirit of tourism. Each sign points to a specific destination, with the same end goal — to sell an experience.

In 1921 that experience materialized when Missouri cattleman James Bright and fellow investor Glenn Curtiss, converted

acres of Bright's Hi-a-le-ah ranch land into real estate. Bright had purchased the land in 1914 to graze his Brahman cattle. Prior to then, Hi-a-le-ah, meaning "high" or "pretty prairie" in the Seminole-Creek language, was a meeting point for Seminoles and Miccosukee as they canoed along the Miami River. Now the Curtiss-Bright Ranch was gridded to form the first city west of Miami, to become the "Gateway to the Everglades".

Life for the Florida Seminoles was rapidly changing, pressing Tribal members

a larger than life figure honored in portrait. It was along County Road (Okeechobee Rd) and First Street (Hialeah Drive) that an oversized, wooden cut-out of Jack Tigertail first stood, welcoming and directing prospective buyers to the Curtiss-Bright Ranch real estate site.

The iconic 25-foot "Welcome to Hialeah" sign of Jack Tigertail, dressed in a traditional Seminole long shirt with arm outstretched, likely appeared imposing to the approaching motorists of the era. Certainly, the sign told motorists they had arrived at their destination

and clearly sold an experience. I'd like to think of it another way: perhaps Jack Tigertail's image stood as a reminder that one was approaching the lands of his ancestors.

The first Pointing Man sign was undoubtedly a unique and important roadside symbol in the history of south Florida. It is no wonder that even today the city of Hialeah still honors Jack Tigertail in its seal for his contribution to its early development. Within the Seminole community Jack Tigertail remains a prominent leader whose presence helped secure a



to seek innovative ways of living. Many turned to Florida's burgeoning tourist industry. Like other families, Jack Tigertail, born in the Big Cypress swamp, moved his family east to camp at Coppinger's Tropical Gardens. Coppinger's was one of several local attractions that provided camps for the Seminoles from which to earn a small living from winter visitors.

Jack Tigertail became a natural leader among his Tribal peers in the camp. His big personality along with his keen business sense and ability to speak English bridged two cultures. Jack Tigertail gained popularity beyond the Seminole community, making him

cultural future for his Tribe.

In subsequent years other roadside cutouts have directed visitors to points of interest on Seminole and Miccosukee land — trading posts, tourists, and later craft shops and eco-adventures. In the spirit of the Pointing Man tradition, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum has installed three signs. Two are posted along the Museum's boardwalk, pointing visitors to the Hunting Camp and to the Village occupied by Seminole crafters. Though not nearly as imposing as the original, a third incarnation will soon appear on the way to the Ah-Tah-thi-Ki Museum and Billie Swamp Safari. Keep your eyes peeled.



**2017 Year of the Seminole Anniversaries**

## The Treaty of Moultrie Creek

BY REBECCA FELL  
Curator of Exhibits

This year, 2017, is an important year of anniversaries for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. It marks the 200th anniversary of the beginning of the Seminole Wars in 1817. It is the 60th anniversary of federal recognition of the Seminole Tribe of Florida as a government and a business enterprise. Over the year, this column will alternately explore key events of the so-called First Seminole War and highlight the great advances of the Tribe during the last 60 years. This month marks the signing of the Adams-Onis Treaty in 1819.

The Seminoles of Florida proudly call themselves the Unconquered and with good reason. It is often noted the Seminoles of Florida did not sign a final peace treaty with the United States government. This is true but there once was a treaty the Seminoles agreed to, the Treaty of Moultrie Creek.

Many are familiar with the story of Osceola stabbing another treaty — the Treaty of Payne's Landing in 1832. It was a renouncement of the Federal Government's plan to remove Seminoles from Florida to Indian Territory, now Oklahoma. History tells us war flared up again shortly after the U. S. government's attempt to enforce this treaty.

The Treaty of Moultrie Creek was signed on Sept. 18, 1823, nine years earlier. It was, in part, a reaction by Seminoles to the United States gaining Florida under the Adams-Onis treaty. The Seminoles recognized they needed to create their own treaty with the U. S. Neamathla was appointed on the Seminole side to negotiate with Governor Duval and James Gadsden. This treaty was to be in effect for 20 years and give the Seminoles four million acres of land, although none of the land was on the coast, where Seminoles could easily have traded with Cuba and other islands.

The Seminoles were to receive a \$5,000 annuity and additional monies to support a school and blacksmithing shop. In return Seminoles were to allow roads to be built through their lands and freely allow U. S. citizens to pursue runaway slaves.

From the beginning, the U. S. failed to hold up their end of the bargain. Monies were slow to come, if at all. Theft, kidnapping and murder committed by settlers towards the Seminoles went unpunished. But the ultimate insult was the introduction of a new treaty a mere 9 years after the first one. Sitting President, Andrew Jackson, was an old and well known enemy of the Tribe. Seminoles were quick to understand that no fair deal was to be had, and many Seminoles, under the guidance of warriors like Abiaki, Coacoochee and Osceola, chose to stay and fight.

Since the U. S. government violated the treaty — initially by not upholding it and later presenting the Seminoles with the Treaty of Payne's Landing — it was the U. S. Government who voided the existence of the Treaty of Moultrie Creek. The Seminoles wisely chose to never sign another treaty.

## THPO maps Seminole Tribe's history

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

The Seminoles have a known lineage dating back hundreds of years in Florida. To help trace this history and create a streamlined data archive, the Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Office has created a geo-mapping program.

The mapping software uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to place all findings and historical pieces on a single map. Departments throughout the Tribe can request access to this map on an online portal — which requires a password to access — to use it for various projects and research. Those who have access can add and/or edit information based on their findings.

Lacey Cofer, geospatial analyst at THPO, introduced a basic version of the software when she was an intern about three years ago. Originally intended to help the Tribe's compliance sector identify the impact of outside projects on lands of Tribal interest, the program has transcended into a diversified initiative.

"It's gone from a simple tool for compliance to use to find things that are significant to it being a repository for a lot of different research projects that everyone has access to," Cofer said.

Upon entering the portal, individuals see a map alongside a checklist of categories, which includes historical trails, county borders, military forts, and more. The map can focus on Florida or other regions of the U.S. By clicking on one or more of the categories, people can see the present-day areas where those subjects are located through a process called geo-referencing, which lays PDFs and images of historical data on present-day maps. The historical data is gathered from research found and conducted by Tribal departments.

With this process, Cofer explained that people can have a better understanding of historical locations and relate them to present-day activities or other historical events. Once logged into the portal, departments can add and/or edit locations so that others have access to new information in real-time.

"When you see a drawing, you don't necessarily know where it goes in real time, so we take this image and put it on a map exactly where it goes," Cofer said. "Looking at a historical map, you really never know what can be beneficial [in the future], so we have military maps, maps hand-drawn by Tribal members, Army Corps of Engineer maps, really everything. You never know what map will have a little detail that's beneficial to you and might tell a bigger

story." There are currently about 400 maps available within the portal, but Cofer said there are many more to come.

Juan Cancel, THPO's chief data analyst, explained that THPO has even more plans for GIS within the Tribe. They are in the process of creating mobile applications for field use and implementing a major initiative that combines GIS, story mapping and the Ahfachkee School.

Story mapping, an online platform that uses videos, images, sounds and text to present a story, is a way to, according to Cancel, create community-based GIS. Eventually, THPO wants to utilize story mapping in showcasing Seminole history, but they want to kick-off the initiative with a history class at Ahfachkee in January. Though not yet finalized, the history project would allow students to create their own story maps based on data they collect about any topic related to Seminole culture and/or history. Topics could range from The Seminole Wars to environmental impacts on Tribal lands.

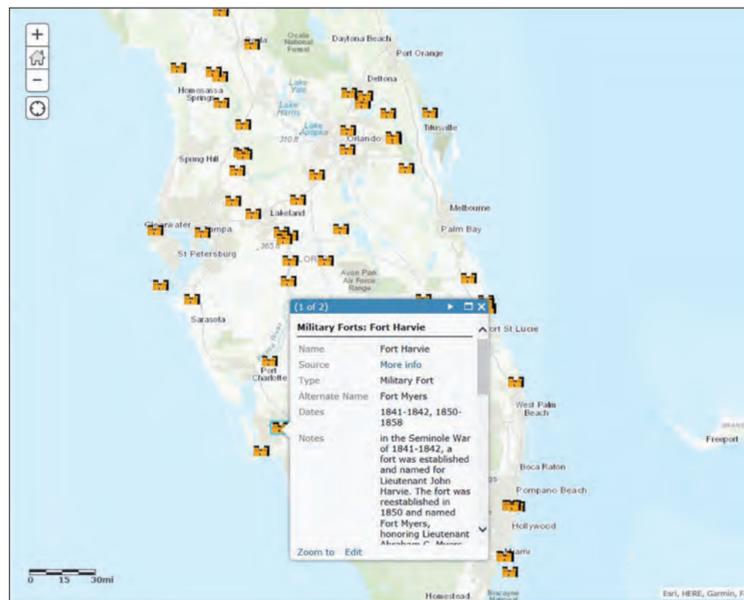
"At the end of it you'll see a whole story from their point of view," Cancel said. "This is their chance to tell their story to the world.

This will take the whole mapping idea to a different level."

The project is expected to last the entire semester and Cancel hopes to display the projects as part of an interactive exhibit in the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. Each story map will be on display on an iPad, where visitors can learn about the Seminoles through countless pieces of visual data. Cancel expects the exhibit to be available next fall.

While future projects are still in planning phases, Cofer assured that THPO is working to become known as the most technologically advanced THPO in the U.S.

"In cultural preservation, being able to keep up with the times and utilize the best tools available at the time advances the Tribe. Out of all the tribes, we want to be the one that they [other tribes] look to and say 'They know what they're doing,'" she explained. "Cultural preservation is unbelievably important. It's maintaining Tribal culture for generations and making sure there's a record of all this information. When you're doing something that important for a group of people, you want to use the best tools available."



The GIS portal shows the historical Seminole military forts in Florida, just one of the historical categories.

Courtesy photo

# Health



BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

## Meet your coach: Personal trainer Ingrid Pickering

Achieving a healthy body and mind can be a tedious task, but with the help of personal trainers, that journey can be a little easier. Ingrid "Liz" Pickering, a personal trainer in Big Cypress, has been helping people accomplish their fitness and health goals for six years.

After realizing her passion is helping people reach the best version of themselves, Pickering went on to receive her associate degree in exercise science. Her methodology focuses on establishing consistent exercise and nutrition plans for clients to help individuals transition into a healthy lifestyle.

The Tribune spoke with Pickering to get some insight of the personal training world.

**Q: What does the day in the life of a personal trainer look like?**

**A:** "It starts off early in the morning. Usually we start around 8 a.m. and see clients about every hour or hour-and-a-half. We have times blocked off where we hold classes, like here in Immokalee we have boot camp classes. During the summer we spend a majority of the time with the children. Every day we incorporate a fitness workout for the kids. ... Personally, I like to focus on mainly helping with weight loss, but we pretty much work with every age range. Our main goal is

to focus on lowering body fat in the weight loss area to get people healthy and as active as possible."

**Q: What's your process for creating health and fitness plans for your clients?**

**A:** "When I first get a client I try to find out what their goals are and get more background on them to see how active they are. I pretty much just try to learn about the person and then assess them to find out where they're at [health-wise]. When I assess them I'm looking for health issues that could be addressed. From there, I create their individualized program, but the main focus is always to improve the quality of their health and their body. For a lot of people, their goal is weight-loss and I will focus on that, but first, I want to assess their entire body and find out on a scale of one to 10 — 10 being in extremely good health — where are you? Then we work on the little things and build and keep in mind the goals. We're going to get to [the patient's goals], but we want to improve cardiovascular and all the components of fitness. ... We keep in close contact here with the nutritionist and are very involved in eating and dietary patterns. We always touch every area to try to keep that balance and try to keep patients motivated to continue living a healthy life."

**Q: How do you go about keeping clients motivated?**

**A:** "Through using new routines, we try to keep up with the fitness industry — like the hottest different styles of training and different techniques — so we do anything from weight lifting to circuit to high interval intensity training to community walks and we let that be our goal. We try to get a lot of feedback from clients and take suggestions to go on from there. What helps is when [the Health Department] has challenges and the patients are very gung-hoe about challenges. On our down time, we're brain storming. ... I really love nutrition so I'm always thinking of new ideas to put together or something to incorporate on flyers that help with training, as well."

**Q: How can people stay on track during the holidays?**

**A:** "We try to let them know during the holidays that if they want to eat something unhealthy, remember the 80-20 rule: 80 percent of the time, try to stay on track Monday through Friday, and the times you feel like you need to splurge, don't look at it as a restriction. We're trying to educate and give options so that people don't think, 'I can't eat this or I can't eat that.' The main thing is to look at the different things you can eat and try to get in more wholesome food in the natural state. Try to avoid prepackaged or

junk food. We just explain to them that this will help them feel so much better; they're going to look tremendous and they're going to feel great."

**Q: What's your favorite healthy holiday meal or routine?**

**A:** "If it's whole, healthy and organic and is going to make you feel good, I love it. Anything natural I love. As far as a holiday workout, I love bodyweight [exercises] that you can do around the house, things you can do with others at a park. Just go outside and be active. There's not a particular thing you have to do. I believe in just having fun with your workout. During the holidays, just take a family walk outside after meals. Even if it's only 20 minutes, go and do it. If you're tired when you get off work, just go walk around the block for 20 minutes. It's better to have 20 minutes four or five times a week than to work out too hard for two hours two days a week. It's about emphasizing the lifestyle. If someone isn't able to make a session, I'll email them a workout they can do in the living room. It's not just at the gym, this is a lifestyle, and people generally love that."

**Q: What do you find to be the most rewarding part of personal training?**

**A:** "Just to see someone actually implement the healthy ideas and stuff we give them and to see them get closer to

their goals. When they notice how they feel different, they gain more confidence. It's the most rewarding thing."

**Q: What sparked your interest in personal training?**

**A:** "I always had a passion to see people be the very best possible versions of themselves. That was the main reason. I always just loved the way you feel after you exercise and when you eat right. I wanted to share this with people. When I began to exercise daily and put good stuff in my body, I began to feel different and it was like a new person. It's my goal to get people who have chronic conditions or who don't feel good to change."

**Q: If you could offer one tip for success in health and fitness goals, what would it be?**

**A:** "Adopt healthy habits and be consistent with them."

*Ingrid Pickering is available at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium in Big Cypress Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information or to make an appointment with a personal trainer, visit [seminoletriberecreation.com](http://seminoletriberecreation.com).*

## Fighting off flu season

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

Flu season began Oct. 1 and officials urge people to vaccinate themselves and their children.

Last year's flu season took a large toll, hospitalizing nearly 600,000 people according to Dan Jernigan, director of the Influenza Division in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control, at a Sept. 28 press conference. Patsy Stinchfield, director of Pediatric Infectious Disease Services, added that 105 children died during last year's season.

Renee Tigertail, clinic site supervisor for the Tribe, helps oversee flu vaccinations on the Seminole reservations. She explained that while the flu has similar symptoms to the common cold, it can be a lot more dangerous, especially for children and older adults. Without vaccinations, the flu can easily cause severe illnesses, including bronchitis and pneumonia, and can even lead to death.

Despite these risks, the number of Tribal members getting vaccinations has decreased over the years, she said. Tigertail believes part of this is misinformation about what happens after receiving the flu shot.

"I think they're still experiencing some of the symptoms [after they get the shot]," she explained. "When you inject something foreign into your body, your body's going to react to it. It's just a normal process."

According to the CDC, the flu vaccine contains inactivated strains of the virus. Because they are inactive, the shot itself cannot cause the flu; however, there are minor side effects that many people mistake for flu symptoms. These include soreness, redness or swelling at the vaccination site, headache, fever, nausea and muscle aches.

While shot symptoms are uncomfortable,

they are not contagious. The flu is a contagious respiratory illness that includes some or all of the following symptoms: fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue, vomiting and/or diarrhea. Symptoms last one to two weeks if infected.

"The benefits of getting the flu shot are better than being exposed and going through that," Tigertail said. "Getting the flu is far worse than getting the shot."

Tigertail said that the CDC recommends everyone over six months of age gets the flu vaccine as early as possible, as the season does not end until March. In previous years, patients could opt for a nasal spray vaccination, but because it did not prove as effective as the shot, it is longer available. The flu shot is generally provided a single time for free, but younger children receiving it for the first time are provided two smaller doses because their immune systems are not as developed. Older people may receive larger doses. Additionally, those who did not receive vaccines and get infected can still get the flu shot, as the season is long and flu strains can change quickly.

Tigertail hopes that more Tribal members will get vaccinated this year. For the 2016-17 flu season, only 41.8 percent of American Indian/Alaska Natives got the flu shot; those identifying as Asian had the highest percentage of vaccination at 52.8 percent. This low percentage resulted in the Tribe returning dozens of unused vaccinations to the CDC.

During the Sept. 28 CDC press event, Stinchfield shared that vaccination reduces the chance of flu-related death by 51 percent in children who have underlying chronic conditions and 65 percent in healthy children. "It is the right thing to do to vaccinate our children," she said.

Tigertail said getting vaccinated is the surest way of avoiding illness. To protect

## Safely enjoying Thanksgiving leftovers is easy as 1-2-3

BY MARY DARDA  
Environmental Health Inspector

Thanksgiving is known for family gatherings, parades and of course copious amounts of delicious food. Many people agree that one of the best benefits of Thanksgiving is the leftovers, but without the proper precautions, they may pose a danger to families. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, many "flu" cases over Thanksgiving breaks are actually cases of food poisoning. In fact, more than 400,000 people each year suffer from food poisoning after eating Thanksgiving leftovers. Consider some food safety advice before raiding the fridge.

### Temperature danger zone

Bacteria grow rapidly between 41 and 135 degrees and after just a few hours can grow to dangerous levels that cause illness. Leftovers should not be left at room temperature for more than two hours. Food stored properly in the refrigerator is good for three to four

days and up to three to four months in the freezer. Refrigerators should have an internal air temperature below 41 degrees. Use an inexpensive appliance thermometer to ensure the refrigerator's temperature is cold enough. Remember, the clock starts ticking as soon as the food is done cooking.

### Cool and store foods safely

Once in the fridge, food needs to rapidly cool to below 40 degrees. The smaller the portion size, the faster the food will cool to safe temperatures in the refrigerator. Cut large items of food into smaller portions to cool. This will ensure the centers of larger portions of foods do not remain in the temperature danger zone.

### Reheating and thawing

It is crucial for leftovers to be heated thoroughly to 165 degrees. A food thermometer placed into the center of the food is the best way to check. Bring sauces, gravies and soups to a boil. To help evenly distribute the heat in food, stir foods during

reheating and allow foods to stand for a few minutes after heating in the microwave. Frozen leftovers can be thawed in the refrigerator, cold water or the microwave, but never on the counter. If thawing in cold water, use leak-proof packaging and change the water every 30 minutes to speed up the thawing process.

Following these tips will ensure this Thanksgiving holiday is safe and enjoyable. Everyone eats, so food safety is everybody's business. Remember to always wash hands before preparing foods and eating, and when in doubt, throw it out.

Talk to a food safety expert about Thanksgiving dinner at the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline. Consumers may also visit FoodSafety.gov to learn how to safely select, thaw and prepare a turkey. For more Thanksgiving food safety tips, follow FSIS on Twitter, @USDAFoodSafety, or on Facebook at Facebook.com/FoodSafety.gov.

infants under six months old, it is best to keep them away from contagious or unvaccinated individuals. For those infected, she said the best way to prevent spreading it further is avoiding coughing and/or sneezing on hands or other people and keeping hands washed.

Vaccines are available at reservation health clinics, as well as some grocery stores, pharmacies and physician's offices.

## Protect the Circle of Life



### SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF THE FLU

People sick with influenza feel some or all of these symptoms:

- Fever\* or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Fatigue (very tired)
- Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults.

\*Not everyone with the flu will have a fever. You can be sick and contagious without running a temperature.

### HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE FLU

- Get a flu vaccine each year.
- Stop the spread of germs, including influenza viruses:
  - Cover your coughs and sneezes
  - Wash your hands often
  - If you're sick, stay home
- Take antiviral drugs if they are prescribed for you.

### Where to Get a Flu Vaccine:

- Hollywood Health Clinic
- Brighton Health Clinic
- Big Cypress Health Clinic
- Immokalee Health Clinic
- Tampa Health Clinic
- Grocery Store
- Pharmacy
- Physician's Office

PROTECT YOURSELF.  
PROTECT YOUR PEOPLE.

## THE FLU & YOU

### What is influenza (the flu)?

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness. At times, it can lead to death.

### Who should get a flu vaccine?

Everyone 6 months and older should get a flu vaccine, especially if you are at high risk for complications, or if you live with or care for someone who is high risk for complications.

### Your family may be especially vulnerable to the flu.

Influenza poses a greater risk to certain people, including pregnant women, children, and elders, who are all at high risk for flu-related complications. In fact, pneumonia and flu are a leading cause of death among Native elders. The flu also can cause certain health conditions, including diabetes, asthma, and heart and lung disease, to become worse. Pneumonia and bronchitis are examples of serious flu-related complications, which can result in hospitalization and sometimes even death.

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# SEMINOLE SCENES



Photo courtesy Barbara Boling/Brighton Health

**ON YOUR MARK:** Norman Johns strikes a pose as he participates in the Brighton Indian Day 5K run/walk Oct. 5. Rain held off long enough for the runners and walkers to finish.



Kevin Johnson

**BRIGHTON THANK YOU:** Johnny Jones presents gifts from Community Culture in Brighton to Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Lt. Michael Dolnick, left, and Firefighter Chad Meeks during the Brighton Indian Day clothing contest Oct. 5 at the Community Gymnasium. The gifts were in appreciation for Fire Rescue serving as judges.



Courtesy photo

**DO NOT ENTER:** A creative display on a door proves to be a winner for the Brighton Recreation Department, which won the Brighton Red Ribbon door decorating contest.



Kevin Johnson

**SIGN OF THE TIMES:** Contractors put the finishing touches on the installation of a Seminole Hard Rock sign on Oct. 3 in front of the Seminole Tribe's building on the Davie side of Stirling Road near Tribal headquarters. Hard Rock International recently announced it was moving staff from Orlando to the building in Hollywood.



Kevin Johnson

**CHECKING DISPLAY:** President Mitchell Cypress checks out a clothing display at Trail's Indian Day celebration Sept. 30.



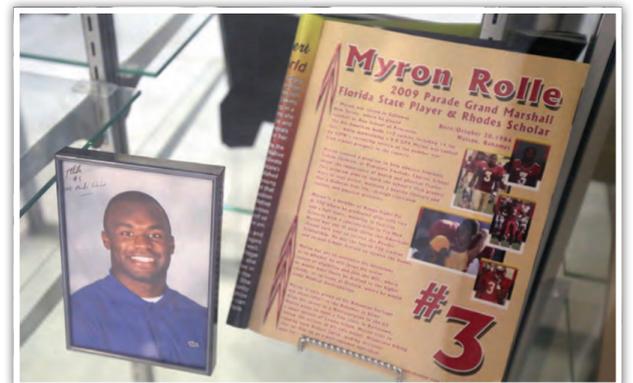
Kevin Johnson

**PAUL ON THE PORCH:** From the front porch of the Fort Pierce field office, Paul Buster provides musical entertainment for the Fort Pierce Indian Day celebration Sept. 28.



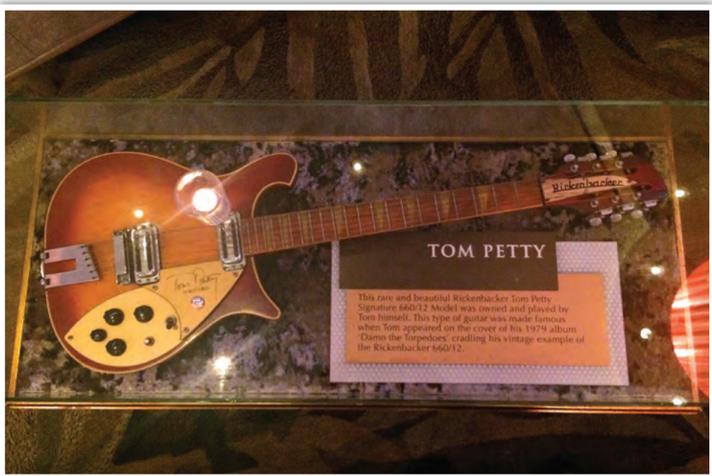
Li Cohen

**A DAY IN THE LIFE:** A cattle rancher in Big Cypress brings his dogs to herd the steer.



Kevin Johnson

**ROLLE BACK TIME:** The lobby of Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School's gymnasium has a display featuring Myron Rolle, a Rhodes Scholar who played football for Florida State and in the NFL. While playing for FSU, Rolle developed a program at PECS called Our Way to Health, which helped educate students about health and fitness. Rolle was co-grand marshal of the Brighton Field Days parade in 2009. Earlier this year, Rolle graduated from FSU College of Medicine. Dr. Myron Rolle, who turned 31 on Oct. 30, is now a neurosurgery resident at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.



Kevin Johnson

**R.I.P. TOM PETTY:** A Rickenbacker guitar signed and used by Hall of Fame rocker Tom Petty rests under a glass table in the L Bar's lounge area at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's in Hollywood. Petty, a Floridian who sold millions of albums with his band The Heartbreakers, died Oct. 2 in California at age 66.



Beverly Bidney

**SHADY HORSES:** These Big Cypress horses showed authentic horse-sense when they gathered under a chickee to get out of the searing heat Sept. 25.



Kevin Johnson

**TO THE RESCUE:** After tipping over during the Hollywood Indian Day canoe race, Pedro Fuentes tosses a cell phone to Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Lt. Drew Layne while Battalion Commander David Lugo reels in the canoe in a pond across the street from the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood on Sept. 28. Fuentes and Aaron Billie completed about half the course before their mishap.

# Gordon Wareham steps down from Gaming Commission after 13 years of service

BY KEVIN JOHNSON  
Senior Editor

**HOLLYWOOD** — For someone who wasn't even among the top choices for a seat on the Seminole Tribal Gaming Commission, Gordon "Ollie" Wareham made the most of his opportunity as a commissioner.

When Wareham was asked to join the commission in 2004 he was told he wasn't the first or second choice to fill an open seat.

"I think I was eighth or ninth," recalled Wareham, who spoke to an audience of about 60 STGC employees Oct. 24 as the commission bid farewell to Wareham in the auditorium lobby at Tribal headquarters in Hollywood.

Regardless of where his name fell on the list of choices, Wareham accepted the offer and proudly served on the commission for 13 years, including about 10 years as vice-chairman. He opted to step down from the commission in October because he serves as Hollywood's representative on the Tribe's Board of Directors, a seat he was elected to by voters in May.

"Technically, there's no rule saying that I have to give this up, not yet," Wareham said. "That's going to be in the next resolution in November that you can't have this position

and be an elected official."

The five-member commission is the regulatory body of Seminole Gaming. Among its duties is to set rules and regulations, maintain the integrity of the casinos and protect casino assets.

Gordon Dickie, the commission's executive director, praised Wareham's lengthy tenure on the commission.

"Ollie has been a great asset to the commission, always asks a lot of pointed questions, always has our back out there, always concerned about policy procedures, always engaged, always involved, comes to our budget sessions, goes on the road to shows, networks with a lot of people. He's been a savior to us. We're really going to miss him," Dickie told the gathering.

With fellow commissioners seated nearby, including Chairman Allen Huff, Mitch Osceola and Jarrid Smith, Dickie presented a plaque to Wareham. The recognition was inscribed with "In appreciation for your dedicated service October 2004 to October 2017."

Wareham humbly deflected the attention away from him and instead thanked the employees for their dedication.

"It's not just a job, it's not just a paycheck, but it's that passion to be the best,"

he told the group that included commission managers and agents and surveillance managers and agents. "I can actually say you are the best in this country because when I go out there and talk to people they talk about us, they talk about this organization, about Seminole Gaming. We are the best in the world. We are the example and that means everything to us."

Pending Tribal Council approval, Wareham's replacement on the commission will be Kyle Doney.

"Kyle is very qualified, very smart and willing to learn," Wareham said.

Wareham's farewell came a day before the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood held a ceremony to celebrate the construction of its massive \$1.5 billion expansion project, which will include a 35-story guitar-shaped hotel, thousands of more slot machines, nearly 200 table games and an 18,000-square foot poker room as the Tribe's gaming entities continue to grow.

"They are a great group, but they're ready to go into a new challenge, a new chapter, and that's the expansion of the guitar," Wareham said. "They're bringing in new games, more tables, more machines, and growing to something I don't think this world has seen."



Kevin Johnson

Gordon "Ollie" Wareham, center, holds up the cake that was given to him by the Seminole Tribal Gaming Commission on Oct. 24 at Tribal headquarters. STGC held a gathering for Wareham, who stepped down from the commission after serving from 2004 to 2017. From left, Commissioner Jarrid Smith, Commission Chairman Allen Huff, Wareham, Commission Executive Director Gordon Dickie, Commissioner Mitch Osceola and Kyle Doney, who is expected to replace Wareham.

## NATIONAL NATIVE NEWS



### Sen. Heitkamp introduces "Savanna's Act" to protect Native American women

**FARGO, N.D.** — Federal legislation aimed at protecting Native American women and girls from violence, abduction and human trafficking is named for Savanna Greywind.

She was the pregnant Fargo woman who was killed and whose baby was taken.

Sen. Heidi Heitkamp introduced Savanna's Act in Washington, D.C.

The legislation would improve tribal access to certain federal crime information databases.

Heitkamp says that access will help solve crimes and develop prevention strategies.

The bill would also create standardized protocols for responding to cases of missing and murdered Native Americans.

"Under Savanna's Act, the Attorney General, in cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, must consult with the tribes on how to improve tribal access to federal criminal information," Sen. Heitkamp said. "Data bases such as the National Crime Information Center and the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System."

Two of Greywind's neighbors have been charged with conspiring to kill her and take her infant.

They have both pleaded not guilty. Brooke Crews will soon be getting a mental evaluation at the state hospital.

- KVR Local News

### Racist threat left on Native American students' door at Sheridan College

When Whisper SunRhodes and her roommate, Braylee Armajo, returned to their Sheridan College dorm room late on Sept. 27, they found a racial slur written on a whiteboard on their door.

"Yuh! Praire (sic) n-----."

The women — both members of the Northern Arapaho tribe — were coming home from Walmart. They'd been on campus for a month, SunRhodes' first weeks away from home.

"I don't know how to explain it to anybody," she said last week. "It's kind of scary, and I don't know — it's just so shocking how it happened. I didn't think it would ever happen to me. I guess things change."

"They didn't even spell prairie right," said her mother, Lynelle Shakespeare.

The two students went to their resident assistant that night, and the police and other university officials were notified in the morning.

But it wouldn't be the last time the roommates' whiteboard was vandalized with a slur.

College President Paul Young said he realized in the wake of the incidents that these weren't the first times native students had been targeted.

It prompted "soul searching" by the college's leader, and he said he strove to inform the school. It's also sparked broader conversations on campus and inspired the college's native students to come together, SunRhodes said.

"By noon (on Thursday), we had provided materials to our faculty on the campus about the incident," he said. "The whole campus was notified."

The campus gathered Sept. 28, less than 24 hours after the first note was discovered, to talk about what happened. People from the Crow Reservation, in southern Montana, also attended.

Young said the discussion was "a little" tense.

"I hear from the other side, 'Oh, you're overreacting,'" he said. "To a marginalized population, it's a very big deal. So this is a setback in that respect."

Shakespeare traveled to Sheridan from where she lives on the Wind River Reservation, and they spent the weekend out of the dorms. The residence hall didn't have security cameras, so whoever was responsible — and whether they planned to escalate their attack on the women — was unclear.

Young said he wanted to indefinitely relocate the students to another residence hall on campus, but they wanted to stay.

"There's a darker possibility to this," he said. "You don't want any harm to come to anyone. ... (But) we don't want to give in to intimidation. If we move our dorm rooms, that's giving in to this craziness. I can appreciate that."

Early Monday morning, SunRhodes was heading back to her dorm room when her phone rang. Stay put, she was told. Something else had been written on her door, this time directly naming her roommate.

"BraYlee leave savage."

"I honestly feel scared," SunRhodes said. "At first, a cop would stand outside our door and walk us to class. Now they haven't found anybody, any suspects. ... It's frustrating. What if the person tries to say something else besides or hurt us?"

Young said he pulled the two students from that dorm and brought in detectives from the Sheridan Police Department, a spokesman for which declined to comment beyond saying that the agency was involved.

Young said he's had contact from state legislators since the first note was found. Native American groups have sent letters to the school. You probably see this all the time, he was told.

He's been president for eight years and a high-level administrator there for 13. No, he said, this is the first time.

But after talking with native students, he realized that it's just the first time he's heard about it.

"Then I thought later, I'm sure it's happened," he said. "I'm sure that these poor students probably face a lot more of this than any of us want to admit or are aware of."

He was told by students that this was their historic experience at the school.

"We're in a town at a college named for someone who had a bit of a bad — There's a whole thing with General (Philip) Sheridan with his attitude toward Native Americans," Young said, referring to a U.S. Army general who waged violent wars against native peoples and whose troops committed massacres against Native Americans after the Civil War.

"I'm not suggesting changing the name of the college or town, but if we're serious about making a place for Native Americans, we're going to have to have deep and serious conversations about all of the obstacles out there," Young continued.

The college is working quickly to try to do that. SunRhodes and other native students are creating a Native American organization on campus. Last Thursday, the school held a Native American appreciation day that

included native food, native speakers and dancing.

Shakespeare said other members of the Wind River Reservation tribes traveled to the event, as did residents of the Crow Reservation.

SunRhodes said the racist notes were "ridiculous" and that native students "don't deserve anything like that." But she's not going to be driven out of town.

"I didn't think about changing colleges," SunRhodes said. "I love Sheridan College, and I want to stay. I'm not going to let a rude remark make me go home and quit school."

- Casper Star Tribune

### Wyoming K-12 standards to include Native American history

**CHEYENNE, Wyo.** — Revised Wyoming K-12 education standards with a new Native American history component could be ready for State Board of Education review in January or February.

Laurie Hernandez is division director of standards and assessment for the Department of Education.

Hernandez says a committee is being formed to develop the new social studies standards over the next couple of months, followed by review from the state education board.

She tells the Wyoming Tribune Eagle that public comment was taken during the summer about what should be included in the standards.

Teachers are being surveyed about which standards they thought could be updated and if they have any classroom practices that might be beneficial.

The Education Department also is conducting reviews of the math standards and extended science standards.

- KOTA News

### Sen. McCaskill introduces bill to abrogate Native American Sovereign Immunity

Senator McCaskill (D-MO) has introduced a bill to abrogate the sovereign immunity of Indian tribes as a defense in inter partes review (IPR) proceedings at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Indeed, the sole purpose of McCaskill's short, ill-conceived and hastily assembled bill is to make it impossible for Native American Indian Tribes that own patents to assert sovereign immunity when those patents are challenged in proceedings at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

"Congress never imagined tribes would allow themselves to be used by pharmaceutical companies to avoid challenges to patents," McCaskill said in a statement to Reuters. "And this bill will shut the practice down before others follow suit."

McCaskill is talking about the Allergan deal with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. Allergan transferred the RESTASIS® patents to the Tribe, with the Tribe granting back to Allergan an exclusive license. The purpose of this transaction was so that the Tribe could assert sovereign immunity and defeat the jurisdiction of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

While McCaskill has said that

any "thinking person" would view this transaction as illegal, the problem she and her bill will face is the obvious discriminatory nature of the substance of the bill. She and her political directors have obviously not thought through this rash decision, which is understandable to some point given she wrote this bill before the Senate has had any opportunity to conduct an investigation into the Allergan deal with the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. Such legislation by ambush without any consideration of the issues, let alone thoughtful consideration, is sadly becoming all too commonplace in America.

Substantively, McCaskill's bill says only this:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an Indian tribe may not assert sovereign immunity as a defense in a review that is conducted under chapter 31 of title 35, United States code."

The problem McCaskill faces is that her bill, even if enacted, will do absolutely nothing to do away with the potential threat that comes from the assertion of sovereign immunity at the PTAB. While it is true Indian Tribes enjoy sovereign immunity only to the extent Congress has not abrogated such sovereign immunity, States enjoy sovereign immunity stemming from the 11th Amendment of the United States Constitution. Absent amending the Constitution, Congress cannot abrogate State sovereign immunity.

The issue of State sovereign immunity is significant because on January 25, 2017, a panel of administrative patent judges (APJs) of the PTAB entered a series of decisions ending three IPR proceedings initiated by medical device developer Covidien LP prior to institution. Each of the Covidien IPRs challenged the validity of a single patent owned by the University of Florida Research Foundation (UFRF), which the university had previously asserted against Covidien. The IPR decisions of the PTAB explain that public research universities can find protection from review proceedings at the PTAB by claiming rights afforded them by the 11th Amendment. See UFRF's Win on 11th Amendment at the PTAB.

What this means is McCaskill's bill cannot and will not remove claims of sovereign immunity from PTAB proceedings. McCaskill's bill would only discriminate against Native American Indian Tribes.

The only possible outcome of enacting the McCaskill bill would be to prevent Native American Indian Tribes from developing Technology Transfer offices that have the same inherit sovereign advantages of state universities.

An important question needs to be asked: Why is everyone so upset that Native American Indians are asserting sovereign immunity? No one was upset when it was the University of Florida Research Foundation. Would Senator McCaskill or other call it clearly illegal if Allergan or other companies were to do the same deal with a state university instead of a Native American Indian Tribe?

Discriminating against Native American Indian Tribes in order to continue a one-sided patent review process that unfairly disadvantages patent owners (see here, here, here and here, for example) is as unwise as it is unbelievable. After all, in a few months there is the very distinct possibility that the Supreme Court will rule all PTAB challenges to be unconstitutional, so why would Senator McCaskill submit

obviously discriminatory legislation? Why would anyone in Congress rush to back this ill-conceived, mean-spirited piece of legislation that would do nothing other than once again subjugate American Indians?

Rather than rushing to discriminate, once again, against Native American Indians perhaps Senator McCaskill and others should take a critical look at why patent owners are lining up in search of deals with Indian Tribes. The PTAB is a rouge tribunal that must be addressed. Acting as if patent owners and Native American Indians are to blame for searching for a solution to the PTAB is misplaced and out of touch.

- IPWatchdog

### Younger generation takes over at Black Hills Powwow

The Black Hills Powwow may be known as one of the most popular American Indian cultural celebrations in the country, but one of things that makes the event so special is the amount of young people called upon to lead.

One of them is 16-year-old Genevieve Iron Lightning who was named Miss He Sapa Win 2017-2018 at this year's powwow. She says she's been dancing in pageants since she was three years old and told me what goes through her mind as she stands in the light to represent her tribe.

Genevieve says, "To lead the people of my tribe, it makes me feel very proud to be Lakota. I have always wanted to be a good role model to the youth and my peers as well as all of my people."

Genevieve's grandmother says her granddaughter's advocacy and representation for the Native American community is one of a kind.

Dale Iron Lightning says, "I'm so proud of her for the young woman she has become and to remember her language and to be proud of her culture and traditions and to keep that in her heart because she will always be Lakota."

Genevieve says that the boldness she possesses comes from the people who come before her and hopes that it will stick with the generations to come.

Although you can catch them singing their song and dancing their dance, some of the Native American youth say there's still work to be done. Some say somewhere in the years, their culture has gone missing in the shadows and shared with me some of the things they can do to bring it back.

Josephine Menard says, "Go to the elders, and just keep learning and keep learning and teach all the youth and hopefully we will have our culture back."

JT Largo is 15-years-old and he says his passion for the Lakota dance is like no other. He says he wears his regalia proudly and hopes to share his passion for his roots with all of the people he meets.

Largo says, "It's really cool because you get to dance and experience all of this throughout the summer and all school year too and if you're friends want to know what you do you get to show them in talent shows and performances."

As I went around the powwow and talked to many of the young people present, they all agree that throughout their daily lives, their Lakota heritage will always come first

- Black Hills FOX

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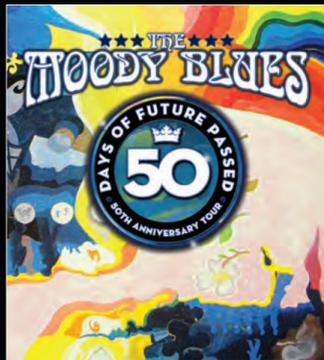
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HOLLYWOOD, FL

# Education

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## FGCU gives Tribal students college preview

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

**FORT MYERS** — College life became a close reach on Oct. 17 for students from Pemaquett Emahav Charter School, Ahfachkee and other local schools attended by Tribal students, as they received a grand tour of Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers.

The students, ranging from upper-middle schoolers to high school seniors, split into two groups: one centered around chemistry with a focus on telescopes and lasers, and the other centered around health and human services with a focus on exercise science and health equipment. Each group was led by faculty members from the corresponding departments and FGCU honor students.

PECS Principal Brian Greseth said

about 35 kids from Brighton went on the trip, including students who attend PECS, Moore Haven and Okeechobee schools. PECS has brought kids on college tours in the past, but Greseth said this was the biggest group to date.

"It's fantastic for our kids to see as many college campuses as possible. Most parents and kids say they're going to go to college, but they base their decisions on what they hear from other people and not from seeing the school," he said. "This really is a great eye-opener for what college life could be like for them."

As part of the chemistry tour, students went into the Evelyn L. Egan Observatory where they learned how students and faculty research stars and the sun. While one FGCU student demonstrated computer programs and models that she and her peers use for research, FGCU physics instructor David

Harris took groups of five to a state-of-the-art telescope that has a similar optical design as the Hubble Space Telescope.

Students also took part in more interactive demonstrations in the science labs.

Assistant Chemistry Professor Kevin Davies led students to two labs, one of which was a biohazard room — meaning researchers may utilize dangerous biological agents in research — requiring that students keep goggles on at all times. There, Davies taught the students about photoacoustics, which uses laser pulses to create images of biological tissues.

PECS eighth-grader Mariah Garner said she enjoyed visiting the campus, especially the science labs. She is interested in attending the college in the future and may consider entering the science field.

"The people at FGCU are very friendly and the campus is big," she said, explaining some of the reasons why she wants to learn more about attending the university.

Afterwards, Assistant Professor Greg Boyce taught students about organic chemistry. Boyce explained that he and his team of researchers focus on developing synthetic versions of medicines, specifically to combat HIV and cancer. To show students how different materials work together, he combined dry ice with various liquid bases and acids, which made the liquid smoke and change colors.

Following the in-class demonstrations, students toured the university's housing and bookstore. They ended the visit with a complimentary pizza dinner and a meet-and-greet with the university's women's volleyball players after the game.

Keivon Bell, K-12 educational advisor, explained that getting exposed to atmospheres outside of the reservation is essential to making post-graduate plans.

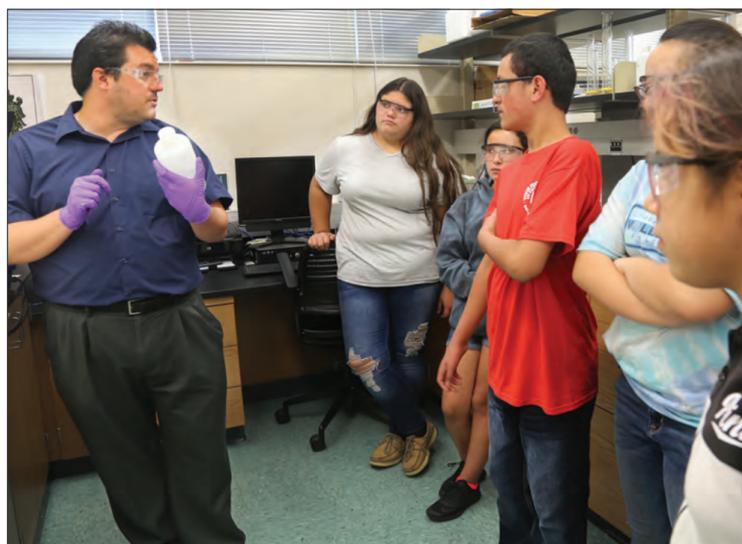
"A lot of kids on the reservation haven't really been outside of their communities, especially to see a college," he said. "They came here to see what it's like to be in a classroom, be in a dorm."

FGCU is planning another trip for Tribal students in January, where they will learn more information about the College of Engineering and another program that has yet to be decided.



FGCU Associate Chemistry Professor Ken Watanabe explains telescopes to students.

Li Cohen



Li Cohen (2)

Above, FGCU Chemistry Professor Greg Boyce explains organic chemistry to students. Below, FGCU honors students introduce themselves to the visiting middle and high schoolers.



## PECS inaugurates Student Council, holds clothing contest

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — A new team of leaders took the oath and the reins of the Student Council at Pemaquett Emahav Charter School Sept. 29.

Dressed in their finest patchwork, the 10 newly elected K-8 representatives and council chairwoman put their left hands on the bible, raised their right hands high and repeated the oath after Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. as he swore them into office.

The students swore to 'be the very best representative that they can be, lead the student body as an example of outstanding commitment in the revitalization of their language and culture and exemplify excellent academic performance and moral character.'

After the students were inaugurated and recited their acceptance speeches in Creek, Councilman Bowers addressed them as a group.

"One day you will be the Tribe's leaders," he said. "You should get used to all the people in front of you; they all know you. But one day you will talk in front of strangers, so get used to it. Look them in the eye so they see that you see them."

Principal Brian Greseth said one of the responsibilities of the Student Council is to be great role models, listen to the students' concerns and come up with ideas to make the school better.

Brighton Board Rep. Larry Howard told the new Council to take advantage of their leadership roles.

"Don't be shy," he said. "You're here now and have the opportunity to make some changes."

Chairwoman LaShae King was eager to



Beverly Bidney (3)

Above, pre-K boys are distracted by their numbers as they compete in the PECS clothing contest. Top right, PECS immersion students show off their finest traditional clothing during the clothing contest. Bottom right, Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. and culture teacher Jade Osceola help Juan Solis-Howard, the kindergarten student council representative, say the oath of office.

represent her school in the best way possible, set an example and be a strong leader.

"As chairwoman, I'm setting out a whole new path," said the eighth-grader. "I want to encourage younger students to run [for student council] when they get older. I want everyone to know our school is awesome. We get to take Creek and get high school credit for it. We learn culture every day, which makes me feel good because it's a part of me."

Some of the annual events Student

Council will help with are the Okeechobee Christmas parade and Field Day in Brighton.

The 2017-18 Student Council representatives are kindergartener Juan Solis-Howard, first-grader Kulipa Julian, second-grader Melaine Bonilla, third-grader Ila Trueblood, fourth-grader JB Anderson, fifth-grader Tiyanni Anderson, sixth-grader Santana Alvarez, seventh-grader Tanier Gore, and eighth-graders Tafv Harris and LaShae King.

Three of Amanda Julian's children are serving on Student Council: Kulipa Julian, JB Anderson and Tiyanni Anderson. The students also play travel softball, volleyball and basketball, participate in 4H and compete in the rodeo.

"I guess I'm going to be busy," Amanda said. "I like to keep them busy so they stay out of trouble."

After the formalities of forming the new government were completed, the clothing contest commenced. The atmosphere in the school gym changed from one of seriousness to one of controlled chaos and anticipation as each grade level was judged and encouraged by supportive family members.

Three Seminole Police Department officers judged the boys and three Fire Rescue officers judged the girls. As they took turns in the limelight, they stood as still as possible while the judges considered each outfit. Judges all remarked on the difficulty of their task since the clothing was all so impressive.

At the end of the contest, some students brought home ribbons but they all showed poise under pressure.



Beverly Bidney

Brighton Board Rep. Larry Howard and Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. flank the newly inaugurated PECS student council.

◆ **SHORE**  
From page 1A

Brighton Councilman Andrew Bowers Jr. acknowledged Shore's contributions to the Tribe and thanked her in a letter. He recognized her work implementing a culture and language pull-out program for Tribal students attending local elementary schools and the establishment of PECS, its culture program and the immersion program.

"I have watched for many years as you gave yourself for the children and adults of our Tribe in many ways. You have been there for the children, teaching them how to be Seminole Indians. When others have retired or moved on, you have remained to carry on your role as the teacher to many and of many things," Councilman Bowers wrote.

A soft-spoken woman, Shore didn't speak when she ascended the stage to receive the award; the video spoke for her.

"You need to know who you are before you can teach others. Know your language and traditions, know where your students are coming from so you can teach them good and consider all of their backgrounds before you teach them something," Shore said.

# Native American educators convene in Orlando

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**ORLANDO** — About 1,300 educators from 23 states, representing more than 100 tribes in Indian Country, gathered in Orlando Oct. 4-7 for the 48th Annual National Indian Education Association Convention.

The event's schedule was filled with opportunities for educators to grapple with issues facing Native American students and learn from each other's successes and challenges at workshops, general sessions and networking functions.

Culture night, courtesy of the Seminole Tribe, kicked off the convention Oct. 4. Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. opened the festivities.

"We are all here for the same thing, to

improve our education programs," Chairman Osceola said. "We are here to collaborate as a group so we can educate our children and grandchildren to ensure a better future for our people."

Emcee Lewis Gopher regaled the crowd with facts about the Tribe and the efforts to keep culture relevant in the 21st century.

"We want to give you a glimpse of our way of life," said Gopher, president of the PECS Parent/Teacher Association and Council special events coordinator. "We still sing the songs that are 500 years old. We have to keep our culture alive, which keeps us strong."

Gopher explained how Seminole children received an education over the years. Before the 1930s, when they started going to white-majority government schools, Tribal kids learned around campfires just like their ancestors did. The transition from learning in chickees to school rooms was hard for some, but in 1957 the first Seminole graduated from high school and in 1962 the first one graduated from college.

"We struggled, but that gave us strength," Gopher said. "Our blood has that strength in us. We've accomplished a lot in 60 years. Now we have 1,652 K-12 students and 202 more in higher education. We still battle drop-outs, drugs and alcohol, but it is conferences like this where we can share and build each other up that helps us all succeed."

After PECS students and teachers starred in a fashion show for the crowd of 700 to 800 attendees, medicine man Bobby Henry led hundreds through the pavilion in a massive friendship dance. Billy Walker and David Weathers followed with an alligator show. Walker entertained the crowd as he wrestled a feisty gator, caught just two days prior.

Displays by Pemayetv Emahaky Charter School, the Ahfachkee School and the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum filled one side of the large pavilion; an array of cultural items and activities were set up on the other side. Chairman Osceola, Trisha Osceola, Geraldine Osceola, Bobby Frank and Paladin Willie showed off patchwork, dolls, beadwork, sweet grass baskets and carvings as they answered questions from curious guests.

The educators weren't shy; they studied the displays and asked plenty of questions.

Tesia Zientek, director of education, and Channing Seikel, college advisor of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Oklahoma, were fascinated by what the Tribe has done at PECS.

"I'm interested in charter schools since there is a budding charter school movement in Oklahoma," said Zientek. "I'm inspired by what the Seminole Tribe has been

doing."

**Workshops for better understanding**

The opening ceremony and general assembly the following day featured the Seminole Color Guard and the Southern Horse Singers, whose drums and chanting filled the room as they sang the flag and victory songs.

Alaska Native and NIEA President Yatibaey Evans opened the assembly by thanking the Tribe for the warm welcome and introduced Bobby Henry, who said he learned everything he knows from his family and Tribe. He said a prayer to start the day.

"Thank you Bobby for reminding us of the many different types of education," Evans said. "My grandmother kept culture alive for me. Aside from education, there are other means of success; cultural values, Native language, resiliency, strength and family. If you have those, it makes you successful."

PECS was featured during an informative panel discussion about the perspectives and opportunities for Native school choice in Indian Country. Principal Brian Greseth joined Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye, University of Hawaii's Walter Kahumoku III and founding director of the Sovereign Schools Project Phil Gover on the panel where they shared experiences of how they have improved the education of Native American students.

Each panelist gave a brief overview of their programs and then answered questions by Evans, who served as the facilitator. The subject of school choice was first on the agenda.

"It means students get to learn and use their native language," said Kahumoku. "Cultural traditions are perpetuated in the community and in households to assure Hawaiian identity is upheld."

Kahumoku said Hawaiian and English are both official languages of Hawaii and 30,000 people speak it fluently. They have language immersion from preschool through higher education.

"School choice is a vital tool that tribes can use to expand their sovereignty," Gover said. "Oklahoma gave tribes the authority to operate their own charter schools, which is an important expression of sovereignty. Charter schools give tribes leverage they never had, but it also puts them under state law."

Greseth gave a brief history of how PECS was created, which began with students being pulled out of classrooms in Okeechobee one day a week to learn language and culture from a group of "grandmothers" in Brighton. "The community realized that wasn't enough, so they worked to open their own school," Greseth said. "They chose a charter school that would allow students to learn language and culture as well as the regular state standards and assessments."

The school opened in 2007 and has more than 300 K-8 students; an immersion class for infants was added two years ago. The school began with a vision of teaching language and culture, but there was a question of whether non-Tribal students should be exposed to the language.

"The school means everything to the community," Greseth said. "They saw the big picture and they decided they needed to save their language. We have about 30 fluent speakers and we utilize them as much as we can because we know they are the ones who will keep the language alive. We always listen to our constituents, PTSO and community members; we love their input. These conversations have helped us develop a very successful school."

The Navajo Nation, located in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah, is larger than the state of West Virginia and has 85,000 K-12 students and 238 schools. President Begaye said their student body is larger than many tribes.

"Navajos had no choice, boarding school was the only choice," he said. "It was illegal to speak your language. For years the government said being Indian was not good and learning our language would set us back; it was dehumanizing. Now we have it all but we have to get back to teaching our language, culture and traditions. It defines who we are as a Nation and a people."

**Language immersion in the classroom**

Losing language was a hot topic at the convention and most of the workshops were standing room only. At the Native Languages Alive workshop, Marcus Briggs-Cloud, who runs the language immersion program at PECS, defined the issue very clearly.

"We all learned to be fluent because we were immersed in language," he said. "Language programs should set goals and there should be only one; fluency."

Briggs-Cloud said fluency cannot be achieved in 30 minute a day classes. He knows many people who have been teaching language for 30 years, which has resulted in no fluent speakers.

"We have to be motivated to do more," he said. "Don't ask permission or debate it, just get up and do it. The kids in our program speak the language because we talk to them in it."

The PECS language immersion program had its own workshop, "Old School Methodology for Efficacious Language Revitalization: Seminole Tribe Language Immersion Program".

"All you have to do is speak and speak to the children and they will catch on," said NIEA Elder of the Year Jennie Shore, who teaches in the immersion program. "I want people to learn the language. Whatever I know, I'm willing to share."

Briggs-Cloud said what they are doing in the immersion program isn't new; it's how everyone learns to speak.

"We aren't trying to make second language speakers fluent, that doesn't work and we don't have time for that," he said. "If you want your children to speak like these elders it takes radical thinking. Jennie's grandfather kept her at home and taught her in Creek and Mikasuki. That's why she's fluent."

When he was designing the program, Briggs-Cloud asked some elders what makes a Seminole a Seminole. Their responses included language first, then clans, participation in ceremonies, stories to provide a sense of place in the world, medicine and cultural laws, endogamy (marrying back into the community) and teaching your own people. Those criteria are also necessary for a successful language program.

"Few people meet those criteria so we want to work toward that," Briggs-Cloud said. "It has nothing to do with blood quantum."

To recruit participants in the program, Briggs-Cloud approached Tribal members with babies and interviewed them. The program takes a significant commitment and places a few rules on parents; they must take their children to see an elder once a week and volunteer in the school once a week.

"Rule number one is no English," Briggs-Cloud said of the program. "English is dirty. Use the sounds of your own language, don't just translate twinkle, twinkle little star or London Bridges. Alaskan Natives create their own songs with their sounds. Use language, don't just translate from English. Rosetta Stone isn't going to save your language."

Inside the PECS immersion program, which is housed in its own building and has the ambiance of a home, the 13 children and six teachers speak only Creek. Visitors who don't speak the language are sent to a separate room to speak to another adult in English.

PECS culture teacher Jade Osceola teaches seventh- and eighth-grade language classes, but admits she hasn't produced one fluent speaker.

"I have a three-year-old daughter in the program who out-speaks me," she said. "This is real, it's working. They don't speak like me; they speak like they are old. It's so cute."

Fluent speakers have valuable and irreplaceable knowledge; the goal of the language immersion program is for it to live on in the next generation. Briggs-Cloud believes that instead of teaching language, those who know it should just speak it.

"Plant your garden, cook with your children, read to them and make them speak it back to you," he said. "Flood the place with your language, they will learn it."



Bobby Henry leads Miss Florida Seminole Randee Osceola and hundreds of others in a friendship dance around the pavilion Oct. 4 during culture night, which opened the NIEA convention in Orlando.



Billy Walker jumps over a feisty alligator during a demonstration for hundreds of NIEA conventioners at the Seminole sponsored culture night.



Jennie Shore, center, is surrounded by her family and PECS colleagues after receiving the NIEA Elder of the Year Award.



PECS immersion instructor Janelle Robinson explains PECS programs to Tesia Zientek and Channing Seikel of the Potawatomi Nation in Shawnee, Oklahoma who look at the school's display during the opening night of the NIEA convention Oct. 4.

## College scholarship deadlines

### Hitched Wedding Scholarship

Any students accepted to study at an accredited college or university can apply to this \$1,000 scholarship. Apply by Nov. 13 by visiting [hitched.co.uk/wedding-scholarship/](http://hitched.co.uk/wedding-scholarship/) and submitting a 600-800 word blog post about any wedding topic that demonstrates writing capability and creativity. Winner will be announced Dec. 15.

### Zavodnick, Zavodnick & Lasky, LLC Bi-Annual Future Leaders Scholarship

Students 18 and older enrolled in higher education, including graduate school, and who are in good standing can apply to this \$1,000 scholarship. Apply by Nov. 30 by visiting [zavodnicklaw.com/scholarship](http://zavodnicklaw.com/scholarship) and submitting an essay of no more than 1,000 words explaining the impact of an injury, disability or car accident on the applicant's life and discussing the challenges.

### Foreclosure Scholarship

Currently enrolled undergraduate students can apply to this \$5,000 scholarship. The annual scholarship challenges future leaders to provide creative solutions for the nation's most critical issues. As such, the scholarship requires students to answer the question, "Is the American Dream of one day owning a home alive and well among millennials?" in an essay.

Apply by Dec. 15 by visiting [foreclosure.com/scholarship](http://foreclosure.com/scholarship).

### Unpakt College Scholarship

Current college students and recent college graduates can apply for this \$1,000 scholarship. The Unpakt College Scholarship aims to help students move for or after school, so recent college grads must have graduate within the year of the application announcement on Dec. 31 to be eligible. Apply by Dec. 15 at [unpakt.com/scholarship](http://unpakt.com/scholarship) by submitting an essay explaining moving plans to finish education.

### Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship

High school, college and graduate students, including adult learners, can apply to this \$1,000 scholarship. The Tanabe Scholarship is a program that helps students pursue their dreams of higher education. Apply by Dec. 31 at [genkellyscholarship.com](http://genkellyscholarship.com).

### Coupons Plus Deal Scholarship

Any undergraduate student at a college or university can apply to this \$300 scholarship. CouponsPlusDeal, an online company, will award this money to help pay for educational expenses. Apply by Dec. 31 by visiting [couponsplusdeals.com/scholarship](http://couponsplusdeals.com/scholarship) and submitting an essay about unique tips for saving money.

## FGCU prepares students for ACT

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

Florida Gulf Coast University wants to do more than just be a college option for Tribal students; it wants to prepare them for success at any college, starting in high school.

Five Tribal junior and senior high school students attended a two-session ACT preparation course hosted by FGCU in October. FGCU alumna Kathleen Jaspas, owner and CEO of ACT testing preparation company NavaEd, hosted the free sessions. Rather than just going over subject matter for the test, she provided test-taking strategies to help students answer questions as quickly and accurately as possible in the time allotted during the exam.

J. Webb Horton, FGCU assistant director of Community Outreach, described Jaspas as the force behind student test-taking success.

"What makes this test prep different is that you're in a small one-on-one setting," he said. "You have seven kids for three hours with an expert going through the whole thing."

The idea for the ACT prep came from FGCU's STEM camp program the school has hosted the past five years. The camp, offered to high school students over the summer, usually incorporates some SAT preparation as well, but Horton said they wanted to turn their attention to ACT prep



Courtesy photo

Students gather at the end of ACT prep with Kathleen Jaspas.

instead. Additionally, FGCU wants to further its collaboration with the Tribe to get Tribal students more involved in the science, technology, math and engineering (STEM) fields.

"We're trying to work with the Tribe to get some kids to come to the camp and see

what it is," he said. "We want to expand and get more Seminole students involved with STEM. ... We have this great resource, so why wouldn't we offer it to our partners?"

FGCU plans to host the ACT preparation course again in the future.

## Expo provides students educational opportunities

BY LI COHEN  
Staff Reporter

DAVIE — The Center for Student Success and Services' Oct. 21 Education Expo brought together people of all ages for a day of learning and opportunity.

Approximately 60 vendors, including K-12 schools, colleges and universities, education companies and Tribal departments, hosted informational booths during the event in Davie. Each organization provided information, career opportunities and/or general information about its mission and influence in education and the job world.

Education Director Randall Budde, motivational speaker Chance Lee Rush, Miss Florida Seminole Randee Osceola and Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. welcomed people to the annual expo.

During her welcome, Osceola explained the importance of education. She recollected her family's history with education, as her great-grandmother and grandmother did not attend school. Her mother changed that pattern, earning her master's degree in psychology.

"My mother told me, 'Wherever you go, don't forget where you came from. Don't forget who you are and who was here first,'" she said. "I just want to emphasize that to kids today. You're not going to get by on a high school education. ... Please go to

college."

Rush shared this view, telling students to strive for higher education and parents to encourage them to do so.

"You are a blessing. ... You're big-time because you're a special person and you've been put on this earth to make a difference in the lives of others," he said. "Education is going to open doors for you."

Afterwards, expo visitors had the afternoon to eat a catered lunch, meet with representatives from visiting organizations, and acquire free giveaways and brochures. There were also numerous workshops available for students and parents, including "Social Media and Students in Education" by Grand Canyon University, "Funding Your Education" by CSSS, "The Collegiate Student Athlete Experience" by Florida International University, and more. Vendors from Florida State University,



Li Cohen

Families speak with colleges and other education vendors Oct. 21 at the Education Expo in Davie.

the University of Florida, Ahfachkee, Florida Virtual School, AAA Tutoring and Coaching, Inc., Tribal departments and more had representatives at the event.

Budde encourages all students to follow @CSSS on Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat to stay updated on education opportunities and events.

## SWAMP program launches in Big Cypress

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — About 60 Boys & Girls Club kids enthusiastically welcomed SWAMP to Big Cypress Oct. 19 at a party filled with fun activities, life lessons and plenty of food.

SWAMP (Seminoles Without Addictions Make Progress) is led by the Center for Behavioral Health department's Fred Mullins and will meet monthly at the club. The program, designed as a prevention outreach program for youth, is a collaborative effort of tribal departments including education, culture, recreation, health, fitness and Boys & Girls Club. Programs include prevention lessons, activities and incentive trips. The program has been active in Immokalee for seven years.

"Our goal is to build character with a mental and emotional commitment to avoid all high risk behaviors that threaten the future of the Seminole Tribe," said Mullins, aftercare prevention counselor.

The festivities began under a tent with the "Great Pickle and Sausage Giveaway." As the kids devoured the pickles and sausages, Mullins got their attention with a question: In what city do kids eat the most pizza? Everyone claimed to know the answer, but New York, Chicago and Hollywood were incorrect. The answer, according to Pizza Hut, is Fort Wayne, Indiana. Who knew?

Allied health program manager Suzanne Davis and health educator Jamie Diersing got the kids on their feet and running, hopping and walking backward laps around cones in the field. When the skies opened up, the group headed for the safety of the Boys &

Girls Club auditorium for the rest of the program.

A rousing game of musical chairs, a lesson about setting goals and a team money grab game followed by a spaghetti dinner rounded out the event.

Mullins taught the action lesson of the day, which was all about setting goals. Once the kids were settled down, Mullins told them he was about to tell them something that will change their lives.

"Catch your dream," Mullins said. "Your big dreams are all about you, this lesson will make your dream happen but it all begins with you. Dreams that come true don't just happen."

To reach a goal, everyone must have a plan and follow it, Mullins said. He outlined the steps with an interactive slide show.

Step 1 is to name the goal; "dreams

should have a deadline", Mullins said.

Step 2 is to visualize it; "picture yourself reaching the goal and living the dream, imagining you've already achieved it. Imagination is faster than the speed of light."

Step 3 is to say "I can do it."

Step 4 is to think of how to do it; "make a plan and know you are only going to get there with other people's help."

Step 5 is to go for it; "take action and start today, don't just talk about it."

Step 6 is to reward yourself for doing a good job.

The slide show showed photos of Walt Disney, Michael Jordan, Rosa Parks, Dr. Seuss, Thomas Edison, Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates and Stephen Spielberg.

"At some point in their lives, people told each of them they couldn't do it," Mullins said.

After the lesson, the kids divided into

teams for the money grab. A money blowing machine large enough for a person, some balloons and plenty of fake money and real cash was set up on the stage. Parent Billy Walker put in a wad of bills and the team captains got into the machine one at a time.

The balloons, funny money and cold cash circulated around the kids as they tried to grab as much as possible in just a few seconds. Any cash they held onto was shared with the team.

Before the game began, Mullins imparted one more important life lesson.

"If you don't have a goal and a plan, you'll be grabbing at stuff for your whole life," he said. "Some things will be phony, like some of that money. I don't want to see you in 10 or 20 years out there grabbing at something because you didn't have a goal and a plan. Everyone in the Tribe is here to help you identify and achieve your goals."



Beverly Bidney

Aftercare prevention counselor Fred Mullins gets to know the Boys & Girls Club kids at the SWAMP launch Oct. 19



Beverly Bidney

Aaliyah Billie, 12, James Gore, 12, and Tito Billie, 6, race around the field during a fitness activity at the SWAMP program launch in Big Cypress.



Beverly Bidney

A group of Ahfachkee students show their enthusiasm for Red Ribbon Week and the candy treasure they scavenged during the parade in BC.



Beverly Bidney

The Red Ribbon march filled Brighton streets with red Oct. 17 as hundreds of PECS students and community members showed their support for the message of living a drug free life.

# Red Ribbon Week emphasizes 'The future is key, so stay drug free'

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY AND LI COHEN  
Staff Reporters

With the theme "Your Future is Key, So Stay Drug Free," Red Ribbon Week focused on the future. From Oct. 17 to 24, community members gathered Tribal-wide to share this message and promote a healthier future for Tribal youth.

As the future of the Tribe incubates in its youth, relaying the message that living a drug-free life is far better than suffering the scourge of substance abuse was of utmost importance. A little fun thrown in for good measure helped the message meet its mark.

Activities throughout the reservations included poster contests, door decorating contests, marches against drugs and people pledging to remain drug free.

The Red Ribbon campaign and the tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as a symbol of intolerance of drug use began in 1985 after the murder of DEA agent Enrique (Kiki) Camarena in Mexico City. Since then, the week has been commemorated in schools and communities nationwide. The Tribe started taking part in the national effort approximately 10 years ago.

"We want to promote life and show kids there's a good, clean way to have fun without drugs," said Bernard Colman, aftercare prevention coordinator at the Center for

Behavioral Health

**Brighton**

The annual Brighton Red Ribbon march Oct. 17 included community members and the entire student body, teachers and staff at the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School. Dressed in red, hundreds of walkers took to the streets to show solidarity in the fight against drugs. The youngest students — including those in the PECS language immersion program, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten — rode in style on decorated floats.

"There's an enemy out there called illegal drugs," said Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. "It's up to all of us to fight that enemy including teachers, parents and Council. We're all in this fight together and we're not going to let it whip us."

Most PECS students donned fanciful hats, as it was hat day at school. The fun activities during the week were meant to increase students' awareness of drugs.

"This is all set up to get them thinking about saying no to drugs and that they have choices," said Principal Brian Gresheth. "Hopefully they will make the right ones."

**Hollywood**

The younger generations kicked off Red

Ribbon Week in Hollywood with a march led by preschoolers and their families on Oct. 23. Approximately 60 people sported red clothing and balloons while they walked, strolled and skipped around the reservation to support the drug-free endeavor.

"The whole thing is to help people make the choice to stay away from drugs," Colman said. "This is a really prevalent issue with the Tribe and we want to be upfront and lead the way to promoting prevention activities and healthy choices."

The rest of the week consisted of a health care screening sponsored by Fire Rescue, which included blood pressure, glucose, oxygen and pulse exams, and a youth basketball tournament and dinner. Perhaps the most exciting event for many of the children was the Red Ribbon Week Game Show hosted by the Hollywood Boys and Girls Club.

The game show resembled Nickelodeon's "Double Dare" television show, in which two teams competed for prizes by answering trivia questions and completing challenges. The teams, Raging Bulls and The Panthers, were comprised of Boys and Girls Club members between the ages of 5 and 10. Approximately 15 kids participated, answering questions related to Seminole culture, Red Ribbon Week and school subjects. If both teams missed a question or tied, they had to

complete challenges, which included bean bag tosses, a mummy wrapping contest, a pie in the face game, and a healthy meal planning race.

The game show was a close call, but The Panthers ultimately prevailed. The game ended on a sweet note, however, with slices of Red Ribbon Week cake and better knowledge of the week's purpose.

**Big Cypress**

The annual Red Ribbon Parade in Big Cypress Oct. 24 brought employees and tribal members together as 12 departments paraded down Josie Billie Highway in decorated floats, trucks, ATVs, convertibles and tricycles. What seemed like tons of candy was thrown from the floats, to the delight of the Ahfachkee School students who scrambled for it as it came their way. Although the skies threatened a downpour, the event was spared a soaking.

Emcee Fred Mullins kept the crowd entertained as the procession made its way from the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum parking lot to the school. Clipboards in hand, five Center for Behavioral Health employees took on the role of judges during the parade.

## Tips to be drug-free

### 1. Say "No, I'm good."

The best way to turn down drugs in a social setting is to establish a firm position. Say "No, I'm good." Don't sugar-coat your answer. Make it clear that drugs are not and will never be a part of your life.

### 2. Don't lie

It is better not to lie by trying to make up some excuse like, "No, I just had some" because that will just lead the person peer pressuring you into their next sales pitch. Those who pressure you will usually arrive at the truth eventually, and if they don't, they often will cause you to do something you wouldn't normally do just so you can make your lie more believable.

### 3. Stand apart

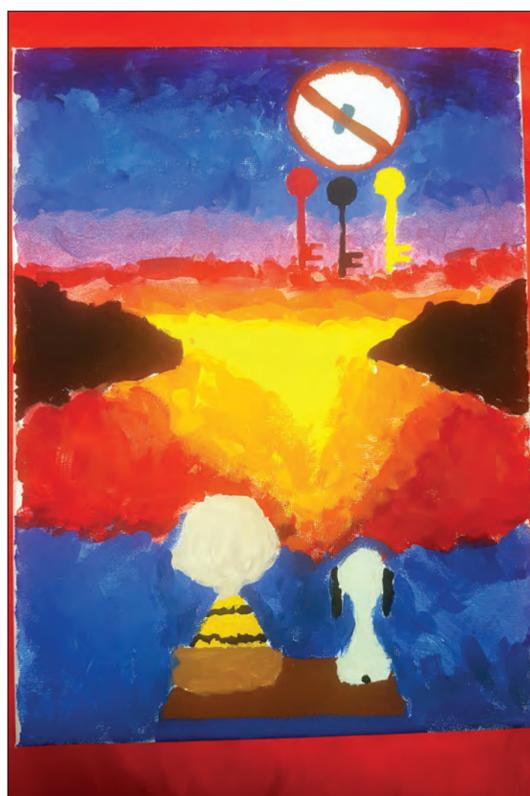
People don't like followers and there is no quicker way to make it clear that you are a follower than to use a drug that they know you are only trying because they pressured you to try it. People will respect you far more if you stand apart and blaze your own trail.

- Information from PaxUnited National Mediation Center



Courtesy photo

Fort Pierce shows its Red Ribbon Week spirit. From left, back row: Timothy Smith, Jovani Cane, Jennie Busbin, Tristan Timothy, and Sereniti Smith. From left, front row: Bryan Villegas and Trenton Timothy.



Courtesy photo

Azaria Simmons' Red Ribbon Week poster won the contest in Tampa.



In their red shirts and festive hats, kindergarten teacher Ana Solis, students Kohloni Rodriguez Osceola, Maddox Osceola and Teodoro Estrada ride in style on a float in the Brighton Red Ribbon march.



Panthers team member Ivory Vasquez wraps her teammate Jamylah Wilson as a mummy during the Red Ribbon Week Game Show in Hollywood.



Albert Brooks, 4, shows off his Red Ribbon Week balloon during the Red Ribbon March in Hollywood.

*“We want to promote life and show kids there’s a good, clean way to have fun without drugs.”*

*- Bernard Colman  
aftercare prevention coordinator*



From left, Chris Jimmie, McKenzie Garza, Penney Jimmie and Sylvia Santos work on their Red Ribbon Week paintings in Tampa.



3-year-olds Skyla Doctor and Jeremy Sanchez join hands during the Red Ribbon March in Hollywood.



Ellen Batchelor throws candy to the Ahfachkee students from the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum’s decorated ATV in the Red Ribbon parade.

# Nutritionist stresses healthy, tasty meals for Tribal members



Nutritionist Marianna Nikiforov assists Veldina Osceola as Brian Billie prepares to cut a green pepper during an adult cooking class Oct. 11 in the BC Wellness Center kitchen.

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Adults are learning how to improve their health by making and eating tasty food.

At a cooking class Oct. 11, nutritionist Marianna Nikiforov taught a group of Tribal members how to make a healthy stir fry with chicken and vegetables, but the recipe wasn't the only thing being taught in the Big Cypress Wellness Center kitchen.

Peppered in between the step-by-step cooking instructions, Nikiforov also shared basic kitchen, cooking and shopping tips, such as thinking about the week ahead and planning a menu before going to the grocery store.

Cross contamination is a dangerous issue in home kitchens, so she told the group to use a specific knife and cutting board for the chicken to prevent contamination of the other ingredients. One participant asked if the chicken should be rinsed first; most of the cooks in the room said they usually do.

"You don't have to rinse your chicken before you use it," Nikiforov said. "That will spread salmonella everywhere."

After the chicken was cut, marinated and put in hot pans on portable cooktops, the aroma of Chinese food permeated the room.

"I came to learn how to cook healthy meals," Renee Tigertail said. "I usually eat out or at my mom's house. I don't cook much, but I love this and it's easy to make."

Nikiforov also provided handouts with nutritious choices to make healthy eating and shopping easier.

Once the chefs finished cooking the

chicken, they took it out of the pans and added onions, peppers, carrots, garlic and fresh ginger. Sizzling ensued.

"You have to stir it the whole time," Nikiforov instructed. "The Chinese people never stop stirring."

Claudia Doctor planned to try the recipe for her grandson and Veldina Osceola was glad to have the chance to start cooking healthier food. Brian Billie enjoys his time in the kitchen and usually cooks twice a week.

"I need to keep learning how to cook and eat right," he said. "That's how I overcame diabetes."

Edna McDuffie's eating habits have gotten more adventurous over the years. She used to shun certain foods, but then learned to taste things before making up her mind.

"I used to think I won't like that, but then when it was all put together it was good," she said. "I wasn't always a fan of garlic, but when it's cooked it's really good."

Nikiforov explained that recipes can always be modified. For example, the stir fry recipe they used called for making a homemade marinade, but the class used a prepared one instead.

"Don't be afraid of the recipe," she said. "There is always a solution if you don't have all of the ingredients. You can use any vegetable or meat you like. I like shrimp because it only takes two minutes to cook."

Nikiforov showed the group a few graters and microplanes and told them how to use them to grate vegetables and garlic.

The finished stir fry was served over rice. The chefs ate what they could and took the rest home.

## PECS Students of the Month

### PECS Elementary

Ianna Cypress  
Ameliana Osceola  
Kade Johns  
Brace Miller  
Damahni Bonilla  
Derrick McQueen  
Aurelius Lara  
Ross Jones  
Stellar King  
Jayshawn Henderson  
Case Prescott  
Marley Jimmie

Rylee Bowers  
Waniya Fortner  
Jaliyah Kroeplin  
Miley Jimmie  
Jovanny Torres  
Malakai Garland  
Kalissa Huff  
Tiyanni Anderson

Candice Melton  
Talena Holafa  
Ringo Billie

### PECS Middle

Eric Puente  
Cheyenne Lara  
Adryanna Baker



## 2017 Native American Music Award Winners



Native American Music Awards courtesy photo

Mickie James (left) and Arthur Redcloud (right) celebrate their awards at the Native American Music Awards, held Oct. 14 in Niagra Falls.

#### Artist of the Year

Josh Halverson  
"Year of the Thunderbird"

#### Best Music Video – Best Concept

"Indomitable"  
DJ Shub and Northern Cree Singers

#### Best Native American Church Recording

"Simplicity"  
Cheevers Toppah

#### New Artist of the Year

Lucas Ciliberti  
"Rainmaker"

#### Best Music Video – Best Performance

"Ascension"  
Jan Michael Looking Wolf Band

#### Best Pow Wow Recording

"It's a Cree Thing"  
Northern Cree

#### Debut Duo/Group of the Year

Black Bear Brothers  
"Songs from Cheyenne Creek"

#### Best Music Video – Best Narrative

"Never Give Up"  
Artson, Supaman & Qese Imc

#### Best Rap/Hip Hop/R&B Recording

"The 7th Generation Prophecy"  
Sten Joddi

#### Best Female Artist

Kelly Derrickson  
"I Am"

#### Native Heart (Non-Native)

Bearheart Kokopelli  
Bernhard Mikuskovics  
"Native Heart"

#### Best Rock/Best Blues Recording

"Take Me Back"  
Levi Platero

#### Flutist of the Year

Randy McGinnis  
"The Journey – hi a vi si I"

#### Best Country Recording

"You've Got to Go Back the Way  
That You Came"  
Danielle Egnew

#### Best Traditional Recording

"Before America"  
James Edmund Greeley

#### Duo/Group of the Year

The Cody Blackbird Band  
"Live From Chicago"

#### Best Folk Recording

"Year of the Thunderbird"  
Josh Halverson

#### Best Waila Recording

"Creed and Culture"  
Native Creed

#### Best Male Artist

Conrad Benally  
"Always and Forever"

#### Best Gospel/Inspirational

"Awake, Arise and Shine"  
Callie Bennett

#### Honorary Award of Excellence

Arthur Redcloud

#### Record of the Year

"Hoka"  
Nahko and Medicine for the People

#### Best Instrumental Recording

"Songs of the Earth"  
Vince Redhouse

#### Lifetime Achievement Award

Gary Farmer

#### Song of the Year

"Shooting Blanks"  
Mickie James

#### Best Pop Recording

"Celebration"  
Cherokee National Youth Choir

#### Hall of Fame

Mickie James

## National Grandparents Day unites families for lunch and love

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY  
Staff Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — Though National Grandparents Day was Sept. 10, Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School celebrated the annual event Sept. 29.

Although Irma may have been the larger force of nature, there is little question that grandparents can have a significant impact on the lives of their grandchildren.

Since 1978, National Grandparents Day has been celebrated in the U.S. on the first Sunday after Labor Day. President Jimmy Carter signed a proclamation which states the purpose of the holiday is "to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children and to help children become aware of strength, information and guidance older people can offer."

PECS grandparents filled the cafeteria as they joined their grandchildren for a lunch of fried chicken with all the fixings. Sounds of laughter, looks of love and the joy of togetherness filled the room as lunch was served.



Beverly Bidney (2)

Above, Esmeralda Rivera can't seem to get enough of her grandson Jon Jones, 5. Below, Jordan, 4, and Cordey Jumper, 5, vie for their grandmother Martha Tommie's attention during the grandparents celebration at PECS.



# Sports



## Ahfachkee students tackle first cross country season

BY KEVIN JOHNSON  
Senior Editor

**COCONUT CREEK** — Franklin Jumper would have liked some company — in the form of teammates — as he lined up for the start of the high school boys varsity race in the Pine Crest Cross Country Invitational on Oct. 12.

Other runners from schools such as American Heritage, Calvary Christian and Palmer Trinity had four, five or even six runners who flanked Franklin at the starting line before the starter's pistol was fired at Tradewinds Park in Coconut Creek.

Despite his recruitment efforts, Franklin is the only high school boy on the Ahfachkee School cross country team, which debuted this fall.

"I tried talking my classmates into it," Franklin said. "But they're not into cross country that much. Maybe I can get them into track."

Although Franklin doesn't have teammates in his division, at least he isn't alone on the Ahfachkee team. Alonie Gore, a freshman, runs in high school girls races while seventh-grader Anthony Avalos competed in his first cross country race in the middle school boys division at Tradewinds.

Ahfachkee cross country coach and Athletic Director Matthew Beckham admitted the sport, which can be demanding with practices and races in hot conditions, isn't for every student. His team runs along the canals on the Big Cypress Reservation in the middle of afternoons after school.

Initially, about eight students came out for the team; most didn't return after the first practice. The few students who remained with the program have earned Beckham's admiration.

"I give a lot of credit to these kids who decide they want to run two, three miles," said Beckham, a former high school and college sprinter whose expertise is more in track than cross country. "Sprinting and cross country are two totally different things. It's a lot easier to get a kid to come out to a practice and say 'hey, we're going to run maybe seven 100-meters,' instead of saying you've got to run all the way down the canal and back, and it's hot and humid."

Franklin has stuck with the program to become its trailblazer. He consistently attends practices, a dedication that has paid off with faster times each time out for a runner with a calm, smooth stride. He finished his first two races in the low 30-minute range. At the Pine Crest meet, he got his time down to 26 minutes, 49 seconds on the 3.1 mile course



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee School junior Franklin Cypress, bib #6, competes against runners from other high schools in the Pine Crest Cross Country Invitational on Oct. 12 at Tradewinds Park in Coconut Creek.

that wound its way around the athletic fields at the park.

"It was good. I gave the most I could," said Franklin, who finished 140th in a field that featured several of the top private

schools in South Florida.

"Franklin has set a [personal record] every meet. He's done better every meet, and that's the name of the game," Beckham said. Last spring, Franklin helped kick off

Ahfachkee's track program. In a few months, he'll return to track, but he wanted to give cross country a shot this fall, and he's glad he did.

"It challenges me in different ways

than track because it's more endurance. It's more sticking with it than just one minute running," he said.

Alonie Gore has stuck with it on the girls side, so much that she ran in the Pine Crest meet despite being ill. She's done double duty this fall as a member of the school's cross country and volleyball teams. In fact, after competing in the cross country meet she headed back to Big Cypress to play in a volleyball match.

In the middle school race, Anthony Avalos looked comfortable early in his first-ever race as he was among the middle of the pack. Although he finished toward the back with a time of 18:24 in the 2-miler, the experience competing in a cross country race should be beneficial for his future.

"He did all right early on," Beckham said. "His ability to keep up with the rest of the kids and keep his pace is not really going to be there because he hasn't attended practices."

Beckham was encouraged by Anthony's willingness to try and compete in something new.

"He finally decided it was something to do and he wanted a shot, so we gave him a shot and he came out here to see what it's like," Beckham said.

Similar to all the sports at Ahfachkee, Beckham wants to see the cross country program grow. Interest is already building for track season. A year ago, five students comprised the track team. Beckham said the squad should have eight this season.

As for cross country, Franklin and Alonie returned to Tradewinds Park on Oct. 24 for the Class 1A-District 14 meet, which featured a much smaller field than the Pine Crest meet. Franklin generated another PR with a time of 26:37, good enough for 25th place in the boys varsity race. Alonie finished the girls race in 17th place with a time of 34:25.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee seventh-grader Anthony Avalos, center, crosses the finish line in the middle school boys race at the Pine Crest Cross Country Invitational.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee freshman Alonie Gore, in front, competes in the high school girls race Oct. 12 in the Pine Crest Cross Country Invitational.



Kevin Johnson

After finishing his race, Ahfachkee's Franklin Jumper cools down under the Ahfachkee tent. Franklin is the only high school boy on Ahfachkee's cross country team.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee coach and athletic director Matthew Beckham gives last minute advice to Anthony Avalos before the middle school race.

# PECS volleyball honors eighth-grade players

BY KEVIN JOHNSON  
Senior Editor

**BRIGHTON** — Pematv Emahakv Charter School's eighth-grade parent night for its volleyball team is the middle school's version of a high school's senior night.

On Oct. 5, PECS honored its eighth-graders before they finished their middle school volleyball career and head to high school next year.

Before facing Osceola Middle School, eight Lady Seminoles were accompanied by family members to midcourt where they were greeted by varsity coach Pam Matthews and junior varsity coach Mary Huff in front of the stands at PECS' gymnasium.

This season's varsity squad featured five eighth-graders: Leilani Burton, captain Karey Gopher, Tafv Harris, LaShae King and captain Elle Thomas. The JV had three eighth-graders: Kayln Hammil, Tammy Martinez and Angelie Melton.

The eighth-graders favorite volleyball memories — which were shared with the audience — tended to be from the humorous side when something unexpected happened on the court. For Elle, it was when the ball went off her sister Lexi's arms and hit Karey in the face. Karey and Tafv's favorite memory came when a serve by the other team hit Tafv in the chest.

Once the ceremony ended, attention shifted to the matches. The JV team won in two sets (25-16, 25-12). PECS trailed 6-1 early in game one, but rallied behind the powerful serving of Jana Johnson, whose hard, low serves handcuffed Osceola's defense.

Javale Anderson won a key point at the net late in the set and Taryn Osceola, who had strong serves throughout the match, delivered an ace to help seal the victory.

In the second set, Karlyne Urbina blasted a couple of aces to stake PECS to an 8-5 lead. More service gems came from Angelie, who delivered a pair of aces late in the match.

Coach Huff said it took some time for her JV team to become acclimated to her coaching style this season, but once on board, the squad was nearly unstoppable. The team had lost only one match as of parent night.

"It took a little bit for the girls to get used to my coaching. They responded well and they've done a great job and everything that I asked," Huff said.

Osceola Middle prevented a PECS sweep by winning the varsity match in two hard-fought sets, 25-22, 25-20.

"We played pretty well; I'd say we could have played better. We struggled to get the ball to our hitters," said coach Matthews, whose daughter Sydney played on the other side of the net for Osceola.

PECS started on a strong note as Elle blasted a kill for the match's first point. She had an ace to give PECS a 7-5 lead and her younger sister Lexi also produced an ace to make it 11-6.

After Osceola pulled to within two points at 18-16, Karey came through with two consecutive aces to make it 21-16. But Osceola staged a late comeback and emerged with a 25-22 win.

In the second set, PECS trailed throughout, but gamely fought to stay alive. Elle won a tip ball at the net for a point and Karey and Giselle Micco followed with aces. Late in the match, Elle smashed a kill and Tafv won a battle at the net to keep it close, but Osceola held on for the victory.

The varsity squad concluded its season Oct. 21 with a third-place finish in its conference tournament. Giselle led the team to a victory against West Glades (25-7, 25-15) with a team-high 11 service points.

PECS then fell into the losers' bracket with a 25-19, 25-22 loss against Yearling. Karey notched a team-high 11 service points.

In a semifinal match, PECS started off with an impressive 25-13 win in the first set against Osceola, but Osceola rallied to win the next two (25-10, 15-6) to advance to the final. Yearling beat Osceola in the championship 25-19, 28-26.

PECS finished with a 9-4 record and some well-earned praise from its coach.

"Overall, I am very proud of the team," Matthews said.

Next year could shape up to be another strong season with the return of four varsity players (Lexi Thomas, Nena Youngblood, Giselle Micco and Melina Steve) along with the ascension of at least some, if not all, of this year's strong JV squad, whose returners are Saniya Rodriguez, Winnie Gopher, Taryn Osceola, Karlyne Urbina, Javale Anderson and Jana Johnson.



Elle Thomas (7) with sister and teammate Lexi Thomas (1)

Kevin Johnson



Karey Gopher

Kevin Johnson



Tafv Harris

Kevin Johnson



LaShae King

Kevin Johnson



Leilani Burton

Kevin Johnson



Angelie Melton

Kevin Johnson



Kayln Hammil

Kevin Johnson



Tammy Martinez

Kevin Johnson

◆ See PECS PHOTOS on page 3C

## Koenig waived by Chicago Bulls

**CHICAGO** — Former University of Wisconsin star Bronson Koenig (Ho-Chunk Nation) was waived by the Chicago Bulls on Oct. 13. Koenig appeared in one preseason game with the Bulls. Koenig's release came two weeks after he signed a preseason deal with Chicago. In September, Koenig was waived by Milwaukee.

Koenig averaged more than 14 points per game last season as a senior at Wisconsin.

In April, Koenig received the 2017 United States Basketball Writers Association's Most Courageous Award. He visited protesters at the Dakota Pipeline site and met with kids from the Standing Rock Sioux.



Bronson Koenig, shown here in a preseason game, was waived by the Chicago Bulls on Oct. 17.

NBA.com

## FSU basketball to play in Sunrise

**SUNRISE** — The 24th annual MetroPCS Orange Bowl Basketball Classic Dec. 16 will feature the Florida State Seminoles, Florida Gators, Clemson Tigers and Oklahoma State Cowboys at the BB&T Center in Sunrise. FSU will face OSU in the opener at 2 p.m. followed by UF against Clemson at 4:30 p.m.

For ticket information, contact the Orange Bowl ticket sales office at (305) 341-4701 or tickets@orangebowl.org.

FSU opens its regular season Nov. 14 at home against George Washington.

The Seminoles' schedule also includes a game in Tampa on Dec. 10 against Tulane. FSU will square off against Miami on Jan. 7 in Coral Gables.

## Native youth fitness week Nov. 5-11

The Notah Begay III Foundation's NB3FIT Week will hold its national week of Native youth health and fitness Nov. 5-11. NB3FIT Week encourages all tribes, communities, families, schools and organizations to host a youth health and fitness activity in their community. Plan a physical activity event for youth, select a day during NB3FIT Week and register the event at nb3foundation.org.

NB3FIT Week's goals are: engage 12,000 Native American youth across the country in physical activity for a minimum of one hour during the week, promote drinking clean water and eating healthy foods.

The NB3 Foundation is a Native American nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing Native American childhood obesity and type-2 diabetes.



Kevin Johnson  
Karey Gopher dives for the ball with help from Lexi Thomas during PECS' varsity match against Osceola Middle on Oct. 5.



Kevin Johnson  
Angelie Melton delivers a serve during the JV match.



Kevin Johnson  
Kalyn Hammil controls the ball while Winnie Gopher provides backup during PECS' JV match against Osceola Middle on Oct. 5.



Kevin Johnson  
Elle Thomas, left, sets up a pass while Giselle Micco (3), Tafv Harris (12) and LaShae King (4) get in position.



Kevin Johnson  
From left, LaShae King, Lexi Thomas, Karey Gopher and coach Pam Matthews cheer on the team from the bench.

## Brighton's Jacoby Johns wins INFR Tour's bareback riding title

### FROM INFR

*Editor's note: Jacoby Johns, of Brighton, finished first in bareback riding in this season's Indian National Finals Rodeo Tour. Johns represented the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association.*

*The following item about Jacoby Johns is from INFR's Facebook page.*

#### Getting to know 2017 INFR Tour Champions

**Name:** Jacoby Johns  
**Age:** 26  
**Event Won:** Bareback Riding  
**Hometown and tribal Affiliation:** Brighton, Florida; Seminole Tribe of Florida.

**1. How does it feel being crowned the 2017 INFR Tour Champion?** It's a blessing to be crowned 2017 tour champion. Competing with all my friends, family, and accomplishing all of my goals this year.

**2. What was your favorite tour rodeo and why?** My favorite tour rodeo has to be the ones in Perkins, Oklahoma. The Iowa tribes hospitality was unmatched. They also had very good bucking horses.

**3. What made you successful this year?** What made me successful this year was all the support and help from all of my sponsors and my family. Staying positive through the rough times also taking each rodeo one at a time.

**4. What are you going to do to prepare for this year's INFR in Las Vegas?** To

prepare for this finals I'm going to start by taking some time off to heal and relax. Then it will be back to the grind. I will be riding my bucking machine and my spur board.

**5. What is the most important thing you've learned from competing in Indian rodeo?** The most important thing that I've learned from competing in Indian rodeo is that I'm blessed to be able to keep the tradition alive competing as a Native American cowboy following in the footsteps of all the greats before me.

**6. Will any of your family members be competing in the Indian rodeo?** Yes, I will have family competing in the INFR, mostly cousins and a couple of uncles.

**7. If you weren't a cowboy/cowgirl, what would you be doing?** If I wasn't a

cowboy, I'd be back home running heavy machinery or working the family ranch.

**8. Who do you look up to in rodeo and why?** I look up to my favorite bareback riders like Kaycee Feild, Bobby Mote, because if you want to be the best you have to ride like the best.

**9. Do you have any superstitions?** I don't have any superstitions.

**10. Where is your favorite restaurant to eat at on the road?** Well my favorite fast food restaurant has to be Wendy's. But my favorite restaurant is Applebee's.

**11. What tour had the best food?** Whiteswan, Washington had the best food.

**12. What is your favorite sport other than rodeo?** I played baseball as a youngen, but I really like football.

**13. What is your favorite movie or tv show?** I have many favorite movies like Tombstone and 8 Seconds but my all-time favorite is Ridiculous 6.

**14. What reservation was your favorite one to visit and why?** My favorite reservation to visit was the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma. They have awesome sightseeing around and had great hospitality at the arena, cant wait to go back next year.

**15. What are you most afraid of?** I am most afraid of not trying my best or not accomplishing my goals that I set. But it drives me to go as hard as I can. It also pushes me to be the best that I can be.

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# Cheyenne Nunez, Ahnie Jumper face each other in college game



State College of Florida's Cheyenne Nunez, left, and Florida Gulf Coast University's Ahnie Jumper pose for a photo Oct. 7 when their softball teams met for a fall season doubleheader in Fort Myers.

**BY STAFF REPORT**

**FORT MYERS** — Two of the Seminole Tribe's top softball players played against each other Oct. 7 when the Florida Gulf Coast University Eagles hosted the State College of Florida Manatees.

The fall season doubleheader in Fort Myers featured FGCU's Ahnie Jumper of the Big Cypress Reservation and State College

of Florida's Cheyenne Nunez of the Brighton Reservation.

Jumper, a 2017 American Heritage-Plantation graduate, played third base for the Eagles. Nunez, a 2016 Okeechobee High graduate, played right field for the Manatees. Both players are in their first season with their college teams.

Fall season games don't count toward the regular season, which will start in the winter.



The 2017-18 Oklahoma City University men's basketball team, which includes Seminole Tribal member Curtis Osceola (20), opened its season Oct. 28.

## Season starts for Curtis Osceola, OCU basketball

**BY STAFF REPORT**

Plenty of new faces, including the Seminole Tribe's Curtis Osceola, are part of the 2017-18 Oklahoma City University men's basketball team whose season was slated to start Oct. 28 against Manhattan Christian in Kansas.

Six of the nine new players are guards, including Osceola, who finished his high school career at Anadarko last winter. Osceola earned honorable mention all-state.

OCU is coming off a successful year last season when the squad won 21 games, ascended to as high as No. 5 in NAIA Division I and reached the NAIA postseason for the third straight year. But the injury bug bit the team late in the season leading to an early exit from the tournament.

"The big thing for us this year is trying to stay healthy," coach Vinay Patel said on the team's web site. "We were very pleased with the year we had a year ago, but had some unfortunate injuries to two major players for us. You almost get a sense of

"hey, if we stayed healthy could it have been better?" or not."

OCU plays in the Sooner Athletic Conference, which includes No. 1 nationally-ranked Texas Wesleyan. OCU started the season ranked No. 12 and was picked to finish second in the SAC preseason coaches poll.

"I'm excited that the coaches think that highly of our program because that is a true coaches poll, but that's not very indicative of how teams will finish this year," Patel said.

## Skyla Osceola, NSU open season Nov. 10

**BY STAFF REPORT**

The Nova Southeastern University women's basketball team will make its 2017-18 debut Nov. 10 against Delta State in Jackson, Tenn. The Sharks home opener will be Nov. 18 against Tampa.

This year's squad includes Skyla Osceola, a 5-foot-8 guard from the Hollywood Reservation. Osceola, a former standout at American Heritage-Plantation, is one of five freshmen on coach LeAnn Freeland-Curry's squad which was picked

by coaches to finish second in the Sunshine State Conference.

"With five teams receiving two or more first place votes, it is clear the SSC coaches are expecting a lot of parity in the league again this season. Our players have been working extremely hard to get ready and I'm excited to see how our team evolves throughout the year," Freeland-Curry said on the team's web site.

The SSC includes No. 1 Rollins, Nova, Barry, Eckerd, Embry-Riddle, Florida Southern, Florida Tech, Lynn, Palm Beach

Atlantic, Saint Leo and Tampa.

The Sharks are coming off a 17-12 season, including a 12-6 conference mark. They reached the NCAA Division II tournament for the fifth consecutive year and lost in the South Region quarterfinals. The team returns six players, including last year's conference Freshman of the Year Maria Bardeeva and 2016 SSC Player of the Year Kayla Wright.

The Sharks play home games at Rick Case Arena on the Nova campus in Davie.

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## South Florida resident takes top prize at Main Event

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**HOLLYWOOD** — Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood concluded its first ever World Series of Poker (WSOP) Circuit on Oct. 2. The first time partnership between WSOP and Seminole Gaming featured a \$1 Million Guarantee Main Event. The Main Event boasted a final prize pool of more than \$1.3 million, with local Hollywood resident Joseph Gottlieb taking home the evening's top prize.

Local business owner Gottlieb, 52, bested 904 total entries in the \$1,675 Main Event, earning \$257,638, a WSOP Gold Ring and a \$10,000 entry into the WSOP Circuit season-ending Global Casino Championship (GCC).

The Main Event Final Table results:

1st: Joseph Gottlieb (Hollywood, Fla.) \$257,638  
 2nd: Asher Conniff (Brooklyn, N.Y.) \$159,357  
 3rd: Mauricio Ameller (Miami, Fla.) \$117,619  
 4th: Brian Hastings (Fort Lauderdale, Fla.) \$88,004  
 5th: Brett Bader (Boca Raton, Fla.) \$66,675  
 6th: Chad Eveslage (Ramsey, Ind.) \$51,148  
 7th: Jack Shea (Hallandale Beach, Fla.) \$39,717  
 8th: Daniel Genachte (Deerfield Beach, Fla.) \$31,229  
 9th: Michael Amato (Boca Raton, Fla.) \$24,842

In addition to the 14 WSOP gold ring events, a Casino Champion is awarded at each Circuit stop with a free \$10,000 entry into the WSOP GCC. At Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Nagui Yassa (Deerfield Beach, Fla.) was the series Casino Champion with the highest number of eligible points, according to WSOP's points model.

The 2017/2018 WSOP Circuit schedule highlights a record number of stops globally, including two stops in Florida. WSOP will return to Florida on Feb. 8-19, 2018 with a second Circuit event at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek.

Poker action will return to Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, with the Seminole Hard Rock Poker Rock 'N' Roll Poker Open (RRPO) Nov. 15-29, 2017, headlined by a \$2 Million Guaranteed Championship.

## Hard Rock charity poker event benefits Feeding South Florida

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**HOLLYWOOD** — Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood hosted a charity poker tournament Oct. 3 benefiting Feeding South Florida and its hurricane relief efforts. PokerStars, which is the flagship brand of The Stars Group Inc. and is the world's most licensed online gaming brand, matched the tournament donation to further assist the relief effort to raise more than \$66,000 for the charity.

Bryan Emory from Plantation, bested 124 total entries and took first place in the \$300 buy-in event, winning \$3,000 and a \$20,000 package to PokerStars Caribbean Adventure in January.

Sue Hammett, Department Head, Corporate Giving at The Stars Group said, "We are proud to have worked with Seminole Hard Rock to raise money for Feeding South Florida and support their efforts with the recovery process following Hurricane Irma. For those who have been affected by the destruction left behind, this event is just one way of helping the community and we hope this will encourage others to give back. We're honored to be able to help make a difference with Seminole Hard Rock and alongside the support from the very generous poker community and are delighted that the event has raised more than \$55,000."

"It's so heart-warming to see the outpour of support from our community," said Susan Renneisen, vice president of community affairs and special events at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. "We all know someone who has been affected by these recent storms. We are so thankful to PokerStars for their generous contribution and to Feeding South Florida for their work in the community as we continue to rebuild."

Members of Team PokerStars Pro, Jason Mercier, Jen Shahade and Jeff Gross, were also in attendance to support the charity, along with recording artist FRANç also known as former Miami Dolphins player A.J. Francis.

Funds raised from the tournament will go directly to Feeding South Florida's distribution efforts, ensuring water, meals and other non-food supplies are getting to those most in need of assistance. While continuing to support evacuees in shelters, Feeding South Florida also supports cities with boil water alerts, families struggling to put food on the table and nearly 400 non-profit partner agencies.

Photo courtesy Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood

The final table at the PokerStars hurricane relief charity event on Oct. 3 at Hard Rock in Hollywood.



Photo courtesy Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood

Jeff Gross, Jason Mercier, Jen Shahade, Feeding South Florida CEO Paco Velez and tournament director Tony Burns attend a charity poker tournament Oct. 3 at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood. Money raised benefited Feeding South Florida as part of the recovery process in the wake of Hurricane Irma.



## Big Cypress Community

### 5th Annual Veterans Day Celebration

Saturday, November 11, 2017

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For more info contact Big Cypress Board Office

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# Announcements



## WWII Navajo Code Talker David Patterson dies at 94

### FROM PRESS RELEASE

**RIO RANCHO, N.M.** — Navajo Code Talker David Earl Patterson Sr. passed away Oct. 8 in Rio Rancho, N.M. at the age of 94, the Navajo Nation announced.

"The members of the Navajo Nation Council send their condolences and prayers to the family of Navajo Code Talker David Earl Patterson Sr., who was a great example for all of the people of the Navajo Nation through his honorable service in the U.S. Marine Corps, and the entire Navajo Nation. We will miss his presence and service in our communities where he helped many of our Navajo people," said Speaker LoRenzo Bates (Nenahnezad, Newcomb, San Juan, Tis Tsoh Sikaad, Tse'Daa'Kaan, Upper Fruitland) in a press release.

Patterson served in World War II with the Marine Corps from 1943-45. As a Code Talker, he developed coded messages that helped win the war for the United States.

For his courageous service, he was awarded the Silver Congressional Medal of Honor on Nov. 24, 2001.

After his military service, Patterson attended college and became a social worker. He was employed with the Navajo Division of Social Services until he retired in 1987.

Council Delegate Tom Chee (Shiprock) recalled Patterson as a hard-working and humble person, as he got to know him when working together for several years.

"He never said 'I did this or I did that,' but I got to know of his great service through his family," Delegate Chee said.

A funeral service for Patterson was held Oct. 12 at Christ The King Catholic Church in Shiprock, N.M.

A GoFundMe has been set up at [www.gofundme.com/davidepattersonsr\\_memorial](http://www.gofundme.com/davidepattersonsr_memorial) to help the family offset funeral costs. There is also an account set up in Patterson's honor at any Wells Fargo Bank under the David E. Patterson Sr. Memorial Fund.



David Patterson Sr.

Courtesy photo

## Letters: Hurricane memories of Everglades City

My memories of Irma in ECity will be the piles of trash, families' possessions tragically drowned by the flooding, and the noise from power washers getting out horrible silty mud from low-lying buildings, especially local businesses trying to start up again and provide employment.

And, of course, the wonderful volunteers who cooked food for us, brought supplies and set up a free laundry. We had so much good will from all around the state and even further!

As Mayor Howie Grimm, whose optimism belies his last name, said, "We're tough and we'll come out of this even better than we were before".

If you want to contribute to our recovery, visit [ReachOutEverglades.org](http://ReachOutEverglades.org) where you can donate with a credit or debit card. Alternatively, you can send a check with IRMA on the memo line to Reach Out Everglades, PO Box 894, Chokoloskee, FL, 34138.

Reach Out Everglades, our neighborhood charity, is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity so your donation will be tax-deductible and



Copeland Avenue in Everglades City after Hurricane Irma.

your support will be appreciated by those in our community who most need help to resume normal life.

Marya Repko  
President & Membership Secretary  
Everglades Society for Historic Preservation

## Tiger Tiger to perform at Hard Rock Cafe Nov. 21

### FROM PRESS RELEASE

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Native American band Tiger Tiger, featuring the award-winning album "One Earth, One People, Come Together," will perform a free Thanksgiving concert at 9 p.m., Nov. 21 at the Hard Rock Café in Hollywood. Guest band Ted Nelson will also perform.

Lee Tiger, who has performed in the band for more than 20 years, has written this album as a lesson from his famous tribal leader father, Buffalo Tiger, who stressed the importance of living in harmony with the earth and other people. The album was named "Best Album Rock" for October by the Akademia Music Awards.

"I'll always remember how my dad would remind us as youngsters, 'We are not the only ones here and there are many different cultures with people from different ethnicities who must share this earth,'" Tiger said in a press release. "At a young age, we were reminded of the importance to live in



Lee Tiger

harmony with other people."

As a child, Tiger remembered how

Chief Buffalo Tiger would express stories about the non-Indians arriving in North America and how the Native Americans taught the new arrivals how to grow corn, pumpkins and squash. Additionally, Chief Tiger made a point of how all people need to come together and respect both mother Earth and each other.

"It is for this reason that our band is performing the free concert on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving," Lee Tiger said. "With this album, I want to touch the hearts of people around the world. Now, more than ever before, it is time to come together as one people."

One of the verses from the album includes:

"We all need to live in harmony ... All we need is our dignity."

"So, what I say to you, 'We've got to tell our brothers and sisters too."

"And it's true, yes you know it's true." For more information, visit [tigertigermusic.com](http://tigertigermusic.com)

## DAPL mile-marker post added to museum exhibition

### BY DENNIS ZOTIGH

**WASHINGTON** — On Oct. 24, the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., added a mile-marker



Paul Morigi/AP Images for the National Museum of the American Indian

John Richard Edwards (Onondaga) takes part in the installation of the mile-marker post from the Dakota Access Pipeline in the exhibition Nation to Nation: Treaties Between the United States and American Indian Nations on Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C.

post from last year's Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) protest to the exhibition Nation to Nation: Treaties Between the United States and American Indian Nations. Now the final section of the exhibition, the eleven-and-a-half-foot-tall mile-marker stands as a powerful symbol of the fact that American Indian treaties remain U.S. law, and that their stories are not finished.

The mile-marker also serves as a symbol of modern resistance. More than 350 tribes came to rally opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline. The Standing Rock Sioux maintain that the pipeline threatens their lands and water. Originally the pipeline was to cross the Missouri River above Bismarck, the state capital. But citizens deemed that route unsafe for the city's water. As a result, the pipeline was redirected to cross the river above the drinking water source of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, just south of the city.

The Dakota Access Pipeline protests began in the spring of 2016 after young tribal members organized a run to bring awareness to the issue. In addition to protecting the water, key issues for the Standing Rock Sioux include protecting treaty rights, protecting sacred sites, and exercising the tribe's right to consultation with the United States government. Representatives from other tribes, along with celebrities and allies from around the world, joined the protest. Protesters called themselves water protectors and established three camps near the pipeline construction site on the Missouri River. A new rallying cry was born — Mni

Waconi, Water Is Life.

While at the camps, visiting water protectors proudly displayed their tribal flags, protest signs and other objects to show solidarity. Hickory Edwards (Onondaga), one of the water protectors, raised a mile-marker post in the Oceti Sakowin (Great Sioux Nation) camp, the largest of the three camps. Handmade signs quickly covered the post, showing the participants' cities, states, tribal affiliations or countries, and how far they had traveled to join the protest. The mile-marker became a focal point within the camp, as well as a popular site to take selfies and photos of other water protectors.

On Feb. 27, a day after the deadline to leave the reservation, the Oceti Sakowin camp was cleared. Edwards took the mile-marker post with him when he left, with the idea of donating it to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Edwards and fellow protesters Konwenni Jacobs (Kahnawake Mohawk) and Bryanna Patinka delivered the mile-marker to the museum's Cultural Resources Center in Maryland. In 2021, when Nation to Nation closes, the mile-marker will go off public display, but it will remain in the museum's collections, where it will be cared for and where researchers, tribal representatives, and others will be able to see it upon request.

Dennis W. Zotigh (Kiowa/San Juan Pueblo/Santee Dakota Indian) works as a writer and cultural specialist at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

## Letters: Protecting Water Protectors rights

While the Standing Rock and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes fight the Dakota Access Pipeline in the federal court system, individual protestors from the Standing Rock protests are fighting their own battles in court. For us as a nation, these water protector cases pose a question of freedom of speech and right to peaceful protest. For the individuals fighting these cases, it is a matter of life and livelihood.

That is why I wanted to introduce you to the Water Protector Legal Collective. They are doing great work for the women and men who took part in the protests and personally took a stand against the Dakota Access Pipeline. If you believe that these peaceful protestors and water protectors deserve experienced, effective criminal defense lawyers, please take a moment to read below about the Legal Collective and how they are helping those who put themselves on the front line to protect our water and life.

As always — thank you for all that you do.

John Echohawk  
Native American Rights Fund, Executive Director

The Water Protector Legal Collective is the on-the-ground legal support for the Dakota Access Pipeline resistance at Standing Rock. We are 100 percent committed to making sure every Water Protector arrested in these peaceful protests have the best legal defense

possible. Our working model is to leave no woman or man behind!

There were 831 cases in North Dakota state courts and seven cases in federal court. We have also filed one class action case and are developing up to six civil cases. Since the state arrests have been prosecuted in 2017 we have been very successful at showing the unfairness of the arrests and the peaceful nature of the protest. To date, more than 400 cases have been closed or dismissed with only 10 convictions.

A key part of our success is bringing in experienced, effective criminal defense lawyers from out of state. The bias in North Dakota against these peaceful protesters is immense. Our attorneys force the state to prove their case and challenge local court-appointed defense attorneys to fight for their clients.

The state, however, is pushing back. On Sept. 11, judges hearing the cases petitioned the North Dakota Supreme Court to restrict our use of out-of-state attorneys. The North Dakota Supreme Court will decide in a few weeks.

We need your help to continue this important work. Please contribute to Water Protector Legal Collective at [waterprotectorlegal.org](http://waterprotectorlegal.org). Thank you for your support.

Water Protector Legal Collective

## Tara Sweeney becomes first female Native Alaskan nominated for Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs

### FROM PRESS RELEASE

**WASHINGTON** — If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Alaska Native leader Tara MacLean Sweeney, a member of the Native Village of Barrow and the Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope, would be the first Native Alaskan and only the second woman in history to hold the position of U.S. Interior Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs.

Sweeney was nominated for the position Oct. 17 by President Donald Trump.

"I am honored to be nominated to serve Indian Country in this capacity," Sweeney said in a press release. "My goal is to develop strong relationships with tribes, Alaska Native corporations and Native Hawaiian organizations to work on innovative solutions for lifting up our communities. I am motivated to work with Indian Country to find efficiencies inside the Bureau of Indian Affairs, improve service delivery and culturally relevant curriculum in the Bureau of Indian Education, and create a more effective voice for Tribes throughout the

Federal Government. I am humbled by the confidence President Trump and Secretary [Ryan] Zinke have shown in me and ready to serve."

Sweeney grew up in rural Alaska and has spent a lifetime actively engaged in state and national policy arenas focused on advocating for responsible Indian energy policy, rural broadband connectivity, Arctic growth and Native American self-determination. She has served her Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and its subsidiaries in a variety of capacities for nearly two decades. The \$2.6 billion corporation is the largest locally-owned and operated business in Alaska, with about 13,000 Inupiat Eskimo members and 12,000 employees worldwide. It is diversified in six major business sectors, including energy support services, industrial services, construction, petroleum refining and marketing, government services, and resource development.

## FOR SALE

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851294	1996	ANDERSON TRAILER	UTILITY GATED TRAILER 6 X10	N/A	Poor	\$122.00
C82540	2008	FORD SUV	ESCAPE XLS (FWD)	173,978	Poor	\$425.00
216502	2003	FORD SEDAN	CROWN VICTORIA - POLICE INTERCEPTOR	45,821	Poor	\$525.00
101858	2007	FORD SEDAN	CROWN VICTORIA - POLICE INTERCEPTOR	81,390	Poor	\$525.00
101845	2007	FORD SEDAN	CROWN VICTORIA - POLICE INTERCEPTOR	77,293	Poor	\$525.00
101855	2007	FORD SEDAN	CROWN VICTORIA - POLICE INTERCEPTOR	70,166	Poor	\$525.00
FE7524	1979	FORD FIRE TRUCK	F700 PUMPER	8,707	Poor	\$800.00
FE7521	1979	FORD FIRE TRUCK	F700 PUMPER	11,044	Poor	\$800.00
B68812	2006	FORD PICKUP TRUCK	F250 SD XLT CREW CAB (RWD) Gas	97,449	Poor	\$3,750.00
A82223	2007	FORD PICKUP TRUCK	F150XL SUPER CAB (4WD)	152,837	Poor	\$3,982.00
213623	2008	CHEVROLET SUV	TAHOE LS 4WD	169,497	Fair	\$6,050.00
028729	2006	PREVOST 'ENTERTAINER' COACH	XL11 LE MIRAGE (T53)	156,029	Fair	\$125,000.00

Note - Previously advertised items are not reflected on this advertisement, only new listings. For more information contact Fixed Assets Dept. 954-966-6300 ext. 20034.

NEW!! - Tribal Members only- access this information at the website: <http://semtribe.com/FixedAssets>. (Registration required)



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# Indian Day

D

## Seminoles welcome Indian Day

November may be Native American Heritage Month, but most Seminoles celebrated Indian Day in September.

"It's Indian Day every day for us; today is just a day the government decided to recognize us and give us a holiday," said Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. "It's a chance for us to fellowship and a good reason for us to come together and show some of our talent peeling poles, throwing skilletts, in foot races and canoe racing."

The annual Congress of the American Indian Association proclaimed Indian Day in September 1915 and it was first recognized by a state, New York, in 1916. In 1990 President George W. Bush approved a resolution designating November to be National American Indian Heritage Month. Similar proclamations have been issued each year since 1994.

Today the Tribe uses Indian Day to bring traditional activities to life through competition and camaraderie.

"I came out here to enjoy the day and the competitions," said President Mitchell Cypress. "Everybody challenges themselves to see what kind of a chickee builder they are. The longer you wait for the logs to dry, the harder it is to strip them."

### BIG CYPRESS/IMMOKALEE

The crowd in Big Cypress filled the Junior Cypress Rodeo grounds Sept. 25, ready for a fun-filled day.

"Indian Day is a time to reflect, recognize and express who we are," Geraldine Osceola said. "It lets everyone else, besides us, know that we are here."

In BC, the main events were the clothing contest, pole sawing, skillet throwing, horseshoes, log peeling, hatchet throwing, archery and a mud run. BC Councilman Mondo Tiger enthusiastically cheered on the competitors.

"Indian Day means freedom to be who I am," Councilman Tiger said. "I like to give many thanks to my ancestors. I celebrate because 10- and 12-year-old kids gave their lives so I can be here today. These kids never had a first kiss, a family or anything."

For those not competing, the spirit of fellowship took hold as groups gathered under the shade of the chickees to talk, laugh and encourage their friends and family participating in the events.

"Everyone is so busy all the time, so it's a good time to socialize with the community and get together," said Alice Osceola, who worked with the departments to organize the BC festivities.

Imokalee commemorated Indian Day Sept. 27 with more fun and activities. Tribal members peeled logs, tacked fans and played horseshoes as they laughed and visited with one another. Despite the revelry, the significance of the day wasn't lost on Council Project Manager Raymond Garza.

"It is a day we and our culture are recognized," he said. "It's a good day. As long as I'm alive, I'll always participate in this. It's a time for people to say we're Indians and show their honor as Indian people. We are modern people but we still practice our culture and what we've been taught. We have to modernize because we live in today's society."

— Beverly Bidney

### HOLLYWOOD

Seminole culture is richer than ever as generations continue learning and teaching traditional Seminole practices. To celebrate this culture on Indian Day, Hollywood residents spent two days taking part in recreational activities that tested their strength, speed, endurance and even their taste buds.

The festivities began Sept. 28 with a canoe race at a pond on the east side of U.S. 441, across from the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. About 50 participants, divided in teams of two, rowed their canoes in a lap around the pond. Some teams managed to navigate the course free of error, while others ended up overturning their canoes, but regardless, all participants seemed to enjoy the event.

Following the race was a community dinner at Seminole Estates and a language contest.

Starting bright and early Sept. 29, Hollywood residents came together again for a full day of fun. After a short walk at sunrise and a community breakfast, the bread-



Beverly Bidney

Palm fans in hand, Clinton Billie leaps over a pile of sand as he competes in the mud run at Big Cypress's second day of Indian Day contests.

making competition began. Women were divided into two groups – seniors and youth – to create pumpkin bread and fry bread under the Culture Camp chickee. Despite the heat

### TRAIL

Parts of Trail still showed wounds from Hurricane Irma as the community celebrated Indian Day on Sept. 30.

"The sun is shining; it could be worse," said Norman Huggins, Trail's council liaison.

Trail's Indian Day celebrations are normally held at Huggins' camp, but an abundance of water – thanks to Irma – forced the event to move to Diane Osceola's camp at Munroe Station.

"We had to scale it down a little bit because we had to move it over here. We're kind of flooded out at my place," Huggins said.

The new venue still offered plenty of the activities that traditionally are found at Trail's Indian Day, including clothing contests for youth and adults inside a giant white tent.

During a break in the contest, Huggins presented Trail's Kailani Osceola – the 2017-18 Jr. Miss Florida Seminole – with gifts, including patchwork clothing and roses as the community recognized Kailani's accomplishment.

Outside, youngsters occupied their time by scaling a mountain climbing wall, sliding down giant inflatables, enjoying snow cones on a sweltering day and simply running around the grounds. Arts and crafts vendors with plenty of patchwork clothing on racks occupied the center of the camp. Food was served throughout the day, which included gatherings for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

— Kevin Johnson

### BRIGHTON

Brighton made the most of its Indian Day celebration by turning it into a week chock-full of events.

From the first horseshoe toss on day one at Fred Smith Rodeo Arena to the last kayaker out of the water at Tucker Ridge and everything in between, there was just about something for everyone during the five days of celebration and friendly competition that concluded Oct. 7.

Some events normally held outdoors – such as the cypress and thatch runs – were shifted into the rodeo arena because of wet ball fields. The 5K run/walk finished just in time before more wet weather arrived.

The clothing completion on the fourth day was a popular draw as dozens of participants showcased their patchwork in front of judges from Fire Rescue at the

Brighton Recreation gymnasium.

After he finished competing in the cypress run on the first night, Norman "Skeeter" Bowers said he passed up a chance to go see his beloved Florida State football team host the University of Miami in order to organize the fishing tournament, which started a busy final day with canoe and kayak races and a tug of war all on the agenda at Tucker Ridge.

— Kevin Johnson

### FORT PIERCE

Paul Buster's musical talents with voice and guitar provided a relaxing and peaceful ambiance to Fort Pierce's Indian Day

— Kevin Johnson



Kevin Johnson

Remiel Griffin soars above the water as kids at Chupco's Landing enjoy playing on a giant water slide during the Fort Pierce Indian Day celebration.

from cooking under the covering and being covered with flour and pumpkin mix, the competitors were all smiles.

Wanda Bowers and Juanita Osceola chatted and laughed throughout the process, sharing stories and helping the younger competitors get their mixtures right for the breads. Sherri Jumper showed her two-year-old granddaughter how to shape the dough and create child-sized breads.

As the breads fried, other tournaments commenced on the ball field.

Nine women competed in a palm frond nailing competition. Each woman had 30 fronds to hammer a nail into as quickly as possible. The competition highlighted the endurance needed to prepare roofs for the chickees, which require the palm leaves to be thatched together.

Meanwhile, men competed in the challenge course. Each competitor had to pick up a log and carry it around traffic cones and over obstacles to place it upon two tall pillars. Men competed for the fastest time to complete the course – some it took a few minutes and others it took under 30 seconds.

Throughout the remainder of the day, Tribal members participated in log peeling, a hatchet and skillet toss, horseshoe tournament, clothing contest, bingo and a cook-off, concluding with a community dinner in Hollywood's outdoor gym.

— Li Cohen



Li Cohen

Sherri Jumper teaches her granddaughter Autumn Jumper, 2, how to make fry bread during the fry bread competition at Hollywood Indian Day.

# IMMOKALEE



Beverly Bidney  
Allison Concepcion tacks nails into the stems of palm fans during the timed competition on Indian Day in Immokalee.



Beverly Bidney  
Ray Garza strips the bark off a cypress log at the Immokalee Indian Day as Alan Michael Venzer steadies the log as he works.



Beverly Bidney  
Erica Gonzalez peels the cypress log as Roy Garza and Alan Michael Venzer look on during Immokalee's Indian Day celebration Sept. 27.



Beverly Bidney  
Josie Davis, Nikki Baker, President Mitchell Cypress, Bonnie Callins and Ashley Billie pose together at the Immokalee Indian Day celebration.



Beverly Bidney  
A very focused Susan Davis competes in the Immokalee Indian Day horseshoe tournament.

# FORT PIERCE



Kevin Johnson  
Linda Tommie gets ready to release the arrow in the archery competition during the Fort Pierce Indian Day celebration Sept. 28.



Kevin Johnson  
Travelis Timothy Jr. and Sr. enjoy their time at the Fort Pierce Indian Day celebration.



Kevin Johnson  
Kevin Tommie competes in horseshoes.



Kevin Johnson  
Tristan Timothy takes a wet ride down a giant water slide.



Kevin Johnson  
Remus Griffin shows his skills in the horseshoe competition.



Kevin Johnson  
Josh Sneed eyes the target in hatchet throwing.



Kevin Johnson  
Johnnie Jones competes in the hatchet throwing competition.

# BRIGHTON



Kevin Johnson

Norman Johns gets ready for the Brighton Indian Day clothing contest.



Kevin Johnson

Adrian Baker carries three cypress logs during a competition at the first day of the Brighton Indian Day celebration Oct. 2 at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena.



Kevin Johnson

Norman "Skeeter" Bowers smiles as he nears the finish line in the cypress log carrying contest.



Kevin Johnson

Teo Estrada, right, reacts to being named first place winner in one of the boys clothing contests for ages 5-7.



Kevin Johnson

Men line up for their turn in the clothing contest.



Amanda Julian has her hands full as she competes in the thatch run



Kevin Johnson

With her teammate Martha Tommie watching, Jaryaca Baker tosses a horseshoe in the horseshoe tournament.



Kevin Johnson

Girls line up before judges in the girls' division of the Brighton Indian Day clothing contest.



Kevin Johnson

Diane Smith smiles as she crosses the finish line in the thatch run.

# BIG CYPRESS



Tasha and Jo Jo Osceola saw through the log as Recreation employee O'Bryan White watches during the log sawing competition at the BC Indian Day festivities.

Beverly Bidney



Moses Billie runs through the muck as he competes in the BC mud run.

Beverly Bidney



Jo Jo Osceola skillfully tosses the skillet during the Indian Day competition in BC.

Beverly Bidney



Jo Jo Osceola and her son Deron Billie examine a thread as they prepare for the clothing contest.

Beverly Bidney



Mahayla Osceola, Ahja Billie, Thomlynn Billie and Sarafina Billie compete in the Indian Day clothing contest in BC.

Beverly Bidney



Beverly Bidney

Tasha Osceola pulls a two handed saw through a cypress log during the first ever log sawing contest at the BC Indian Day. Her sister Jo Jo Osceola manned the other side of the saw.



Beverly Bidney

Jessica Osceola puts her all into it as she peels a cypress log at BC's Indian Day celebration.



Issiah Billie makes his way over the dirt pile during the mud run in BC.

Beverly Bidney



Beverly Bidney

Sisters Sydnee and Terinna Cypress meet with success as they saw through a cypress log.



Beverly Bidney

Wilson Bowers concentrates as he competes in the archery contest at BC's Indian Day celebration.



Beverly Bidney

Lily Mora hauls palm fans through the water as she competes in the mud run during BC's second day of competitions Oct. 3.



Beverly Bidney

Beverly Alumbaugh turns the fry bread she will submit in the cooking contest at BC's Indian Day celebration.

# HOLLYWOOD



Li Cohen

Christine McCall prepares pumpkin fry bread in an Indian Day competition, using lots of flour to ensure the dough doesn't stick.



Kevin Johnson

J.D. Bowers, front, and Sonny Frank form a strong team at the Hollywood Indian Day canoe race Sept. 28. They won the men's division.



Kevin Johnson

From left, William Osceola, Patrick Doctor Sr. and Mingo Jones compete in the men's clothing contest.



Kevin Johnson

Senior Tribal women line up to show off their traditional clothing for the competition.



Kevin Johnson

Pedro Fuentes waves to the crowd as he and Aaron Billie are rowed to shore by Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Battalion Commander David Lugo after their canoe capsized during the Hollywood Indian Day celebration's canoe race.



Li Cohen

Phalyn Osceola hammers nails into palm fronds as quickly as she can.



Li Cohen

Juanita Osceola prepares pumpkin fry bread during the senior competition at Indian Day.



Kevin Johnson

Clinton Holt gets ready to release a hatchet in the hatchet throw contest on the Hollywood ball fields.



Kevin Johnson

They might not have had the fastest time, but Daisy Tiger and Jewel Tiger have the most fun while competing in the Hollywood Indian Day canoe race.

# TRAIL



Kevin Johnson

Trail Council Liason Norman Huggins presents roses and other gifts to Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Kailani Osceola during a break in Trail's Indian Day clothing contest. Kailani is from Trail.



Kevin Johnson

From left, Dominic Lee Billie, Aaliyah Billie and Chanel Baez enjoy their time at the Trail Indian Day celebration Sept. 30.



Kevin Johnson

Autumn Osceola shows plenty of determination during rock climbing.



Kevin Johnson

Nora Velazquez prepares fry bread.



Kevin Johnson

Deborah Cypress, left, and Nadia Cypress are all smiles after going down a giant slide.

# TAMPA



Sunny Ploch

Nancy Frank, Maggie Garcia and Susie Doctor compete in Tampa's Indian Day clothing contest.



Sunny Ploch

Mable Haught at Indian Day.



Sunny Ploch

Kevin Frank, Ronnie Doctor and James Henry wear their jackets in the clothing contest.



Sunny Ploch

Liam Patten, Ava Patten and Alana Henry spend time in the sand at Indian Day.



Sunny Ploch

Linda Jane Henry and Rocco Perez enjoy Indian Day.



Sunny Ploch

Alana Henry, Ava Patten, Liam Patten, Linda Jane Henry and Kaylin Henry have a fun day at Indian Day.