



The Seminole Tribune

Voice of the Unconquered www.seminoletribune.org • 50¢

Volume XLII • Number 1

January 31, 2018



At left, Brighton Board Representative Larry Howard, Joyce Jumper, Micki Burton and Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. accept the Rez Rally trophies Jan. 20 on behalf of the community for having the most Tribal participants from their reservation and overall team participation. At right, 7-year-old Carter Wilcox (1289) and 14-year-old Conchade Osceola (1194) lead the way at the beginning of the three-mile color run.

Li Cohen (2)

18th annual Rez Rally sheds some color on diabetes

Brighton takes home the trophies

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

BRIGHTON — Red is usually the only color present on runners' faces during races

as they burn through their miles, but at this year's Rez Rally Color Run on Jan. 20, the colors ranged a little further.

More than 300 Tribal members and employees represented their reservations and departments on the 3-mile course. Runners and walkers alike had some color added to their cheeks throughout the course, as the mile one and two markers also included volunteers throwing colored powder at participants.

While the run was clearly colored in fun, Tribal leaders and the event organizers made sure the attendees knew the real reason they

all gathered for the 18th annual run.

Paul Isaacs, executive director for Health and Human Services, explained that diabetes is a prominent issue for the United States, especially for Native Americans. His department focuses on integrative health to combat the issue with exercise, nutrition and counseling.

"Anything we can do to bring the Tribal community together to talk about this epidemic that disproportionately affects Native Americans is a win," he said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control in 2015, approximately 30.3 million

people — 9.4 percent of the U.S. population — has diabetes. American Indians and Alaska Natives make up the majority of that number, Native men making up 14.9 percent and Native women 15.3 percent of the diabetic population. Even more troubling for many health care professionals is that the majority of Native Americans suffering have type 2 diabetes, which can be brought on by excess weight, fat distribution and inactivity, though those are not always the root causes.

Isaacs added that educating Tribal members is the most important thing people can do to prevent diabetes from spreading.

"Diabetes is really prevalent, not only with Native Americans, but within the United States."

Along with sharing information about diabetes before and after the race, there were also dozens of signs along the run route. They suggested healthy initiatives, such as to get health checkups, exercise regularly and hydrate as much as possible.

While the overall message of the rally was strong and serious, it did not diminish the fun that was planned. Aside from

♦ See REZ RALLY on page 4A

Salacoa has record-breaking fall sale

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Reporter

Salacoa Valley Farms broke records at its fall sale in November 2017 when 109 buyers from nine states, Mexico and Australia bought more than 400 bulls and heifers. It was the Georgia ranch's largest bull sale and the largest sale of female Brangus the breed has seen anywhere.

Owned by the Seminole Tribe since 2013, Salacoa's reputation in the cattle industry is based on its superior genetics. That prestigious standing is a result of hard work and scientific research, which attracts buyers from far and wide for the animals and the seed stock.

"We have some of the most premier genetics of the Brangus breed," said Alex Johns, natural resource director. "We are one of the largest seed stock operators in the country and we will continue to expand. It has been an improvement to the Tribe's genetic base for the cow operation."

♦ See FALL SALE on page 6A

Hollywood to host Tribal Fair and Pow Wow

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — Hollywood is about to welcome hundreds of Indian Country's most talented dancers and drummers to the 47th annual Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow Wow. Dressed in their finest regalia, participants will compete for their share of the \$150,000 prize purse from Feb. 9 to 11 at Hard Rock Live.

The celebration of Native Arts and Culture will kick off with Grand Entries at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Feb. 9 and at noon and 7 p.m. Feb. 10. The drum and dance competitions will commence after the Grand Entries, which will feature Tribal leaders, Seminole royalty and dancers.

Competitive dance events will feature Fancy, Grass, Chicken, Northern Traditional, Northern Cloth, Northern Buckskin, Southern Straight, Southern Cloth, Jingle, Southern Buckskin dances and categories for men, women and teens. The drum competition will include Northern and Southern combined categories.

Since Tribal Fair is so close to Valentine's Day, Wanda Bowers will sponsor a special Sweetheart dance on Friday and Saturday afternoon and evening. Couples will dance together and synchronize their steps, earning points for each session.

"Pairs have to dance together the same way," Bowers said. "It's fun and really pretty to watch."

Tribal members who don't want to compete on the dance floor can show their talent in the clothing and arts and crafts contests. The clothing contest will be held Feb. 10 from 9 a.m. to noon at Hard Rock

Tribal Fair and Pow Wow event schedule		
Friday, Feb. 9	Saturday, Feb. 10	7 p.m. Pow Wow Grand Entry
12 p.m. Alligator wrestling and wildlife show	9 a.m. Traditional Seminole clothing contest (Tribal members)	8-10 p.m. Native Reel Cinema Festival presents "Wind Across the Everglades"
1 p.m. Seminole warfare tactics demo	12 p.m. Kids' Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo at Hollywood Rodeo Arena	11 p.m. Pow Wow ends
2 p.m. Pow Wow grand entry	12-5 p.m. Pow Wow grand entry	Sunday, Feb. 11
5 p.m. Cowbone Band	4-6 p.m. Native celebrities meet and greet at Hard Rock Live lobby	12 p.m. Cowbone Band at Hard Rock Live
6 p.m. Native celebrities meet and greet at Hard Rock Live lobby and Seminole warfare tactics demo	5 p.m. Alligator wrestling and wildlife show	1 p.m. Osceola Brothers Band
7 p.m. Pow Wow grand entry	5:30 p.m. Osceola Brothers Band	2 p.m. Alligator wrestling and wildlife show
8-10 p.m. Native Reel Cinema Festival presents "Rumble"	6:15 p.m. Taboo and Mag 7	3 p.m. Jamey Johnson concert
11 p.m. Pow Wow ends	7 p.m. Adults' Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo at Hollywood Rodeo Arena	5 p.m. Tribal Fair ends

Live. Arts and crafts will be judged Feb. 9 and be displayed for the weekend in the VIP area on the third level of Hard Rock Live.

Entertainment will include alligator wrestling and wildlife shows and Seminole vendors will display and sell their wares. The Cowbone Band will perform Friday at 5 p.m.; Osceola Brothers Band will take the stage Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Taboo and Mag 7 featuring Spencer and Doc Battiest will perform Saturday at 6:15 p.m. Tribal Fair

will conclude Feb. 11 with a concert by the Cowbone Band at noon, Osceola Brothers at 1 p.m., an alligator wrestling show at 2 p.m. and country artist Jamey Johnson at 3 p.m.

The Native Reel Cinema Festival will be held in the Hard Rock meeting rooms Friday and Saturday nights from 8 to 10 p.m. Featured films include "Rumble" and "Wind Across the Everglades," which stars Mary Osceola Moore and a special screening of "Ronnie BoDean." A question and answer

period with producers Steve Salas, Christina Fon and special guest Taboo will follow.

More special guests, including Martin Sensmeier, Michelle Thrush, Spencer Battiest, Steven Paul Judd, musicians Taboo & Mag 7 and actor Wes Studi, will be available for meet and greets in the Hard Rock Live lobby Friday at 6 p.m. and Saturday from 4 to 6 p.m.

♦ Read about the Native Reel Cinema Festival films on page 5B

Editorial



Brighton youth concerned about Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project

• **Pemayetv Emahakv Charter Middle School seventh- and eighth-graders**

We are writing on behalf of the Brighton community, future Brighton community and the ecosystem. We would like to start by saying that, as young community members, we don't like what you are planning for us; the casualties would be awfully great, it wouldn't

the Brighton Reservation and our classmate stated she did not hear one thing about the contaminated water being altered so it is clean water. The point was made multiple times that the water could be used as clean water if we needed it, however since there was no mention of how the water in the reservoir would be cleaned, how can we use that water to sustain life. With the current plan, we do not see how the water sitting in the reservoir can help us.

Another point is that we are indigenous people of the area, Seminole Indians to be exact, and our culture is very nature based. The area that you are currently looking at for this project is home to many endangered species as well as culturally historic ground for our people. The area that you have in mind for this project is not only part of our indigenous history, but also part of Florida history as well as United States history. If you take a look around and see Mother Nature, it is beautiful and many people like to see natural beauty, but you will be taking that away from future generations and us. You cannot fight Mother Nature, she has so much power. Every man-made thing is bound to break at some point, so why don't we stop trying to make everything 'human perfect' and fix ourselves to see that what we are currently doing to the earth isn't good. We need to find

a solution to prevent the algae blooms and other toxins in the water, instead of building another problem. Look through the eyes of anyone from this side of the restoration project; we have spent decades trying to protect our people and the planet so that the future generations can see an amazing world.

As humans 'civilize,' we tend to pollute more and more. Why don't we just use the money to help stop polluting Lake

Okeechobee? We understand that it will take a while to clean up and the taxes on Floridians could possibly go up but we think it would be better to have a permanent solution than a temporary one. Why not prevent the problem instead.

As I mentioned earlier in the letter, the casualties would be awfully great, meaning that it is so close to residential areas that if it breaks, or more-so when it breaks, so many lives could be at risk. We don't think it is good for people to live every day with the thought that if it rains hard enough there could be more water than usual, as well as wondering when will the reservoir leak or even worse, break. We are also concerned with the fact that half of our year is hurricane season. Are there any plans on how the extra water from rainfall will affect the reservoir?

In the end, what we are trying to say is the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project is not a very good idea for anyone or anything in the proposed location. The risk of loss of life, to endangered species and losing a culturally historic area outweighs the justification of the watershed. Perhaps a more reasonable solution would be to move the project further north to catch the contaminated run-off water where it occurs, before it reaches Lake Okeechobee.

Thank you for taking our concerns into consideration and taking the time to listen to the younger generation. If we can understand that this project is not the answer maybe you should reconsider your options.

This letter was written on behalf of seventh- and eighth-graders at Pemayetv Emahakv Charter Middle School in Brighton. Their teacher Suraiya Smith sent it to Colonel Jason Kirk, district commander of the Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District.



Li Cohen

Eighth-grade PECS students made posters in protest of the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Project. From left to right, Kalyan Hammi, Angelie Melton, Dakoya Nunez and Karey Gopher.

really fix a problem and currently the land is still being used. As you can already guess we are speaking of the Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project.

We feel the root of the problem would only be temporarily fixed and not a more permanent solution. Think about it; you are already taking green algae water and moving it to another place to sit. A fellow student attended the community meeting held on

A letter from USET's president regarding the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

• **Kirk Francis, United South and Eastern Tribes President and Chief of the Penobscot Indian Nation**

A great nation fulfills its responsibilities and obligations. A great nation keeps its word. A great nation honors its sacred promises.

Today, with the passage of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act, the United States acted dishonorably. Today, with the exclusion of Tribal Nation interests and priorities in this once-in-a-generation legislation, all the talk about the importance of fulfilling trust obligations...about supporting Tribal Nation sovereignty...about supporting strong and vibrant Tribal Nation economies has proven, once more, to be nothing more than empty rhetoric. Once again, Tribal Nations have been denied access to opportunities that others enjoy under the law.

The U.S. Constitution, numerous laws, treaties, and Supreme Court decisions reflect and uphold the status of Tribal Nations as sovereign governments. Yet, parts of the U.S. tax code conflict with, or are applied in a manner inconsistent with, this status. By ignoring the sovereign status of Tribal governments, the tax code has created jurisdictional uncertainty, hindered the provision of vital government services to Tribal citizens, undermined Tribal self-determination, and discouraged investment in Indian Country. Not only has this inconsistency led to a lack of tax parity and fairness with other government structures,

but it directly contributes to challenges that our Tribal Nations continue to experience in achieving greater economic growth and prosperity.

This Administration and Congress have repeatedly espoused the goals of economic growth, job creation, and prosperity, both as the objectives of tax reform and as policy priorities more generally for communities across the United States, including for Tribal Nations. But following the debate, deliberation, and deal-making surrounding the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Tribal Nations are left feeling as though we have no true advocates when it comes to making these goals a reality in Indian Country.

Our priorities for this legislation were simple — provisions that would offer governmental parity and economic development for Tribal Nations under the tax code. These provisions were not controversial, nor would they have significantly increased federal spending. They would, however, have had an enormous impact in our communities. Tax fairness and parity for Tribal Nations are fundamental to achieving strong and vibrant Tribal Nation economies.

Throughout this process, and for years before, Tribal Nations engaged with federal officials, as the rules of Washington, DC dictate, to ensure that our tax interests were part of the conversation and deliberations. We engaged honorably on behalf of our collective Tribal Nations and Tribal Nation citizenry. Throughout the process, there were ample opportunities for the United States to include our interests...to correct this inconsistency...to correct this injustice. Instead, through its action of exclusion, the United States demonstrated that it views the interests of Tribal Nations as unimportant and our needs were dismissed.

Today's action is unacceptable and

disgraceful. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act leaves Indian Country behind. Tribal Nations expect and demand more from our trustee. The time is long overdue for the United States, including Congress and the Administration, to demand and deliver justice for Tribal Nations; Tribal Nations that are directly responsible for the very wealth and prosperity that this country enjoys and for which every American takes for granted. It is time that the United States act honorably in execution of its trust obligations; obligations that are the result of a complicated history and a complex and unique Nation-to-Nation relationship for which the United States has greatly benefited.

Until the United States prioritizes and fulfills its trust obligations to Indian Country, until justice for Indian Country is achieved, we will not stand silent to the continued injustices perpetrated against us. We cannot accept the continued marginalization and neglect of our governments and our priorities. The United States can and must do better! We demand more.

Francis wrote this letter to President Donald Trump and members of Congress on Dec. 20.



Nobody wins when the family feuds

• **Aaron Tommie**

Many of the issues prevalent in Native American and African-American communities stem from centuries of psychological trauma and mistreatment, in addition to the fact that beneficial resources are not always readily available.

In hip-hop, its origins are a direct result of slavery and its long-lasting effects. Historically, it was the type of music that told stories and delivered messages that dealt with a myriad of social issues that were authentic to a large group of underrepresented people in American society. Many of the same experiences and hardships African-Americans have faced in the United States, Native Americans have as well. As a result of this, I think it was a genius idea that film director Ava DuVernay, known for directing the critically-acclaimed films "Selma" and "13th" decided to cast Native American actress Irene Bedard alongside Omari Hardwick as co-presidents of the U.S. in hip-hop artist Jay-Z's music video "Family Feud." I loved seeing a Native American woman and an African-American man, people from two of the most oppressed groups of people in the United States, being portrayed as the two most powerful people in the country.

The beginning of "Family Feud" shows the relatives of Hardwick's character (Mr. President) involved in a family dispute over power. He would later be questioned about it and gives a monologue that details the history of the country and the role his family had in helping form it. The music video spans over 400 years and showcases the fiction-based Founding Mothers and their creation of the Confederal Papers, a revised version of the constitution that leads to the formation of a new United States. The lyrics detail some of Jay-Z's personal experiences with his family, success and maturity, which are a direct

correlation to what Mr. President is dealing with in the music video.

Irene Bedard, arguably best known for her voice role as Pocahontas in the 1995 Disney animated film, acts as Madame President during the year 2444 alongside Hardwick. Bedard's character has "futuristic Yup'ik and Inupiaq facial tattoos...red and black Tlingit silver bracelets, a Cree necklace" and says the phrase "Mitakuye Oyasin," which translates to "we are all related." Seeing women in this light breaks barriers and stereotypes placed on them from a patriarchal society. In an article by Indian Country Today, Bedard mentions that matrilineal societies are prevalent in Native American cultures. She also states that in the music video, she was told that in the future, there is a realization of the importance of a balance between the masculine and feminine, which is the purpose for a co-presidency. That is such an innovative perspective that is stark contrast to patriarchal ones.

Themes of female empowerment, national pride and royalty are prevalent throughout the music video.

One of the founding mothers says, "America is a family and the whole family should be free." The family represents society and all is greater than one. If selfishness, feuds and injustices exist, that makes our community as formidable as possible. The collective is greater than the individual, which is a traditional mindset in many Native American and African communities. People's perspectives change when issues arise and are placed at the forefront. If selfishness, feuds and injustices persist, the past issues will continue to come back to haunt us and ultimately create a cycle of behaviors and habits that tear us apart.

Aaron Tommie has worked for the Tribe since 2015. He is a participant in the Tribe's Advanced Career Development program. He is currently working in the Executive Operations Office.

Federal recognition of 'first contact' tribes long overdue

• **Staff editorial, The News and Advance (Va.)**

After decades of failed attempts, a bipartisan effort by members of Virginia's congressional delegation to pass legislation granting long-overdue federal recognition to six Virginia Indian tribes has finally succeeded.

The Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017 passed unanimously in the House last May after being reintroduced by Rep. Rob Wittman, R-1st District. Sens. Tim Kaine and Mark Warner pushed the bill over the finish line in the Senate last week by forcing a vote. It now heads to President Trump for his signature.

The bill grants historic recognition to the 4,400 or so members of six of Virginia's 11 state-recognized tribes: the Chickahominy, the Eastern Chickahominy, the Upper Mattaponi, the Rappahannock, the Monacan, and the Nansemond. Federal recognition will give the tribes legal standing, allowing them to repatriate cultural artifacts and to apply for funding and other benefits in housing, education and health care from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Since these 'first contact' Virginia tribes made peace with England long before the United States was founded, there are no federal treaties or other government-to-government documentation required by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for federal recognition. Many tribal documents were lost during the Civil War and Virginia's infamous Racial Integrity Act of 1924 led to the mass destruction of birth, marriage and land records also required for federal recognition.

In 2016, Virginia's Pamunkey Indian Tribe, which counts Pocahontas as a member, was the first Virginia tribe to be granted federal recognition under the BIA's administrative procedures. The NAACP and the Congressional Black Caucus had opposed federal recognition because the tribe previously prohibited intermarriage.

But the six tribes named in the bill were unable to meet BIA requirements, so they pursued a legislative option instead.

According to the text of the bill, in 1943 former Indian Affairs Commissioner John

Collier asked Richmond News-Leader editor Douglas S. Freeman "to help Virginia Indians obtain proper racial designation on birth records; Collier stated that his office could not officially intervene because it had no responsibility for the Virginia Indians, as a matter largely of historical accident, but was interested in them as descendants of the original inhabitants of the region."

Other opposition to federal recognition of Virginia Indian tribes centered on issues that did not directly address this "historical accident." For example, former Rep. Frank Wolf, R-10th District, opposed recognition because he feared it would open the door to casino gambling in the commonwealth. But the bill specifically prohibits the newly recognized tribes from conducting "gaming activities."

Wittman's bill was named after the late Thomasina Elizabeth Jordan ("Red Hawk Woman"), a member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. Jordan, an orphan raised by her grandparents in Massachusetts, was a Harvard-educated and internationally recognized American Indian activist, founder of the American Indian Cultural Exchange and the first American Indian to serve in the Electoral College.

A pro-life Republican who lived in Alexandria, Jordan was appointed chairperson of the advisory Virginia Council on Indians by governors George Allen and Jim Gilmore, where she helped several Virginia tribes achieve state recognition.

Locally, the Virginia Indian Patowomeck Tribe of Stafford County gained state recognition in 2010 after Las Vegas entertainer Wayne Newton—a member of the tribe who was raised in Fredericksburg and whose ancestor was purportedly given a peace medal by George Washington—testified on a bill before the General Assembly sponsored by former House Speaker Bill Howell of Stafford. But the Patowomecks and three other tribes recognized by the commonwealth were not included in the just-passed bill.

It's been 242 years since the founding of the United States, more than enough time to address the "historical accident" and bureaucratic obstacles that prevented federal recognition of Virginia's "first contact" tribes. President Trump should sign the bipartisan bill forthwith.

The Seminole Tribune is a member of the Native American Journalists Association.

Letters/emails to the editor must be signed and may be edited for publication.

Subscription rate is \$35 per year by mail. Make checks payable to: The Seminole Tribune 3560 N. State Road 7 Hollywood, FL 33021 Phone: 954-985-5700 Fax: 954-965-2937

The following deadlines apply to all submissions to The Seminole Tribune:

Issue: Feb. 28, 2018
Deadline: Feb. 14, 2018

Issue: March 30, 2018
Deadline: March 16, 2018

Issue: April 30, 2018
Deadline: April 11, 2018

Please note: Submissions that come past deadline will be published in the following issue.

Advertising: Advertising rates along with sizes and information may be downloaded online at: <http://SeminoleTribune.org/Advertise>

Postmaster: Please send address changes to: The Seminole Tribune 3560 N. State Road 7 Hollywood, FL 33021

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Community



Edward Aguilar promoted at Seminole Casino Hotel Immokalee

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

IMMOKALEE — The New Year started with a bang for Edward Aguilar; on Jan. 1 he was promoted to assistant general manager/vice president for the Seminole Casino Hotel Immokalee.

A member of the Tribal Career Development program since 2013, Aguilar has forged a successful career with regular promotions at the Immokalee property. He has held leadership positions in numerous departments including Food & Beverage, Marketing, Table Games, Hotel and Human Resources. In 2015 he was named assistant director of slot operations and in 2016 he was promoted to assistant director of casino operations.

"It's been an ongoing process and has been very rewarding," Aguilar said. "My focus is still the guest experience and service. I hope to use this platform to continue to be a greater servant to the Tribe and the team members here in Immokalee."

Aguilar oversees daily operations, quality assurance, guest experience, property communications and assists department heads as needed. The property has about 1,000 employees and management plans to conduct a team member survey soon to assess what can be improved or changed.

"We will see if there are any hot spots and try to correct them," Aguilar said. "We want to make sure this is truly a place where everyone is happy to come to work and deliver on the guest experience."

Another important role for Aguilar is to

promote the TCD program to Tribal members who may be interested in a gaming career.

"I still see a void and am heavily involved in trying to promote the program and recruit interns," he said. "Getting them exposed to leadership courses early while they are still interns will give them an incentive to continue."

TCD began in 2003 to train the next generation of Tribal members to manage the Tribe's gaming business. Interns work their way through every department while they receive mentoring and on-the-job training. The program is open to all Tribal members age 18 and older who have at least a high school diploma or GED. Interns work every shift so they experience the casino at all hours of the day and night.

Aguilar began his gaming career in 2001

as a lead Seminole Gaming commission officer at Seminole Casino Immokalee. During his time with the Seminole Gaming Commission, he assisted with the openings of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa.

In 2006, Aguilar was promoted to assistant compliance officer at Seminole Casino Immokalee. He later worked for several years at the Immokalee Board office.

"I'd love to see this property continue to grow," Aguilar said. "With the merger of Hard Rock International and Seminole Gaming, there could be opportunities that may open along the way. If there's ever a need and I'm called upon, I'll be ready."



NCLGS meeting discusses new technology, casino safety

BY LI COHEN
Staff Reporter

MIAMI — Conversations about gaming made their way outside of casinos from Jan. 5-7, as legislators and gaming company representatives from around the U.S. gathered in Miami for the National Council of Legislators From Gaming States (NCLGS) winter meeting.

Approximately 40 legislators and more than 100 guests attended the conference, representing more than 25 states and other countries. Presentation topics included responsible gaming, trends and issues within racing, lotteries, fiscal challenges and property maintenance. Unique to tribal gaming was a conversation aimed to answer two questions: how do compacts need to evolve in adapting to technological change and what are the legal steps required to implement internet gambling if tribes are allowed to utilize it?

National Indian Gaming Commission Chairman Jonodev Chaudhuri and NIGC Associate Commissioner Edward Sequoyah Simermeyer led the panel discussion. Chaudhuri explained that there's not always an understanding about how tribal gaming policies are regulated. People often question why tribal gaming is not directly regulated by states and subject to state legislation, but he assured that there is "good reason" for it.

"[Indian gaming] is designed to promote longstanding federal policies of self-determination and tribal self-sufficiency," Chaudhuri said, explaining that this is an important concept to remember when considering emerging technologies. These technologies, particularly sports betting and online gaming, were a major point of discussion at the conference, as a more than a dozen states are preparing to introduce bills to allow sports betting this year.

"Tribal nations have become more robust and more vigilant in protecting their interests in promoting tribal economic development,"

Chaudhuri continued. "For Indian nations, Indian gaming isn't a commercial activity; it's a way to bring in important public revenue for travel communities consistent with other federal policies supporting tribal economic development."

Gaming is divided into three classes. While Class I focuses on traditional forms of gaming that is played for cultural reasons, Classes II and III are where casinos generally come into play. Class II is generally comprised of bingo, which tribes primarily regulated and the NIGC oversees. Class III is for more traditional casino gaming, such as slots and roulette, and it is this class where the relationship between states, tribes and governments are considered. Under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, states are required to negotiate compacts in good faith with tribes to promote tribal economic development, self-sufficiency and strong tribal government. The outcome is intended to favor tribes.

The Tribe currently has a compact with the state that allows Tribal-run casinos to provide certain games, including slots and card games, to casino guests. If a new type of gaming, such as sports betting or online gaming, becomes legal federally and the state decides to allow it, the specifics of the compact could change in the future. At the time, the status of that change is unclear, according to Gordon Dickie, executive director of the Seminole Tribe Gaming Commission.

Dickie, who discussed safety concerns at a regulators roundtable on the second day of the meeting, explained that staying open to trending changes in technology is key to success in the gaming industry.

"You need to network and you need to stay up with trends to find out what's going on. You're of no use to whoever you're working for if you don't network and stay up with the trends and what's going on in the industry," Dickie said, adding that exchanging problems and ideas is how such a small industry continuously develops.

And while adapting to technology is important, for Dickie, an equally important task is providing adequate safety for Tribal



Li Cohen

NIGC Chairman Jonodev Chaudhuri and NIGC Associate Commissioner Edward Sequoyah Simermeyer discuss state and federal relations with tribes throughout the country in early January during the winter meeting of National Council of Legislators From Gaming States in Miami.

assets, properties and guests.

During the conference, Dickie said he took advantage of having numerous legislators present to discuss the mass shooting in Las Vegas on Oct. 1. The gunman executed the shooting from his hotel room on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino. Being one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history, Dickie wanted to use that situation as a platform to discuss better security technologies.

A Navy SEAL mentioned one such technology to Dickie — a sort of 'sniffer' machine situated at the entrances of casinos to detect explosive materials and weapons. With the machine, security officials would be able to simply hover a computer mouse over individuals on security screens to see if they are carrying any hazardous materials.

Seminole Tribe of Florida casinos currently use sniffer dogs to do detect these items. Unfortunately, Dickie explained that relying on the dogs takes a lot of time and expense. The machines could help change

that. "Security's not my job, but the gaming commission is responsible for the safety and protection of the employees aside from just the protection of the assets. This has opened a whole new ballgame here," he said. Reflecting on the massacre in Las Vegas he added, "I don't sleep at night thinking about this."

While Dickie and other gaming executives research the prospect of this new technology, Dickie assured that Seminole-run casinos are safe. At the end of the day, he said that there are dozens of employees taking their jobs seriously and stay on top of technological trends and casino policies and procedures.

"It's a pleasure to work with such dedicated tribal members that their job so seriously to protect the Tribe's assets," he said, adding with a final note that Tribal gaming employees are special kinds of people with only positive intent for the future of the Tribal gaming.



Li Cohen

Kevin Braig, a partner at Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP, asks questions about NIGC gaming regulations for tribes.

IN LEGAL TROUBLE?
"WHEN SOMEONE'S ARRESTED FOR THE 1ST TIME..."

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◆ **REZ RALLY**
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incorporating a color run theme, the event also featured trampoline bungee jumping for participating children and blowup attractions, not to mention T-shirts, sunglasses, sun masks and medals for all the participants.

Lorraine Posada, who came in second place for her category of female runners in the 37 to 55 year-old age range, said she attends Rez Rally every year. Even though she didn't come in first place, she said this year's color run component was extra fun for her and there were a lot of great runners that participated.

"I love Rez Rally and I think it takes a lot to make it happen. They did a pretty good job and I hope it continues," she said. "I just enjoyed being out here in a friendly competition. It's just to get us moving, not just myself, but our people. We don't get to come together as one and be together all the time, so it's fun."

Winners in the running category included Curtis Motlow, 8, for the 6 to 11-year-old male division, Candice Melton, 10, for the 6 to 11-year-old female division, Aden James Cypress, 16, for the 12 to 17-year-old male division, Angelie Melton, 13, for the 12 to 17-year-old female division, Clinton Billie for the 18 to 36-year-old male division, Joelli Frank for the 18 to 36-year-old female division, Jose Osceola for the 37 to 54-year-old male division, and Cathy Cypress for the 37 to 54-year-old female division. Winners for seniors and walking divisions were awarded as well.

While the runners made their laps, volunteers had their own fun.

Okeechobee High School 10th-grader Kamani Smith, 16, volunteered at the second-mile marker to get volunteer hours so he can apply for the Bright Futures Scholarship, which requires 100 hours of community service. While he's volunteered at past Rez Rallies, he said this year was particularly fun.

"Throwing the color at people was very fun. My group even tasted it and it tastes like orange Kool-Aid," he said, laughingly assuring that the packaging was non-toxic. "After everything was done, the other boy who was there and I picked up the buckets and dumped it on the girls."

At the end of the day, Brighton took home the most prized award – a large gold cup – as they had the most Tribal participants based on resident percentage. They also won the traditional woven basket for overall team participation.

Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr. said he never doubted Brighton would win and getting the trophies was a "great accomplishment." He also came in first place in his age category.

While this was an exciting accomplishment for his team and he couldn't be prouder, he said his individual accomplishment was more of an obligation to demonstrate leadership to the Tribe.

"I don't do it to try to win something; it's more to set an example," he said, adding that it was great to see everyone gathered and having fun while sharing the message of diabetes education. "It's incumbent on all of us to learn about these diseases we're trying to fight."

18th annual Rez Rally top finishers

Walkers

Males ages 18-36

1. Layton Thomas
2. Ty Huff
3. Allen Venzor

Females ages 18-36

1. Kirsten Doney
2. Melanie Jones
3. Tyra Baker

Males ages 37-54

1. Todd Johns
2. Brian Billie
3. Gordon Wareham
4. Francine Osceola

Females ages 37-54

1. Jennifer Osceola
2. Rita Youngman
3. Almira Billie
4. Angela Tiger

Males ages 55-66

1. Sandy Billie
2. Aaron Billie
3. Lupe Osceola

Females ages 55-66

1. Kay Braswell
2. Deloris Alvarez

Males ages 67-99

1. Mitchell Cypress
2. Paul Bowers

Females ages 68-99

1. Connie Whidden
2. Mary Tigertail

Runners

Females, ages 12-17

1. Angelie Melton
2. Adryauna Baker
3. Kimora Alex
4. Shaela French

Males, ages 18-36

1. Clinton Billie
2. Peter Hahn
3. Justin Osceola
4. Aaron Alvarado

Females, ages 18-36

1. Joelli Frank
2. Angel Billie
3. Cecilia Pequeno
4. Allison Concepcion

Males ages 6-11

1. Curtis Motlow
2. Bill Osceola
3. Cody Motlow
4. Lane Valdez

Females, ages 6-11

1. Candice Melton
2. Daveny Osceola-Hahn
3. Janine Gentry
4. Casidi Motlow

Males, ages 12-17

1. Aden James Cypress
2. Kaleb Thomas
3. Layne Thomas
4. Conchade Osceola

Males, ages 37-54

1. Jose Osceola
2. Noah Yzaguirre
3. Marcellus Osceola Jr.
4. Christopher Osceola

Females, ages 37-54

1. Cathy Cypress
2. Lorraine Posada
3. Mary Lou Alvarado
4. Brenda Cypress

Females, ages 55-66

1. Shirley Clay, 63
2. Patty Waldron

Males, ages 68-99

1. Andrew J. Bowers Jr.



Tribal seniors were happy to cross the start line and begin their senior walk around the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena at the Brighton Rez Rally.



Runners warm up before the color run with some light stretching and dynamic movements in the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena.



Paul Isaacs, executive director for Health and Human Services, gets a burst of color at the one-mile marker during his run at the Rez Rally.



Mi-Lyn Jones-Williams, 19, and Jermaine Cesar, both from the Hollywood area, are excited to finish their 3-mile run.



Logan Wilcox, 8, smiles as he runs his way in front of his friends as he approaches the one-mile marker at the Rez Rally in Brighton Jan. 20.



Dinorah Johns and Arrow Johns, 3, celebrate the end of the color run with some victory yells as they approach the finish line.



Li Cohen

Draven Osceola-Hahn, 11, uses all his 'swag' to pump himself up for the start of the race at Rez Rally.



Li Cohen

As soon as the countdown ended, runners rushed past the starting line at the Rez Rally and started their trek over the three-mile course.



Li Cohen

Carter Wilcox, 7, couldn't help but smile as he finished strong at the Rez Rally, finishing in eighth place in the run group for 6- to 11-year-old boys.



Li Cohen

Larissa De La Rosa, left, and Amy Garza stuck together to get through the three-mile color run in Brighton.



Li Cohen

This group of girls were inseparable during the Rez Rally, supporting each other every mile of the way until they crossed the finish line.



Li Cohen

Lindsey Posada got the blues at the color station she volunteered at during the Rez Rally, throwing blue and green powders at passing runners.

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The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Castillo worked as a Public Defender in Broward County from 1990-1996 and has been in private practice since 1996. In 1995, he was voted the Trial Attorney of the year. He graduated from Capital University in 1989 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990, Federal Bar in 1992, and the Federal Trial Bar in 1994.

Women in gaming aim to break glass ceiling

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

MIAMI — At the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States (NCLGS) meeting Jan. 5 in Miami, guests attended a special discussion focused on how more women can break the glass ceiling and what states can do to assist those efforts. Jan Jones Blackhurst, executive vice president of public policy and corporate responsibility at Caesars Entertainment, and Holly Gagnon, president and CEO of Seneca Gaming Corp., led the session.

The reason for the conversation stems from statistics surrounding female leadership in the gaming industry, as well as the gender and racial wage gaps. As Blackhurst explained during the session, studies have shown white women earn 78 cents on the dollar compared to males. Latina and black women earn even less on average, at just 58 cents and 68 cents, respectively. While she said that these numbers haven't changed in around 25 years, what has changed is the number of women getting degrees in higher education — 58 percent of BA's, 60 percent of MBAs and 50 percent of law degrees are awarded to women.

This growth in females in higher education is part of the reason some companies have established more gender-balanced leadership. Those companies with more equal representation of men and women have seen an increase in productivity and success, according to Blackhurst, some having a return on sales 30 percent better and a return on equity that's 50 percent better. Despite this, leading many people to question why female seniority isn't a standard practice.

"The high performance of these companies are not numbers that are being made up; they're numbers that are being ignored," Blackhurst explained. "I don't think it's intentional misogyny, I think it's a lack of intentional leadership. If you keep accepting an environment that's OK, then it's going to perpetuate itself."

One attendee, Georgia state Rep. Derrick Jackson believes that the lack of females in

executive positions is in part due to companies not wanting a feminist label. He explained that the people and companies who don't want this label often just don't understand what the term really means, which is just saying that all people should be considered equals.

"Women are simply fighting for equality and if someone is afraid of having that label then it really tells who they are on the inside, what their thoughts are, what their policies are," he said. "No company should be embarrassed for doing the right thing and I think that's what this is all about — doing the right thing in the end, making sure there's fairness, equality and opportunity regardless of gender, race and ethnicity. When you do that your organization will look like America."

In an attempt to establish this equality, Blackhurst spoke about Caesars Entertainment's latest initiative to have 50-50 equal gender representation within the company by 2025. Within this effort however, Blackhurst also said they are focused on getting any women represented, and are not focused on ethnic or racial diversity at the onset.

State Sen. Audrey Gibson, of Jacksonville, said that not having a direct ethnic component to this plan leaves out a large portion of women. To really improve female representation in business and make it a more natural movement, she emphasized that racial diversity needs to start as a conscious effort.

"The diversity picture has to be bigger than just women. ... To have a moving women forward discussion, you have to include ethnic movement too. If only white women are included then we still have a

problem," she said, adding that emphasizing race doesn't further the divide amongst women. "It's just being inclusive to ensure that women of all flavors are collectively moving up. When those women move up of all different colors it moves everybody. It captures a rainbow of more kids and even men moving up after them."

She also explained that the key to making this happen is to start by having front-loaded conversations about how women can get to higher positions. Instead of focusing on initiatives and programs aimed at helping women succeed, conversations should focus on what individuals can do in general to help themselves and others succeed.

"If we're going to take the time to talk about breaking the glass ceiling, we don't need to talk about a study, we need to have information to take back," she said.

This conversation included more than just what women can do, but also how men can help in the process. As Rep. Jackson explained, men have the advantage of being more inclined to be in leadership positions, and they can use that as ammunition to fuel female success in companies.

"Men need to do more. We need to help and make sure that when women are marching, we are marching with them," he said. "Men need to be just as bold to say and demonstrate their support because if we don't then we'll continue to have the same conversation."

Spectators almost unanimously agreed that while women have definitely made progress, especially in gaming, the fight for equality is not yet over. With mentorship and more direct conversations, Blackhurst, Gagnon and guests believe that women can see more success and in obtaining leadership roles in the near future.



Seneca Gaming Corp. President and CEO Holly Gagnon, left, and Caesars Entertainment Executive Vice President of Public Policy and Corporate Responsibility Jan Jones Blackhurst, right, discuss how women are climbing the corporate ladder in gaming companies during the NCLGS meeting in Miami last month.

Seminole Hard Rock & Casino Tampa opens new restaurant

STAFF REPORT

TAMPA — More than 100 guests celebrated the opening of The Rez Grill on Jan. 5 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa. Part of the multi-million dollar expansion, the 120-seat American grill restaurant is the newest food and beverage concept at the Tampa property.

The restaurant is led by culinary creative director Frank Anderson, whose pedigree

and Casino guests, but for Tampa locals and tourists alike."

Anderson and his team have curated a menu that offers diners a wide variety of elevated comfort food favorites ranging from a selection of items from the kitchen's wood burning grill to hand-made pastas, and dishes meant for sharing.

"We have worked so hard over the past few months to create an exciting chef-driven menu, that caters to Tampa locals, tourists and Casino guests," Anderson said. "The



Baltimore Orioles players Mychal Givens, center, and Alec Asher, right, who are both from the Tampa area, and their guests get ready Jan. 5 to try The Rez Grill, a new restaurant at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa.

includes having run the kitchens at James Beard-awarded Los Angeles restaurants, Animal and Son of a Gun.

Opening night featured a variety of selections from the kitchen and plenty of notable names such as Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver DeSean Jackson, Baltimore Orioles pitchers Mychal Givens and Alec Asher, former Tampa mayor and former Florida governor Bob Martinez, Visit Tampa Bay CEO Santiago Corrada and Gen. Ann Dunwoody, the military's first female four-star general who was recently named the 2018 Gasparilla Community Hero.

Guests were hosted by the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's executive members including Anderson, James Manuel, The Rez Grill general manager; Kyle Dunavant, vice president of Marketing; Joe Lupo, president; Dawn Lazo, vice president of Food & Beverage; and Victor Tiffany, senior vice president of Hospitality for Seminole Gaming.

"Bringing on someone of Frank Anderson's culinary talent to open The Rez Grill at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino shows our continued commitment to providing our guests the best in service," Lazo said. "While the name, The Rez Grill pays homage to the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Indian Reservation, we aspire to be a destination not just for Hotel



Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver DeSean Jackson poses at the grand opening for The Rez Grill.

menu is diverse in flavor and approachable for all dining levels."

The 5,000-square-foot interior combines a creative collaboration between designer Laurence Lee Associates and architect Klai Juba Wald. Modern and rustic details are juxtaposed with design features that give customers a contemporary, yet old-fashioned pub feel. Long and tall glass windows surround the walls of the restaurant, allowing passersby a view of the bar scene.



Rep. Derrick Jackson, D-Ga., discusses policy with other guests at the NCLGS meeting in Miami.

◆ FALL SALE From page 1A

The highest price paid for a female at the fall sale was \$32,000 and one bull brought \$50,000, but the average price per lot was \$4,742. Overall, the sale grossed \$1.8 million.

After the sale, the cattle were shipped to Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Florida. Those destined for Mexico were quarantined before being shipped south in December. The Australian buyers purchased an interest in a few females and seed stock for their distributor down under.

Salacoa general manager Chris Heptinstall attributes the success of the sale to the ranch having reached its maximum stocking capacity of females, which allowed them to sell more than at previous sales. Even with the large amount of animals sold, Salacoa is able to maintain the size of the herd at 800 registered and 300 commercial cows because of its size.

"It was the first time we offered a lot of young females," Heptinstall said. "We let go genetics we would normally keep here. The bull market is also gaining popularity; the demand for our genetics is growing."

Those genetics give Salacoa's Brangus characteristics such as longevity, more bone, bigger foot and other traits that allow them



Cattle graze in the pens at Salacoa Valley Farm in Georgia during the fall auction last November.

to thrive in the subtropical climate of the southeast. Heptinstall said Salacoa is the fourth largest Brangus breeder in the nation, but it doesn't plan to stop there.

The ranch has also cross-bred its premier

Brangus and Santa Gertrudis cows to create a new breed, the Super American. Both breeds are predominant in the southeast and coastal regions and can withstand heat and drought.

"The breeds are real close and the Super American are more drought tolerant," Johns said. "When you take two purebred animals, you can get a superior one to the mother or father. The new breed is bigger, stronger, more efficient and has more of the ability to thrive."

Some of the Super American seed stock was sold in November and there are plans to offer more at the next sale in March at the Briggs Ranch in Texas, where Heptinstall said they will also sell about 100 bulls.

Since the Tribe acquired Salacoa more scientific research has been done, which resulted in the increase in quality of the herd and the seed stock.

"We have become one of the big players in the Brangus breed," Heptinstall said. "It took about five years to get here, but we are highly regarded by the industry and reputable within the breed; we are in the top three."



Alex Johns and Chris Heptinstall on the dais during the fall sale at Salacoa Valley Farm.



The interior of The Rez Grill at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa.

Brighton prepares for Field Day Festival and Rodeo

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

Brighton Field Day began in 1938 as a day of fun, athletic competition and camaraderie among Tribal members from every reservation. Since then the event has evolved into a major festival and rodeo that attracts thousands of Tribal members and the general public every year.

This year, the 80th annual Brighton Field Day Festival and Rodeo will take place at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena and grounds Feb. 16-18. Highlights of the weekend will include the PRCA Rodeo, professional bull riders, clothing contests, Native American arts and crafts and authentic Seminole food.

Tribal members will man the Seminole culture camp so visitors may get a taste — literally and figuratively — of the Tribe's food and culture.

Entertainment will include a concert by Colt Ford, a country rapper, singer and songwriter. Ford recently released his sixth album "Love Hope Faith," which includes the single "4 Lane Gone."

Events during the three-day festival

include Native American dance troupes, traditional Seminole storytelling, snake shows and alligator wrestling. The Florida State University marching band, accompanied by FSU's mascot Osceola riding his horse Renegade, will make a special appearance.

For shoppers, the festival is a treasure trove of traditional Native American art, jewelry, clothing and crafts.

Field Day schedule

Friday, Feb. 16
9 a.m. Gates open
10 a.m. Activities begin
3 p.m. PRCA Rodeo

Saturday, Feb. 17
8:30 a.m. Gates open
9 a.m. Activities begin
10 a.m. Parade
3 p.m. PRCA Rodeo
7:30 p.m. Colt Ford concert

Sunday, Feb. 18
9 a.m. Gates open
10 a.m. Activities begin
3 p.m. Professional bull riders

Generational impact felt at EIRA roughstock clinic

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

BIG CYPRESS — Tavis Jumper needed just one word to describe his first experience in steer wrestling.

“Hard,” the Brighton teenager said after he made his steer wrestling debut at the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association’s roughstock clinic for youth Jan. 27 at Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena in Big Cypress.

As a precursor to the EIRA’s 2018 season, which kicks off Feb. 3 with the Betty Mae Jumper Memorial Rodeo in Hollywood, the association hosted about 30 youngsters for two days of hands-on instruction. Youth program director Moses Jumper Jr. said such clinics — where the older generations teach younger ones about steer wrestling, sheep riding, roping, barrel racing and other events — are critical for the association’s survival.

“If we don’t have kids’ youth events we won’t have a rodeo association,” he said. “We get outside contestants, but if we don’t get our own homegrown kids, we won’t have an association.”

Naha Jumper, Moses’ son, is grateful for the opportunities his dad provided by getting him involved in rodeo and other athletics decades ago. It’s a path that has taken Naha just about everywhere in the country.

“I’m glad my dad put me in rodeo, baseball and basketball. I’ve been in 47 of 50 states,” he said.

As a veteran rodeo competitor, Naha



Kevin Johnson

Hazel Osceola, 6, gives sheep riding a try with guidance from Justin Gopher during the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association’s roughstock youth clinic Jan. 27 at Junior Cypress Arena in Big Cypress.

gladly shares his expertise with the kids.

“The main thing is to keep the kids off the streets and keep them busy doing something productive,” he said.

Other longtime rodeo standouts, including Justin Gopher, Jeff Johns and Joe Osceola, also provided instruction and advice to the kids.

“It seems scary at first, but once you get on two or three times it’s fun,” Osceola told a group of boys and girls about ages 6 to 9 before they bravely got on board in sheep riding. “Rodeo teaches you a lot of things. Responsibility. Discipline. Stay with it; stay strong.”

For sheep riding, the youngsters donned rodeo helmets and protective vests. Most of the little riders came out of the chute and lasted only a few seconds on top of their fluffy rides before tumbling off and landing on the dirt, but this day was all about experience, not timing.

“I hope they learn the basics of doing the event they want to,” Moses said. “We want them to get a ground level experience of doing the event they want to do.”

Steer wrestling quickly became the choice event for Tavis, who received tips from Johns.

“Put your hip into him and pull,” Johns advised Tavis before the gate opened.

“I might try practicing a little more. It seems like fun,” Tavis said after his wrestling bout.

Similar to Tavis, 16-year-old Aidan Tommie, of Brighton, had never wrestled



Kevin Johnson

With Jeff Johns providing instruction, Aidan Tommie, 16, learns technique in steer wrestling.



Kevin Johnson

Brand new to steer wrestling, Tavis Jumper, 17, gets ready to bring a steer to the ground with assistance from Greg Whidden.

steer, but he showed plenty of eagerness to conquer the uncooperative beasts. At one point, a steer got away from Aidan during a battle on the dirt, but Aidan quickly got up, sprinted halfway across the arena and tackled the powerful animal.

“It’s a lot like wrestling two men,” he said.

EIRA’s season will start with two rodeos on the Hollywood Reservation on consecutive Saturdays. First up is the Betty Mae Jumper Memorial Rodeo, named

for Moses Jumper Jr.’s mother, on Feb. 3. The following week is the INFR Tour Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo on Feb. 10 when the rodeo arena, which has been rebuilt, is scheduled to be dedicated.

The youth rodeo will be start at 12 p.m. both days followed by the adults at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

The EIRA hopes to build on the success of last year’s return to Hollywood.

“It was great,” Moses said. “We hadn’t had rodeos there in Hollywood for so long, but everybody just jumped in and wanted to come out and see a rodeo.”



Kevin Johnson

Norman Osceola, 15, gains the upperhand during steer wrestling at the EIRA clinic.

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Pictures, pictures and more pictures

BY KEVIN M. CUNNIFF
 Cataloging Assistant, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

“A picture is worth a thousand words” is a famous idiom dating back to a 1918 newspaper article published in the San Antonio Light. It remains true today when considered through the lenses of the many photographers who have taken many tens of thousands of photos during more than 40 years of The Seminole Tribune. Photos that capture and document Seminole Tribe of Florida events and places, Tribal members and Tribal life have proven to be an invaluable Tribal asset, particularly for preserving Tribal and familial histories alike. The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum currently has an estimated 50,000 of these photos in its collection and the effort to organize, house, scan and catalog these photos for their permanent preservation and for Tribal member use is on-going.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services' Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Program recently awarded the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum a grant to hire a new staff member dedicated toward this important pursuit. The goal of the project, which officially commenced in Dec. 2017, is to house, scan and catalog roughly 12,000 Tribune photos within 12 months. I am very pleased to join the Collections Department at the museum as that new staff member with the job title, “Cataloging Assistant”. My primary duty is to work on the Tribune photo project.

As a quick bit of information on the

methodology, each photo is carefully placed into a protective Mylar sleeve then scanned as a digital image on the computer and finally cataloged. Cataloging refers to the written description of the photo's subject matter and can include details about locations, events, objects, activities and most importantly — people. This process is all completed within a museum computer software program, PastPerfect, which groups the digital image, its written description and other metrics and the photo's physical location within the museum's archival vault. Once cataloged, the information can be readily searched using keywords, such as the name of an event, place or person. A really neat feature is the ability for the software to further relate photos to one another. For example, a search of “Tribal fair 1996” will yield all photos of that event, as related together during the cataloging process, so as to have them all available and viewable with just one search.

The Collections Department currently has thousands of photos available through the museum's online collection. New photos cataloged from this project will be uploaded periodically. You may access these photos via the museum's website, or directly at: semtribe.pastperfectonline.com/photo. You may also visit the museum and a Collections Department staff member would be happy to help you search for photos. Any Tribal member interested in spending a little time volunteering to help identify people and places in photos would be most appreciated, so come have some fun viewing these photos.

Photos help us connect to each other in a way that few other physical items can.

The memories we carry within us come alive upon seeing a photo of a particular event, activity or of a beloved friend or relative. Over the next 11 months I will be working with photos that represent a wide range of subject matter, encompassing a great number of people, places and things. It is satisfying to know my work will contribute toward preserving the Seminole Tribe of Florida's history and culture.



Thomas Storm wrestling an alligator.

Courtesy photo

National Native American Veterans Memorial design finalists announced

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian announced Jan. 25 the five finalists for the design of the National Native American Veterans Memorial. They are:

- James Dinh
- Daniel SaSuWeh Jones (Ponca) and Enoch Kelly Haney (Seminole Nation of Oklahoma)
- Harvey Pratt (Cheyenne /Arapaho)
- Stefanie Rocknak
- Leroy Transfield (Māori: Ngai Tahu/Ngati Toa)

The design competition is a juried, two-stage process. Stage I was an international open call to submit design concepts. A blue-ribbon jury of Native and non-Native American artists, designers and scholars selected the design concepts from Stage I to advance to Stage II — the finalist designers.

The museum received 413 registrations from five continents, North and South America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

“We are exceedingly happy that we received such a wide response to the competition,” said Donald J. Statsny, FAIA, FAICP, FCIP, the competition manager. “The jury examined each of the 120 completed submittals, and each received a rigorous evaluation resulting in the five design concepts that have been selected for Stage II.”

James Dinh is a public artist and landscape architect who founded studiodyn in Los Angeles to explore notions of history,

place and ecology within the context of public space. Dan SaSuWeh Jones (Ponca) is a writer, producer and artist and is the former chairman of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. Enoch Kelly Haney (Seminole Nation of Oklahoma) is a sculptor and artist who has served three terms in the Oklahoma House of Representatives and is currently serving in the Oklahoma State Senate. Harvey Pratt (Cheyenne /Arapaho) a multi-media artist and leading forensic artist, retired as the police forensic artist for the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation. Stefanie Rocknak is a sculptor and professor of philosophy in upstate New York who focuses on figurative wood sculptures. Leroy Transfield (Māori: Ngai Tahu/Ngati Toa) is a sculptor originally from New Zealand; he studied in Hawaii and founded his own studio in Orem, Utah, where he currently resides.

On Feb. 7, the museum will introduce the Stage II finalists at “Meet Your Designers,” a public event from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Rasmuson Theater on the first floor of the museum. Each designer will have 15 minutes to introduce themselves, explain why they entered the competition and share their initial concept-design drawings. The event will be webcast at <http://nmai.si.edu/explore/multimedia/webcasts/>.

The finalists will have until May 1 to evolve and refine their design concepts to a level that fully explains the spatial, material and symbolic attributes of the design and how it responds to the vision and design principles for the National Native American Veterans Memorial. The memorial is slated to open in 2020 on the grounds of the museum.

Uncovering the prison at Egmont Key

BY DAVE SCHEIDECKER
 THPO Field Technician

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office made two trips to Egmont Key recently, as part of an ongoing project to record and preserve the island's story of Seminole struggle and perseverance. Egmont Key is a beautiful island in the mouth of Tampa Bay that is home to a state park, a scenic lighthouse, a bird sanctuary, and is a popular destination for boaters and snorkelers in the Gulf of Mexico. However, in the last stages of the Seminole Wars (1817-1858) the island housed a United States army base dedicated to holding Seminole prisoners captive, before their eventual forced removal to the ‘Indian Territory’ that would become Oklahoma. Now that history is at risk. Egmont Key is washing away. Changes to Tampa Bay and the rising sea levels have seen the island reduced to less than a third of the size it was in the 1800s.

The prison camp at Egmont was well known at the time. Mention of it was made in newspapers as far away as New York and Chicago. When Billy Bowlegs, himself a household name throughout the country, was brought there at the end of the Seminole War in 1858, it was national news. Over 150 years later, however, that history has largely been lost behind beautiful beaches and the ruins of a naval base from the Spanish-American War.

In order to raise awareness of the Island's

tragic story, the THPO has organized several trips to the island. In November the THPO Community Engagement Coordinator Quenton Cypress arranged for Councilman Mondo Tiger and the elders of the Big Cypress Reservation to visit the site. THPO Archaeologists gave a tour of the Island and what is known of its history. “I think it has a lot of history to tell us.” Councilman Tiger said, “I think a lot of our ancestors fought very dearly for our lives, to be free. And to come back and visit something like this is very sad for me. I think as Seminoles... to come out here and visit, to get an idea what they gone through; I think it's very meaningful.”

This trip was followed up with another in December, this time with Ted Isham, the Historic Preservation Officer for the

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. Ted had heard stories of Egmont, but had never been able to make the trip to see it before. On the island he told a story he had heard growing up, of Seminole who had been captured and would soon be forced to leave Florida. The group chose, instead of being taken away, that they would walk off together into the sea, never to be seen again. On the beach he looked around and stated “Standing here, seeing this place, I'm sure this is where that happened.”

The Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma both want the history of Egmont Key to be remembered, not because it is a happy story but because it is a tragic one, a story that shaped both tribes, and a story many would prefer wasn't remembered at all.



Courtesy photo

Tribal members gather around THPO employees to learn about some of the history of Egmont Key while on a trip to the island at the mouth of Tampa Bay.

FIU to host indigenous programs

MIAMI — Florida International University's Global Indigenous Forum will host the following upcoming events:

Feb. 22 – 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Maidique campus, SIPA 220: Author and illustrator Dorothy Downs with Lee Tiger, Miccosukee Tribal Member will hold a book signing presentation about “Canoe Back in Time:” An Indigenous Family's Perspectives on Miccosukee Beliefs, Good Manners, and Respect for Elders. For many decades, Downs has maintained a close relationship with the Miccosukee and Seminole Indians of Florida. She will discuss her experiences

with the people who shared their stories in her new book. Downs explores the broad spectrum of Miccosukee beliefs, good manners, respect for elders, and the teachings of Breathmaker, or Creator. This is expressed through the life of Sally Osceola, a fictional 10-year-old girl. The event is free and open to the public.

April 15 – afternoon into evening: Fifth annual FIU Indigenous Celebration at Graham Center Ballroom, FIU Maidique Campus. The program is titled “All Nations Coming Together.” Nations, tribes, communities, and organizations will express

their history and heritage as ways to make a better world. People of Miccosukee, Seminole, Quechua, Ainu, Carib, student clubs, faculty, community organizations and others join to share successes, histories, wisdoms and perspectives. Spokespersons and facilitators will lead in dance, song, storytelling and interactive learning about contemporary issues. Wear traditional attire. Free and open to the public, especially tribal members, families, students and faculty.

For more information go to indigenous.fiu.edu/

The Battle Of Okeechobee

Second Seminole War Battle Re-enactment

February
24th & 25th
2018

Fun Filled Family Day!

Please join the Okeechobee Battlefield Friends for the commemoration of the largest & fiercest battle in the Seminole Wars fought on Christmas Day 1837.

Gates Open: 10 AM - 4 PM
Battle Reenactment
Start Time: 2:00 PM
BOTH DAYS
Admission: \$10 Per Car

Seminole Music Artist

Seminole Clothing Raffle

Seminole Indian Food

- Colors Presentation
- Artisans
- Battle of Okeechobee Narration
- Seminole & Other Exhibitors
- Alligator Demonstration
- Children's Horse Rides
- Living History
- 1800's Irish Folk Music
- Pow Wow Dancing

Thank You Sponsors!

/BattleofOkeechobee

For further information & updates please visit:
OkeechobeeBattlefield.com

Okeechobee Battlefield Historic State Park
 3500 SE 38th Ave. Okeechobee, FL

Health

Hollywood clinic offers coffee and conversation

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

HOLLYWOOD — The Hollywood Health Clinic is offering more than just check-ups this year. Clinic staff members are meeting with community members every month to teach them about maintaining healthy lifestyles.

The monthly meetings, called “Coffee and Chat” focus on offering preventative and treatment measures for diabetes. The latest one, held Jan. 10, focused on ways to set realistic goals to help people achieve their New Year resolutions.

Hollywood nutritionist Karen Two Shoes explained that the key to fulfilling resolutions and other goals is to create goals that are achievable, otherwise known as SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, timely) goals. For example, many people make resolutions each year to lose weight, but a goal such as that is too general. To make increase chances for success, someone with this resolution should say they want to lose a certain amount of pounds in a certain amount of time.

“If you set a realistic, achievable goal, when you reach it you’re more likely to pat yourself on the back, feel good about it and set another goal,” Two Shoes said. “Next thing you know, two pounds turn into five and five pounds turn into 10. You’re more likely to keep moving on if you set small, realistic, achievable goals.”

While weight loss isn’t directly related to diabetes treatment, Two Shoes said that keeping a healthy weight helps prevent the disease. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, Native Americans are 2.4 times more likely as white adults to develop diabetes. The clinic used to solely focus on diabetes treatment in their community

meetings, but decided to open it up so that more community members can get more health questions answered and live an overall healthy lifestyle.

Along with discussing health topics at the meetings, held the second Wednesday each month, the clinic also offers healthy food demonstrations. This month’s demonstration focused on breakfast boosters – flavors added to breakfast foods that aren’t packed with unhealthy sugars and fats.

On Jan. 10, Two Shoes made an egg and toaster waffle breakfast. Instead of adding salt, butter or cheese to eggs, she topped them off with salsa and a side of avocado slices. For the waffles, she opted for ones made of whole grains and instead of butter and syrup to top them off, she used one tablespoon of peanut butter and apple slices. She explained that making simple swaps like these add more essential vitamins and minerals to meals and minimizes unhealthy fats and sugars.

According to Two Shoes, a major purpose for these demonstrations is to share that “people aren’t diabetics, they have diabetes.” Instead of focusing on illnesses, Two Shoes wants people to know that their health is manageable and that diseases can be treated and prevented with a healthy lifestyle.

For more information about future Coffee and Chats or about other health-related information, call the clinic at 954-962-2009.



Li Cohen

Hollywood nutritionist Karen Two Shoes urges people to focus on incorporating more fruits and vegetables in their diets.

HHS takes major actions to protect conscience rights and life

FROM PRESS RELEASE

On Jan. 19, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced two major actions to protect life and the conscience rights of Americans.

HHS’ Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is issuing new guidance to state Medicaid directors restoring state flexibility to decide program standards. The letter issued today rescinds 2016 guidance that specifically restricted states’ ability to take certain actions against family-planning providers that offer abortion services.

Additionally, HHS’ Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is announcing a new proposed rule to enforce 25 existing statutory conscience protections for Americans involved in HHS-funded programs, which protect people from being coerced into participating in activities that violate their consciences, such as abortion, sterilization, or assisted suicide.

“Today’s actions represent promises kept by President Trump and a rollback of policies that had prevented many Americans from practicing their profession and following their conscience at the same time,” said Acting HHS Secretary Eric D. Hargan. “Americans of faith should feel at home in our health system, not discriminated against, and states should have the right to take reasonable steps in overseeing their Medicaid programs and being good stewards of public funds.”

“America’s doctors and nurses are dedicated to saving lives and should not be bullied out of the practice of medicine simply because they object to performing abortions against their conscience,” said OCR Director Roger Severino. “Conscience protection is a civil right guaranteed by laws that too often haven’t been enforced.

Today’s proposed rule will provide our new Conscience and Religious Freedom Division with enforcement tools that will make sure our conscience laws are not empty words on paper, but guarantees of justice to victims of unlawful discrimination.”

The proposed rule provides practical protections for Americans’ conscience rights and is modelled on existing regulations for other civil rights laws.

The laws undergirding the proposed regulation include the Coats-Snowe, Weldon, and Church Amendments, as well as parts of Medicare, Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act, and others (25 statutes in total).

The proposed rule applies to entities that receive funds through programs funded or administered in whole or in part through HHS.

The proposed rule requires, for instance, that entities applying for federal grants certify that they are complying with the above-mentioned conscience-protection statutes.

Since President Trump took office, OCR has stepped up enforcement of these conscience statutes, many of which saw little to no enforcement activity under the previous administration.

The proposed rule includes a public comment period of 60 days.

The proposed rule follows the announcement on Jan. 18 of a new Conscience and Religious Freedom Division in OCR, charged with implementing the proposed regulation as finalized and enforcing statutes that protect individuals and organizations from being compelled to participate in procedures such as abortion, sterilization, and assisted suicide when it would violate their religious beliefs or moral convictions.

CMS issued a State Medicaid Director Letter restoring state flexibility to establish reasonable standards for their Medicaid

programs.

The letter rescinded an April 2016 guidance (State Medicaid Directors Letter #16-005), which limited states’ long-standing authority to regulate providers operating within their states.

The 2016 letter had said that states that attempted to protect the integrity of their program standards by disqualifying abortion providers from their Medicaid programs would come under CMS scrutiny, and would be required to present to CMS evidence of criminal action or unfitness to perform healthcare services.

As stated in the letter to state Medicaid directors, CMS is concerned that the 2016 letter may have gone beyond merely interpreting what the statute and current regulations require.

This decision returns CMS policy to what it was prior to the issuance of the 2016 letter.

States will still be required to comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, including the requirement that provider qualification standards be reasonable.

The new State Medicaid Directors Letter is here: <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/smd18003.pdf> - PDF

The conscience regulation can be found in the Federal Register: federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2018/01/19.

Understanding cervical cancer

SUBMITTED BY BOB LAMENDOLA

Florida Department of Health in Broward

Cervical cancer is the 15th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in Florida, but it is the easiest gynecological cancer to prevent through screening, lifestyle changes and vaccination.

Starting in January, which is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, the Florida Department of Health in Broward (DOH-Broward) reminds women to visit their provider regularly to be screened with a Pap test.

Also, young adults and adolescents should consider getting the vaccine against Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) from your provider or DOH-Broward. Nearly all cervical cancers are caused by HPV, a common virus that is spread during sexual activity.

Broward County has higher rates of cervical cancer than the state. In 2014, 87 cases of the cancer were diagnosed in Broward – 47 percent at late stage when it is harder to treat successfully. In 2016, cervical cancer claimed 26 women’s lives in Broward.

About 47 percent of Native American

women in Florida got a Pap test, a bit lower than the state average of 52 percent, health department figures show.

Women can arrange a Pap test through the Seminole Health Department, at 954-962-2009.

Also, qualified women who are underinsured and ages 50-64 can get a free Pap test – and follow up doctor visits, if warranted – from the Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Call 954-762-3649 to see if you qualify.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), here are easy ways to reduce risk or prevent cervical cancer:

- Get HPV vaccine (two or three shots) between ages 9 and 26 to detect the virus. It is recommended for both boys and girls to prevent cancers of the cervix, mouth and throat.

- See your health care provider regularly for a Pap test between ages 21 and 65. The test looks for cell changes on the cervix that may become cancer if not treated. Your doctor can determine how often you need the test, depending on your family history and age. If your results are normal, you may need the test only once every three

or five years.

- Don’t smoke.

- Limit the number of sexual partners. The risk of cervical cancer is higher for those who have early sexual activity.

Cervical cancer causes no symptoms in the early stages. In later stages, it can cause abnormal bleeding, vaginal discharge and pain.

Tests for specific HPV strains can support earlier diagnosis of cervical cancer.

For more information on pap tests visit broward.floridahealth.gov and for more information on HPV visit cdc.gov.

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2018 SEMINOLE TRIBAL FAIR AND POW WOW

47th Annual Celebration of Native Arts and Culture

February 9-11, 2018

Over \$150K+
in prize money

Southern Emcee: Juaquin Hamilton
Northern Emcee: Howard Thomson
Arena Director: Chaske LeBlanc

Arena Director: Wendall Powless
Drum Judge: Calvin “Beaver” Campbell

DANCE COMPETITION:

JR. MEN (18-39):
Fancy, Northern Traditional, Grass, Southern Straight, Chicken

JR. WOMEN (18-39):
Southern Cloth, Southern Buckskin, Fancy, Jingle, Northern Cloth, Northern Buckskin

SR. MEN (38-54):
Fancy, Northern Traditional, Grass, Southern Straight, Chicken

SR. WOMEN (38-54):
Southern Cloth, Southern Buckskin, Fancy, Jingle, Northern Cloth, Northern Buckskin
1ST \$1.2K - 2ND \$1K - 3RD \$800 - 4TH \$600

TEENS/JR. BOYS (7-17):
Northern Traditional/Southern Traditional Combined and Fancy/Grass Combined

TEENS/JR. GIRLS (7-17):
Northern Traditional/Southern Traditional Combined and Fancy/Jingle Combined
1ST \$400 - 2ND \$300 - 3RD \$200 - 4TH \$100

GOLDEN AGE MEN (55+):
Northern Traditional/ Southern Straight (Combined), Fancy/Grass/Chicken (Combined)

GOLDEN AGE WOMEN (55+):
Fancy/Jingle (Combined), Northern Cloth/Buckskin (Combined), Southern Cloth/Buckskin (Combined)
1ST \$1.2K - 2ND \$1K - 3RD \$800 - 4TH \$600

2018 POW WOW SCHEDULE:

POW-WOW STARTS:
Feb. 9, 2018:
Friday afternoon Grand Entry @ 2:00pm - 5:00pm
Friday night at 7:00pm - 10:00pm Good Night

Feb. 10, 2018:
Saturday afternoon @ 12:00 noon - 5:00pm
Saturday night @ 7:00pm
Payout

Feb. 11, 2018:
Entertainment

DRUM COMPETITION
NORTHERN/SOUTHERN COMBINED

\$20,000 - 1ST PLACE

\$15,000 - 2nd Place \$6,000 - 5th Place
\$10,000 - 3rd Place \$4,000 - 6th Place
\$8,000 - 4th Place \$2,000 - 7th Place
3 CONSOLATION PRIZES

SWEET HEART DANCE SPECIAL

CDIB REQUIRED

Primitive Camping
Participants Only
First Come - First Served

REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION CLOSES 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO GRAND ENTRY.

- \$10 at registration.
- Thursday: 12 - 8 pm
- Friday: 9 am - 1:30 pm / Reopen: 2:30 pm - 6:30 pm
- *Pre-registration also available online.

For further information regarding the Pow Wow, you may contact:

Pow Wow information call:
1-800-883-7800 ext 11468
Wanda Bowers - 954.444.9827
Eugenia Osceola - 786.537.1905
Trudy Osceola - 954.347.6347

com
Vendors contact:
Virginia Osceola - 954.292.2597

Camping information call:
Alice Tucker - 954.732.8353

For hotel and travel info contact:
Native American Travel
Direct line: 954-967-3614
Email: NativeAmericanTravel@semtibe.com

Deadline for space reservation is
January 26, 2018.
No drugs allowed to Tribal event.

SEMINOLE SCENES



PANDA CUB: Tyse Osceola, 4, shows off his panda hat and basketball skills while his family warmed up for the Rez Rally on Jan. 20 in Brighton.



COLD WEATHER RUN: Amy Yzaguirre, Larissa De La Rosa and Amy Dimas bundle up to protect them from the nearly freezing 39 degree morning as they prepare for Rez Rally in Immokalee Jan. 3.



TREE POSE: Sam Tiger Two Shoes, 8, warms up for the Jan. 20 Rez Rally by playing in a tree next to the arena in Brighton.



MOODY BLUES AT HARD ROCK: Led by Justin Hayward and John Lodge up front, and Graeme Edge (drums on left), the Moody Blues perform in concert at Hard Rock Live in Hollywood on Jan. 10, six days after the passing of founding member Ray Thomas at age 76. Lodge tweeted: "Ray and I have been on this magical journey through life together since we were 14...two young kids from Birmingham who reached for the stars... and we made it together. El Riot you will always be by my side." Thomas played the flute solo on the hit "Nights in White Satin." The Moody Blues will be inducted into the Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame on April 14 with Bon Jovi, The Cars, Dire Straits and Nina Simone.



FOR A GOOD CAUSE: Ahfachkee School Student Council leaders display the school T-shirts they were selling as part of a fundraiser during the school's pep rally Jan. 16 at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium. The shirts come in black and red and feature the school's name, logo and "Unconquered." Money raised goes toward student events organized by the council. From left, Mya Cypress, Janessa Jones, Aniya Gore and Leilani Gopher.



WORK HARD, PLAY HARDER: Boys & Girls Club Counselor Chris Paul-Etienne and club member Bruce Deitz Jr., 14, take a break from Hollywood Boys & Girls Club festivities to play some video games.



HELLO KITTY: Dressed in her finest Hello Kitty shirt and tiara, kindergarten student Marley Cypress anxiously awaits the arrival of the fire engine for the kick off of Literacy Week at PECS Jan. 22.



WORDY WEDNESDAY: SPD Officer Holly Ramsey and PECS reading specialist Vicki Paige pose with their wordy T-shirts as part of Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! Jan 24.



DO A LITTLE DANCE: Florida State football fan Mark Bartell, of Tallahassee, dances during a dance-off contest at the Independence Bowl on Dec. 27 in Shreveport, La. Bartell said he wears the Seminole patchwork jacket, which he received from a friend in Fort Lauderdale, to FSU games. He won the contest sponsored by Walk-On's Bistreaux & Bar, a chain that is co-owned by New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees.

NATIONAL NATIVE NEWS

American Indian activists rally in Olympia

OLYMPIA, Wash. — The marble walls of the Washington state Capitol reverberated with the roar of drums and voices the afternoon of Jan. 24, as Native American activists poured into Olympia to sound the bell on a number of political topics.

The eighth annual Native American Indian Lobby Day brought more than 100 activists to the Legislative Building, where talks and music dominated the proceedings.

"We started the lobby day because there was no representation at the Capitol for us," said Elizabeth Satiacum, co-creator of the event and a member of the Puyallup Tribe. She also said that attendance has increased tenfold since the inaugural event in 2011.

Satiacum said there are currently 32 bills in the Legislature that directly affect tribal communities, and said her primary concerns regard salmon, child welfare and missing and murdered indigenous women.

Robert Satiacum Jr., Elizabeth's husband, performed a water ceremony in the Capitol's rotunda, encircled and bolstered by the drummers and singers around him. He said water above all is most in need of protection, and that its importance transcends cultural boundaries.

"It's all about the water," Satiacum Jr. said, "You save the water and you save the planet."

In describing the literal and figurative noise the group made in the center of the Capitol, Satiacum Jr. said the "Thunda in the Rotunda" was designed to attract the attention of as many legislators as possible.

"It's about creating a fire, and holding those representatives' and senators' feet to that fire," he said.

Senators Jeannie Darneille, D-Tacoma, Sam Hunt, D-Olympia, and John McCoy, D-Tulalip, joined Rep. JT Wilcox, R-Yelm, in attendance at the water ceremony, where each was personally honored by Satiacum Jr.

"I have been very moved in this circle," Darneille said. "I don't think these marble walls will ever forget your sounds today."

Hunt, who represents Olympia, referenced the Squaxin Island Tribe that originally settled on the ground that now lies beneath the Capitol. The senator said he was proud to work on Squaxin land.

Voting rights were a major priority, Hunt said. He emphasized that Olympia was the capital city for all of Washington's tribes, and urged political participation on their part.

"You can control and change and determine what happens in this building," he said. "But only if you vote."

Wilcox expressed solidarity with the tribal activists and described his upbringing on the banks of the Nisqually River, where he said he would take long walks with his great-grandfather. He said his family history is important, and that he imagines that familial legacy must be especially important to those who have 100 generations of relatives on the same land.

The representative described a common responsibility between he and the Nisqually tribes, and said that protecting the environment should be a priority. Wilcox said he hopes to someday walk with his grandchildren alongside that same river.

The program began in the morning, when participants gathered in the legislative building's basement to listen to talks from various activists. A major subject of conversation was Puget Sound Energy's plan to build a liquefied natural gas facility in Tacoma.

The Puyallup Tribe stood to oppose the facility's building with the group Redefine Tacoma, whose slogan reads "NO TO LNG IN THE 253," a reference to Tacoma's area code. The group claims that a liquefied natural gas facility would endanger the lives of Tacoma's citizens and generate pollution.

Lobby day participants marched through the legislative building to Gov. Jay Inslee's office, where they dropped off a petition opposing the Tacoma facility's construction. The Puyallup Water Warriors said the petition has more than 51,000 signatures.

"What we do now is going to affect the next thousand years," said Willie Frank III, Nisqually tribal council member and son of treaty rights activist Billy Frank Jr. "We need to start looking at the big picture here, and that's protecting our water for the future generations."

- *The Reflector*

Victims sought: Canada awards \$635 million to stolen 'sixties scoop' native children

In October of 2017, the federal Government of Canada reached a settlement with the First Nations victims of the "Sixties Scoop." The program gained its nickname when child welfare agencies removed thousands of indigenous children from their communities primarily in the 60's and placed them with foster families or adopting families.

After years of trying to fight against

the Canadian federal government, Lead claimant Chief Marcia Brown Martel won a massive victory when the court awarded a payout of \$800 million Canadian / \$635 million American, to about 20,000 victims.

Many of the victims had fled to the United States, claimants to this case are being sought today.

In 1967, Beaverhouse First Nation Chief Marcia Brown Martel was four years old when strangers who did not speak her language gathered her and her sister and took them away in a boat to live her childhood in Foster Care.

She had no idea why she was taken and her family was told she had a disability and would be better off in government care. Chief Marcia Brown Martel was one of approximately 20,000 victims of the 'Sixties Scoop.'

In an interview with *The Globe and Mail*, Chief Martel talked about how for five years she lived in 10 different foster homes in northern and central Ontario. She was a victim of abuse, "I wondered if a person could hit me to the point I would die. I was this little person, alone in the world ... Nobody wanted me," she said.

She was later separated from her sister because officials said her sister did not want to live in the same house with her she eventually went to a family for adoption but was received with disdain. Her adopted mother wanted a girl who would wear dresses, but Martel chose the safety of being a tomboy, "because I know what happens to pretty girls," said Martel.

Martel lived a life of physical abuse and her bruises were never questioned at school. At 18, she became pregnant and was living in Texas with her adoptive mother. She was taken to an airport and handed a plane ticket to Canada.

She made her way back to her community and finally felt acceptance amidst her community.

She learned her culture and was eventually elected to the tribal council. As a "Sixties Scoop" survivor, she launched a lawsuit with another victim in 2009. In 2011, she became chief of the Beaverhouse First Nation.

In February of 2017, an Ontario court ruled in favor of the indigenous plaintiffs in the "Sixties Scoop" class-action lawsuit. There was a compensation hearing set for October 11th, 2017, but the Canadian Government opted to settle on October 6th, 2017 to resolve the arguments of the plaintiffs who stated they "suffered emotional, psychological, and spiritual harm from the broken connection to their heritage."

"It was important to me that we got recognition and justice, not just for some, but for as many people as possible," Martel said in an article by the BBC.

Crown-Indigenous Relations Minister Carolyn Bennett said in the BBC article the agreement reached in principle will see \$750m spent on direct compensation and another \$50m spent to fund an Indigenous Healing Foundation with a counselling, healing and education mandate.

Referring to the "Sixties Scoop" thousands of native children were removed from their families between 1965 and 1984, and were placed with non-native foster parents or adoptive parents into homes across Canada, the US, UK, Australia and other countries. There are an estimated 16,000 indigenous children in Ontario that were taken from their families.

Though the agreement is the first step in resolving the "Sixties Scoop" litigation, many victims are still being sought to come forward.

Under the settlement, First Nations and Inuit children who were taken from their homes between 1951 and 1991 will be eligible for personal compensation.

The amount will range from about \$20,000 to \$40,000 for each person. Depending on how many claims are filed, it could add up to a total of \$600m.

Colleen Cardinal, (Plains Cree from Saddle Lake Cree Nation) one of the co-founders of the National Indigenous Survivors of Child Welfare Network (NISCW) told *Indian Country Today* that the NISCW is a great resource for those seeking compensation and / or support as a "Sixties Scoop" survivor.

In addition to offering services such as leadership, support and advocacy for those affected by Indigenous child removal systems in Canada, the NISCW is currently offering a specific "Sixties Scoop" Peer Support Toll Free Number (1-866-456-6060.)

For more information on the National Indigenous Survivors of Child Welfare Network visit www.NISCW.org.

- *Indian Country Today*

Columbia artist is first recipient of Native American art fellowship

Sydney Pursel, a Columbia-based multimedia artist, will be living in a Wyoming town of 25 people for the month of March, and she's ecstatic.

Pursel, who graduated from MU and

earned a master's degree at the University of Kansas, is the first recipient of the Ucross Fellowship for Native American Visual Artists, which was created in 2017. She will reside in Ucross, Wyoming, for the month of March and will receive a stipend of \$1,000 and a further exhibition at the Ucross Foundation Art Gallery.

Pursel said she will be creating several typical Native American garments made with an unconventional material: beer bottle caps. This is to reflect stereotypes and what she described as a drinking problem among Native American and Irish people. These two cultures are familiar to Pursel, since her mother was born an Irish Catholic and her father an American Indian.

"What we choose to put on our bodies is a huge part of our culture," she said.

Through her art, she seeks to convey the diversity of the Native American spectrum and the identity issues she has faced due to her heritage.

"My main goal is to teach people that there are different types of American Indians," Pursel said.

Pursel said she applied for the fellowship not only following the recommendations of two of her master's professors at the University of Kansas, but also because she "needed time and resources," she said.

She intends to wear the costumes in a participatory performance, where people will interact with her, as the work of art.

Pursel said she believes people understand these type of art forms more than painting hanging on walls.

"People pay more attention when they participate," Pursel said.

- *Columbia Missourian*

Ancient DNA reveals unknown population of Native Americans

In the local people's tongue, her name means 'sunrise girl-child', and even though she only lived for six fleeting weeks, she's already told scientists more than we ever knew about the very first Native Americans.

Sunrise girl-child ("Xach'itee'aanenh T'eede Gaay") lived some 11,500 years ago in what is now called Alaska, and her ancient DNA reveals not only the origins of Native American society, but reminds the world of a whole population of people forgotten by history millennia ago.

"We didn't know this population existed," says anthropologist Ben Potter from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"It would be difficult to overstate the importance of this newly revealed people to our understanding of how ancient populations came to inhabit the Americas."

It's widely thought that the first American settlers crossed over into Alaska from Siberia via the Bering Land Bridge, which once linked up Asia and North America - although scientists are ever debating how these ancient travellers made their journey.

What's less clear is who these people were, how many groups made the trip, and how they then settled the new continent under their feet. That's where sunrise girl-child comes in.

Her remains, and those of another ancient infant known as "Yelkaanenh T'eede Gaay" (dawn twilight girl-child), were found by Potter and fellow researchers at an Interior Alaska archaeological site called Upward Sun River during excavations in 2013.

In a new study published this week, the team reports that a genetic analysis of sunrise girl-child's DNA shows she belonged to a forgotten people called the Ancient Beringians, unknown to science until now.

Before now, there were only two recognised branches of early Native Americans (referred to as Northern and Southern). But when the researchers sequenced sunrise girl-child's genome - the earliest complete genetic profile of a New World human to date - to their surprise it matched neither.

Using genetic analysis and demographic modelling, the team concludes a single founding ancestral Native American group split from East Asians around 35,000 years ago, most likely somewhere in north-east Asia.

At some point, it's suspected these people moved as one in a single mass migration into North America, before - some 15,000 years or so later - the population split into two groups.

One of the groups became the Ancient Beringians - the other group were the ancestors of all other Native Americans - although it remains possible this division was already occurring before the Bering Land Bridge was crossed.

"We were able to show that people probably entered Alaska before 20,000 years ago," says evolutionary geneticist Eske Willerslev from the University of Cambridge in the UK.

"It's the first time that we have had direct genomic evidence that all Native Americans can be traced back to one source population, via a single, founding migration event."

Countless generations after the trek, sunrise girl-child and dawn twilight girl-child - thought to be first cousins - were born into an isolated people in the icy Alaskan wilderness of the Late Pleistocene.

Life would not have been easy, but the population as a whole - separated from those who journeyed elsewhere in the New World - lasted thousands of years before eventually being absorbed into other Native American populations.

Given the nature of this field of research - and the scope of the new findings - it's unlikely the new hypotheses will remain uncontested for long. But in the light of all the new evidence researchers are uncovering, it's clear the first settlers of America carried a more diverse lineage than we ever realised.

"[This is] the first direct evidence of the initial founding Native American population," Potter says. "It is markedly more complex than we thought."

The findings are reported in "Nature."

- *Science Alert*

First Nations receives \$100,000 grant from Agua Fund to help improve native food access

LONGMONT, Colo. — First Nations Development Institute (First Nations) announced Jan. 4 it has received a one-year, \$100,000 grant from the Agua Fund as renewed funding to assist Native American communities in South Dakota and on the Navajo Nation (Arizona, New Mexico and Utah). The funding allows First Nations to work with selected communities toward increasing control of their local food systems for improved health and well-being, as well as for asset-building and economic development purposes.

First Nations expects to issue a request for proposals for this grant program in the near future. Eligible entities will be Sioux or Navajo tribes, Sioux or Navajo-controlled nonprofit organizations, or Native community-based groups committed to increasing healthy food access in Sioux or Navajo communities.

First Nations will offer capacity-building training to the four selected participants, while two of these groups will receive direct grants of \$30,000 each. The project will focus on tribal hunger, nutrition and healthy foods access, and will engage in activities such as conducting community food assessments and expanding initiatives for food-related business development. Participants will be selected based on their potential to serve as a positive model with replicable or adaptable components for other Native communities, as well as on their communities' needs related to tribal hunger, food insecurity and healthy foods access.

- *Global Newswire*

Native Knowledge 360° introduces schoolchildren to authentic Native Americans

Edwin Schupman's been chipping away at misconceptions of Native Americans since he started working as an educator some 30 years ago. Only after he started at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian did he have the resources and support to address the issue on a national scale.

Now, Schupman is spearheading Native Knowledge 360°, the museum's long-term initiative to integrate the Native American experience into social studies, language arts, and other curriculums in kindergarten through 12 grade classrooms across the country. The museum is working with Native communities and educators nationally to achieve these goals.

"It's an audacious project because really, our end goal is to change the narrative of the Native American in America's schools," explains Schupman (Muscoogee), who is the museum's manager of national education.

Most Americans have only been exposed to part of the Native American story, as told from a limited perspective in popular media and textbooks, Schupman says. NK360° provides educational materials that incorporate Native narratives, comprehensive histories and accurate information.

Its curriculum replaces common misperceptions about Native peoples with facts and Native perspectives on cultures, roles in U.S. and world history, as well as contributions to the arts, sciences and literature.

Teacher materials on "American Indian Perspectives on Thanksgiving," one subject covered, look beyond the mythological story that is part of the American holiday tradition. They explore giving thanks as a way of American Indian life through the themes of environment, community, encounters and innovations.

"We're actually better off as citizens if we really understand the truth, the good and bad, about our country. ... I don't think there's anything threatening in knowing and understanding the nuance of history

and complexity that's involved," Schupman says.

- *Smithsonian Insider*

Mashpee High School offers first Native American language course

MASHPEE, Mass. — Learning a new language has long been a requirement at most American high schools. While the typical offerings include Spanish, French, and Latin, in Mashpee, Massachusetts, a small group of students is taking on a language that hasn't been spoken fluently in centuries. WCAI's Kathryn Eident has more on the Wôpanâak Language class at Mashpee High School.

The students come from different grades. Some are freshmen, others are sophomores and juniors, but they share one thing in common: They're all members of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. This group of half a dozen students is also part of the high school's first-ever Wôpanâak Language class, a credit-level course specifically designed to teach the tribe's native language. A language that, until recently, hasn't been spoken for several hundred years.

Fourteen-year-old freshman Caesar Hendricks says he's up for the challenge of learning a second language, especially one this important to him.

"I feel like it's a great learning experience and something that other students don't get the opportunity to do, so I'm going to try and take advantage of it," Hendricks said.

For 10th grader Nathan Mills, this class is more than just a way to get credit toward graduation. It's a critical part of being a Wampanoag.

"I live, breath Wampanoag, so it's very important we keep our language alive and going," he said. "This is more than just a class or language, this is our culture. So, it's important that we, the youth, bring it back and teach it to the older kids, and everyone should know it."

Mills' passion is one reason the tribe, through the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project, developed a curriculum specifically for high school students. The goal is big—not only does the tribe want to establish the class as a regular offering for all students at the high school, officials hope to one day have a generation of fluent speakers.

"It's amazing, we've come so far," said Judi Urquhart, business manager for the language project. "To be offering this class is so special, and I don't know if it's unprecedented, but I think we're one of the first classes that are offered in a public high school in the United States."

Tens of thousands of people once spoke Wôpanâak, but the language died out when it was outlawed in the 1800s. It wasn't until the 1990s, when tribe member Jessie Little Doe Baird began to revive it from written records, that tribe members began learning and speaking the language again. Today, the tribe offers language classes to people of all ages, starting with a full-day immersion preschool, all the way up to evening classes for elders.

Urquhart beams with pride as she watches the class, which includes her daughter, Alyssa.

"I actually wrote one of the first grants back in 2009, where our master speaker, Jessie Little Doe Baird, was able to instill language fluency into three individuals—just three," Urquhart said. "It really has become an exponential process."

Melanie Roderick was one of those three initial students. She now teaches the language, and says her students are engaged and interested in the work. Her high schoolers, though, might be a little less concerned about the mechanics of the language, and more impatient to build a vocabulary big enough to get their point across.

"They want to speak. They don't want to know the ins and the outs and the 'this and the that' of why we do everything we do," she said. "They just want to talk to each other."

The class is also reaching more than just the students; it prompted school officials to change the name of the language department from "Foreign Language" to "World Language." The project's Judi Urquhart says the change is a sign that relations between the tribe and the school district are improving.

"I think that simple word change is really indicative of how wonderful and receptive the Mashpee School District has been to the is language, and to accepting that it's not a foreign language at all," she said. "It's really part of this community, this homeland."

Urquhart hopes that next year, some non-native students will also enroll in the class.

For now, lunch time is fast approaching, and the students in this year's class only have a few more minutes before the bell rings. Even though they're a part of history, they're still hungry teenagers after all.

- *WCAI*



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HOLLYWOOD, FL

Education



B

Ahfachkee inducts student council

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — Members of the Ahfachkee Student Council were elected in October and have been working diligently in their positions to improve student life at the Big Cypress school. On Jan. 16 they were officially inducted at a traditional pinning ceremony.

Principal Dorothy Cain administered the oath of office and pinned each officer to commemorate his or her commitment to serve. After each was pinned, she spoke to the council members and the assembled student body.

"Anyone can talk, but what are most important are actions," Cain said. "That's what we want from this student council. Ahfachkee is a well-kept secret; this is a good school where you can get a good education. We are implementing new programs and are doing our best to get more students here."

Lee Zepeda, executive director of Tribal administration, told the council members to remain focused on the task at hand.

"You were all elected so don't ever forget who elected you," Zepeda said. "You have a big job ahead of you and I know you

will be successful."

Student council advisors Antonio Wright and Michael Daniels expect the students will improve their leadership skills over the course of the year.

"I hope they learn to work with a diverse team and, despite their differences in perception or perspectives, they will learn to work together," said Wright, grades 9-12 social studies teacher.

For the first time, the school appointed committee chairpersons to identify and work on specific goals in the school, the community and beyond. The Speakers of the House, 11th-grader Janessa Jones and 5th-grader Aaliyah Billie, will work with the committee chairs to help get their goals achieved.

Daniels, sixth- through eighth-grade social studies teacher, previously worked with the state legislature in Hawaii and learned what it takes to reach consensus and get bills passed into law.

"We plan to implement leadership training and consensus building," Daniels said. "They will find ideas and come up with solutions."

President Aniya Gore wants to improve Ahfachkee school spirit.

"I want to be the voice of all the other

students who don't get a chance to speak," said Aniya, a 10th-grader. "I also want to work closely with the committees to help generate ideas."

Treasurer Leilani Gopher has been focused on fundraising and has already led a drive that raised about \$800 since the start of 2018 by selling school T-shirts.

"We will donate half of the money to a charity and use the rest for field trips, prom and to purchase items for school," said Leilani, 10th grade.

Secretary Abigale Tigertail sees her role as the one to keep everything organized and realizes that in her leadership position she will be a role model to other students.

"I will be supportive of the officers," said Abigale, 10th-grader. "I'll also think twice about doing things and be sure to keep my grades up."

The two fifth-grade elementary school representatives, Erik Green and Aaliyah Billie, are looking forward to their roles on the council and communicating with their peers about it. Aaliyah plans to make posters promoting student council and Erik looks forward to planning fun activities.

Although the committee chairpersons were appointed instead of elected, their duties are as important to Ahfachkee as the council's. As a former Jr. Miss Florida Seminole, Thomlynn Billie is well suited to her role as community involvement chairperson.

"I want to bring the community more involved in the school and convince them to come to our school," said the 11th-grader. "I will go to community meetings and tell them what is going on here. I hope to inspire other kids to come to Ahfachkee and help us grow as a school."

As Educational Ambassador, 11th-grader Mya Cypress will draw on her leadership experience as student council president last year. Part of the job is to make sure student council members keep their grades up and to help organize programs related to education, such as the college expo.

Extracurricular Activities Chair Eyanna Billie will identify new ways to engage students so they can leave a legacy. To achieve these goals, the 12th-grader plans to help create activities.

"I want everyone to be happy, have fun and look forward to coming to Ahfachkee," Eyanna said.



Beverly Bidney

The Ahfachkee Student Council and two committee chairpersons pose together after the induction ceremony at school Jan. 16. In the front row are elementary representatives Aaliyah Billie and Erik Green, secretary Abigale Tigertail, president Aniya Gore, treasurer Leilani Gopher and historian Anthony Wells. In back are community involvement chair Thomlynn Billie and educational ambassador chair Mya Cypress.



Beverly Bidney

Erik Green recites the oath for student council after Principal Dorothy Cain during the induction ceremony at Ahfachkee.

2017-2018 Ahfachkee Student Council:

President

Aniya Gore, 10th grade

Vice President

Franklin Jumper, 11th grade

Secretary

Abigale Tigertail, 10th grade

Treasurer

Leilani Gopher, 10th grade

Historians

Anthony Wells, 8th grade

Keithana Osceola-Onco, 6th grade

Elementary Representatives

Erik Green, 5th grade

Aaliyah Billie, 5th grade

2017-2018 Committee Chairpersons:

Culture

Leilani Gopher, 10th grade

Community Involvement

Thomlynn Billie, 11th grade

Extracurricular Activities

Eyanna Billie, 12th grade

External Affairs

Abigale Tigertail, 10th grade

Educational Ambassador

Mya Cypress, 11th grade

School Climate/Morale

Franklin Jumper, 11th grade

Ahfachkee robotics team competes in South Florida FTC League Championship

BY JENNA KOPEC
Special to The Tribune

FORT LAUDERDALE — The Ahfachkee School robotics team competed in the South Florida FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics League Championship on Jan. 13 at St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

Chin-Tang Liu, the team's coach and STEM teacher at Ahfachkee, said he is very proud of the amazing students he has and the progress they've made so quickly. In the two previous tournaments, the team went from placing 28th to fifth.

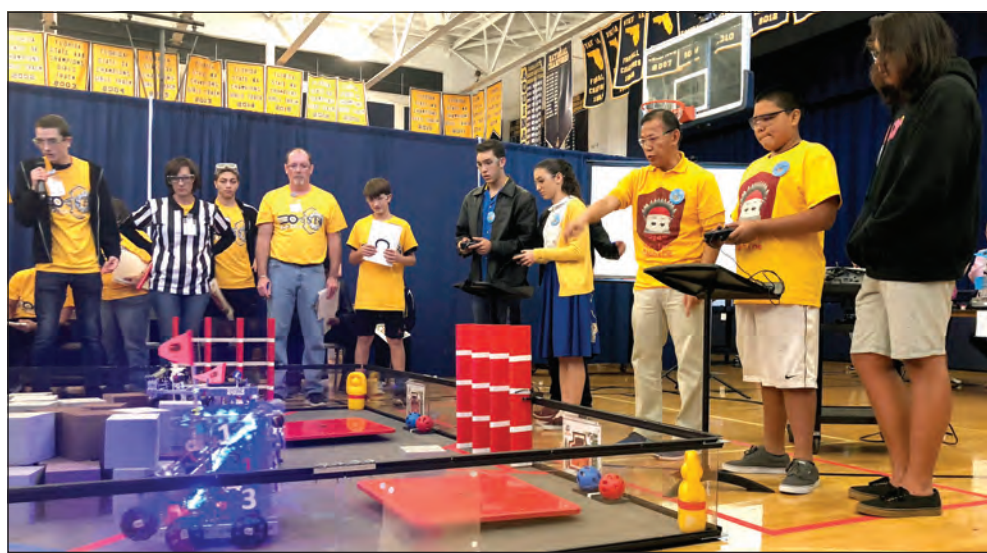
One of those students is ninth-grader Cordell Baxter, who drove the team's robot competitively for the first time at the tournament.

"He was amazing," Liu said. "He was great at handling the pressure."

Baxter, who joined the team because of his interest in science, said he plans to remain a part of the team next year.

"It's fun," Baxter said. "Nobody really gets an opportunity to do something like this."

Philip Baer, assistant principal at



Jenna Kopec

Chin-Tang Liu guides Timothy Tigertail and Cordell Baxter as they compete in their first round.

Ahfachkee, said the tournament has really helped the students come out of their shells.

"The reservation is kind of quiet and

that can be kind of overwhelming at first," he explained. "But after the first tournament we've really seen them open up."

For that reason, Baer hopes that more students will join the program and attend competitions next year. He's also impressed with the students' abilities.

"As long it's [the robot] moving, I would have been good," Baer said. "They're doing well."

The team, a mixture of middle and high school students, competed against several schools, many of which had more experience in the competition. Matches took place in a 12-foot area, where four teams aimed and moved objects and scored points, pairing off into two team alliances. Ahfachkee won their two first rounds in the qualification matches.

"[Next year, I hope] more people sign up so we can grow in our knowledge," said Timothy Tigertail, an eighth-grade student who hopes to become a computer engineer one day.

Liu also looks forward to building the robotics community at Ahfachkee and helping the students learn about what it takes to build these machines. Although he's started building a second robot with students, he said he still plans to build at least one more before entering competition next year.

"We are here to learn and work together," he explained. "It's not about the end score, it's about the experience."



Jenna Kopec

From left to right, Philip Baer, Timothy Tigertail, Johnnie Russell, Kathy Dixon, Michele Horrell, Cordell Baxter, Chin-Tang Liu and Anthony Wells.

City College meets with Hollywood Boys & Girls Club

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

HOLLYWOOD — College preparation is starting early at the Hollywood Boys & Girls Club.

On Jan. 18, representatives from City College visited with about six teenagers from the Boys & Girls Club to kick off a new collaboration. Along with food, music and games, the kickoff involved students filling out surveys about what subjects they are most interested in learning more about at future events. Subjects listed on the survey included technology, communication, music, college readiness, creative writing, health, life skills and an option to suggest an unlisted idea. The information collected from the surveys will be used to create monthly workshops City College will host specially for Tribal Boys & Girls Club teen students. The workshops are not yet set with specific dates, but will likely begin within the next few months. The club also plans to host field trips to City College and bring college students to meet with club members.

Laura Strong, City College director of admissions, said that City College wanted to start this collaboration to be more involved in the community. They chose to reach out to the Boys & Girls Club specifically because there is an annual \$10,000 scholarship program available to student members. To be eligible, Boys & Girls Club students must

be eligible for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship.

In forming the relationship, Strong said, "There's nothing better than being inspired by somebody in person," explaining that she grew up in a small town and wished she had an opportunity like this when she was younger.

"I was able to get an education — I just started late — but it did a lot for me," she said. "My whole goal is to inspire people when they're younger and help them understand that there are a lot of options out there. ..."

Rebecca Bryant, Boys & Girls Club manager, hopes the new collaboration will inspire the teens to take control of their futures and personal decisions.

"It's extremely important to us that the youth take ownership for their own futures and be able to create their own definitions of what success is, with or without college," Bryant wrote in an email to the Tribune.

For more information about City College, visit citycollege.edu. To get involved with a local Tribal Boys and Girls Club, visit bgc.seminoletribe.com.



Li Cohen

Laura Strong, left, helps 14-year-old Griffin Billie come up with ideas about subjects he wants to learn about with the Boys & Girls Club and City College.



Seminole Tribal Court among 'Florida's Other Courts' in new book

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

The verdict is in and it finds that in the case of the lack in understanding legal history in Florida, the people are not guilty. When it comes to learning about the legal system, most people simply learn the traditional and most common court systems in the U.S. While understanding today's most popular courts is essential, there is an array of alternative court systems, as well as a long and turning history of courts, that provide valuable insight into local and national communities.

Robert Jarvis, a law professor at Nova Southeastern University in Davie, recognized this and decided to compile this uncommon information in his new book, "Florida's Other Courts: Unconventional Justice in the Sunshine State." The book is a compilation of articles and research, some written by him, explaining the history of Florida's general jurisdiction courts and the details of special jurisdiction courts in the state, which includes those belonging to the Seminole and Miccosukee tribes.

The Tribune spoke to Jarvis to learn about his inspiration for the new book and understand how he balances a career in higher education with his knack for research and his life outside of the office.

Q: What initially attracted you to creating a book that discusses unknown courts in Florida?

A: I was teaching a course at the law school called American Legal History and in that course students have to write a paper on some little known aspects of American legal history. A student came to me and said they want to do a paper about Miami's black courts. ... Some professor had already published an article all about this court. I couldn't believe it so I

read it and said it was amazing. I wondered if there are other courts in Florida's history that have this kind of pedigree that nobody knew about. At the same time I had been working on an article about courts that had existed in Florida when Florida was a British territory. When we think of Florida's history we think of it as having a Spanish history because the Spaniards were in control of Florida from roughly 1513 up until 1819. During those years there was a 20-year period where we were actually a British territory and very few people know that.

So it occurred to me that I'm working on my article on British law and court and here's an article on this black court in Miami in the 1950s. Is there some way to put these two under the same group because if I publish my article [by itself] then nobody is going to find it. It seemed like there was a connection here between two little-known courts so I started to think and look into where there are other courts. What I found of course was that the Seminoles were talking about setting up a court for the tribe and that led me to find that the Miccosukees have had a court since 1981. ... It all just kind of came together.

...The second half of the book is really current courts that are not part of the federal-state court structure, including the religious courts, military courts and Native American courts. ... I don't think anybody realizes that tribes like the Seminoles and the Miccosukees have their own tribal courts and I think that's going to make this a very eye-opening book.

Q: How do you think these courts remained unknown for so long?

A: It depends on what court we're talking about. When the Spaniards gave up Florida in 1819 they literally packed up everything that was not nailed down and took it back home to Spain. That's the first problem; they didn't leave any records in the United States so you have to go look at the records in Spain. ... You could get into the files in Madrid but the problem was that they were all in Spanish.

When the British were kicked out by the Spaniards, they took all of their records with them to London, so if you want to look at those, you have to go to London. Some of their records are in the United States but they existed for such a short period of time that there weren't a lot of records.

...The Miccosukee courts are a lot like the religious courts in that they don't really write down a lot of information; a lot of it is oral. They're a very private tribe and don't really share information. Whereas the Seminoles are a very open tribe and they interface a lot with non-tribal members. But their court is so new; they didn't set up their court until 2015 and as a result there isn't yet a lot known about the court. When writing about the Seminole court, we got most of our information from the Seminoles through The Tribune because they did a lot of articles - most while study groups were studying whether to have a court and how to set it up - and after the judges were selected they had interviews with the judges and of course when the judges were sworn in, that's where the photo on the front of the book comes from. Unfortunately, though there wasn't a lot

to say about the court [because it was so new when we were writing about it]. If we were to write the book 20 years from now we would have had more to say, but writing it in 2015 all we could say is that the court had been set up. The Seminoles have really modeled their courts after federal and state standard courts. They take the rules and procedures that we use in the regular legal system.

...Our hope was to lift the veil a little bit to point out that there are courts you don't even know about.

Q: What is your editing process?

A: It went really quickly I was pretty surprised. ... At the end of October of 2014 I wrote an email to all of the people who are in the book saying they have either written something that we can edit and turn it into a chapter in the book or there is nothing but you seem like somebody who can write a chapter. By November of 2014 everybody who is in the book said yes. We agreed I would get all the chapters by December 2015 - people had a year to either take what they had done in the past and clean it up or to write from scratch. ... I had all the chapters by April of 2016 which was really very good that within 4 months of the deadline everybody had everything in. I started editing in April of 2016 and really worked hard during that summer so that by October 2016 everything was edited and it went to University Press of Florida.

Q: Did you learn anything new through this process?

A: It was such an eye-opening book. You learn from every book that you do and I've done around two dozen books, either as an author, co-author, editor or contributor, so you always learn. This book was particularly eye-opening though. ... Everything that's in the book - literally every sentence and every paragraph - is like 'wow I never knew that' because why would you?

Q: Why do you think it's important to understand the less common court systems within the state?

A: "The biggest challenge law students have today, like every student, is finding a job after you graduate. The first thing I hope that they get out of this book is that they should explore, not just following the conventional route. ... One of the things that we do in the Native American chapter is we produce the want ad the Seminoles published that said they want lawyers to help the judges because the judges of the Seminole Court aren't lawyers and in order to be able to do their jobs, they created the position of legal advisor. I'm not saying there are a lot of these positions, but it's something to think about.

... The second thing I hope they get out of it is to realize there are a lot of disputes that have real consequences for the people involved that never go to court.

If you're going to be a lawyer you have to be well-read. You never know when you might face a situation you haven't

encountered before that your standard training has not prepared you for. The more you read and the more you know, the more valuable you become. Someone might come into your office with a problem and if you can come up with a knowledgeable solution that doesn't rely on standard processes you might be doing a great service for your client. It's incumbent on lawyers to be reading throughout their career on all sorts of subjects. I hope this book will encourage students that they have to keep learning. ... I think that's true whether you're a journalist, a plumber, a lawyer or a doctor because if you just become a very technical specialist and are very narrowly focused within your field you're wearing blinders and you're not as valuable. Too many students think they can stop learning when they graduate and get their degree, but learning goes on your entire career.

Q: How did you go from a college law professor to a book editor?

A: There are three things any professor has to do; one is teaching. In addition to teaching, you're also expected to do service, which is pretty easy because all schools have committees and other activities. The third thing you have to do is write and publish because if you don't publish you're not going to keep your job, especially if you're on a tenure track. Once you get tenure a big chunk of your future pay raises is based on what you have written. Everybody tells you to write, but nobody tells you what to write. That's both the joy and the horror of being a professor - you can write about whatever interests you but the horror is you sit there and try to figure out a topic to write about. Nobody wants to write stuff that's already been written; people want to read stuff that's new and innovative and different that the world has never seen before. So, I've been writing books as part of being a professor.

This project was very important today. I could have just said that black court thing was interesting and somebody's published an article, but it was very important to me to bring all these writings and essays together in one book so when somebody picks it up it will all be at their fingertips. If you found my British article written as an article and you wondered if there are any other unusual courts in Florida you wouldn't know how to go find articles about them because you wouldn't know what you're looking for.

Q: Do you plan to create more books in the future?

A: Oh yeah. Right now I'm working on a book that's due at the end of this year and another that's due at the end of next year. ... I have all kinds of projects. By the time I retire I will still have more projects that I'll never get to. I am resigned to the fact that I will never write every book that I'd like to write.

Q: How do you manage to juggle two careers with your personal life?

A: That's the problem all professors face - how do you find the time to prepare for class and to



Courtesy photo
Professor Robert Jarvis, J.D., LL.M.

do research and to serve on committees and to have a personal life. ... Some professors are more successful at figuring out work-life issues and finding a good balance. I've never found a good balance. I'm somewhat unusual in that I don't have kids and my wife is an attorney and she works ridiculous amounts of hours. So, I have no work-life balance; I just have work because my wife just has work. I've never really had a problem finding time to get my work done and write books and those types of things because I don't have other demands. Some of my colleagues take my breath away. They're handling spouses, kids and elderly parents. It can be very challenging. Like most professors I get most of my writing done during summer break and the holidays when we don't have class. If you really want to get something done you will find a way to get it done. ... That's the whole thing - if you find something that you love you'll never work a day in your life.

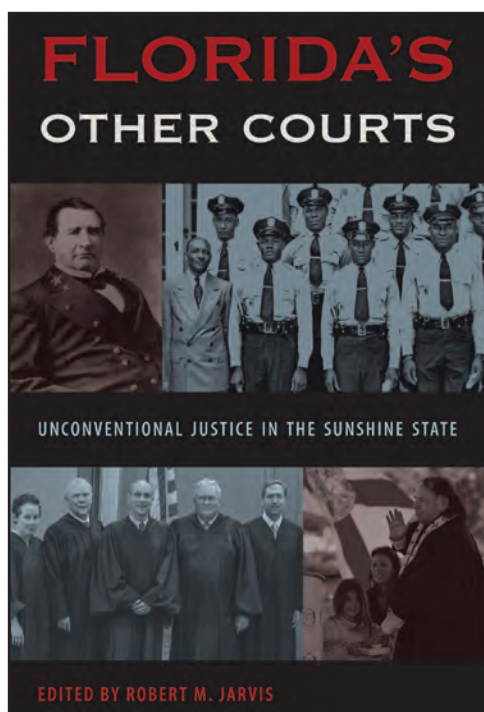
Q: What advice do you have for people who may want to research material for their own books?

A: "You have to write about something that either comes from your life experience or you have to be prepared to spend a lot of time doing a lot of research and talking to a lot of people. I always tell people for their first book, write about something they've experienced. Then early on in the process try to find somebody who has book experience because they will be able to [mentor you] on the book. ... you can't do it completely on your own. You need somebody who can give you guidance.

...I think the most important thing if you want to do a book is it's a long process. You have to be really committed for the long haul. You have to really want it.

The Seminole Tribe created its Tribal Court in 2015, inaugurating the first panel of six justices and judges Feb. 19 that year. The court is a two-tiered court with a trial and appellate court - the trial court having authority over civil disputes and the appellate court having the authority to review final decisions of the trial court.

"Florida's Other Courts" will be available Feb. 27 from University Press of Florida. To learn more about the book or purchase it online, visit upf.com.



"Florida's Other Courts" book cover.

Courtesy photo

PECS January Students of the Month

PECS Elementary

Jeremy Jones
Ciel Cypress
Tate Matthews
Aven Fonseca
Kenyon Billie

Kohlani Rodriguez-Osceola

Dominic Gaucin
Peyton Thornton
Augustana Banda
Meleah Billie

Braylen Thomas

Lliam Berry
Kiera Snell
Ila Trueblood
Clayson Osceola
Hinton 'JB' Anderson

Truley Osceola

Kashyra Urbina
Kalissa Huff
Madison Taylor
Rayden Warrior
Kayden Warrior

PECS Middle

Chayton Billie
Lupe Mora-Lara
Joss Youngblood



Ahfachkee shows pep rally spirit



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee principal Dorothy Cain leads the cheers during the school's pep rally Jan. 9 at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium in Big Cypress. The pep rally featured relay races, a hula hoop contest and a faculty versus students volleyball game. Later in the afternoon the school's basketball teams faced off against Glades Day.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee students cheer on their schoolmates during the school's pep rally.



Kevin Johnson

Mohayla Billie shows her talents during the hula hoop contest by using five hula hoops.

Kevin Johnson
Dr. Chin-Tang Liu controls the ball for the Ahfachkee faculty team during its volleyball game against students. The faculty won in a close match.



PECS students focus on books during Literacy Week

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — Students at Pemaayev Emahaky Charter School began their week Jan. 22 with a visit from the Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Department, who came to school with sirens blaring to kick off Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! in style.

Students welcomed the fire fighters as they dismantled their shiny red fire truck and talked about the importance of reading and gave the students words of encouragement for the week ahead.

"The more you read, the more you learn," Lt. Josh Eveleth said.

A few minutes later the entire student body picked up books and began the first activity, Stop, Drop and Schoolwide Read. The sound of students quietly reading filled every classroom for 15 minutes, which got the week off to a fitting start.

Other Literacy Week activities were a book fair, guest readers on campus daily, field trips to Billy Osceola Library, making and wearing fun reading glasses, Wordy Wednesday during which everyone wore

"wordy" shirts, a screen free day, game day featuring students in their favorite team shirt or hat and a book character parade featuring students dressed up as their favorite characters.

The 10th annual Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! is the Florida Department of Education's statewide program and aims to promote literacy and excellent reading habits. From Jan. 22-26, students in every county participated in fun activities to improve their reading skills.

The theme of Literacy Week was Find Yourself in a Book; schools could compete in the grade-appropriate literacy contest. The elementary school contest was to create a book using a character from an existing book.

Teacher Heather Dobbs' fifth grade class wrote a book titled "SummerBird" in which they took a character from the book "Wonder" by R. J. Palacio. The students chose Summer from the novel and moved her to a summer camp the protagonist Hoktefusvw was attending for the first time. Creek language and Seminole culture were incorporated into the story.

Hoktefusvw, or Bird Girl in English, didn't want to attend the all-girls "diva" camp. She was bullied by her bunkmates

and befriended by Summer. The moral of the story was bullying is a bad thing.

Dobbs' class spent a few weeks collaborating to write the story. After an initial brainstorming session, the students came up with the plot, characters and story arc.

Preslynn Baker, Merlelaysia Billie, TL Gopher, Kalissa Huff, Willo James, Serenity Lara, Bryson Smith and Waylon Yates wrote the book. Each worked on a different section and put it all together cohesively with Dobbs' help. The teacher typed as the students created, served as editor and kept the students focused on the consistency and flow of the story.

"They were so excited," Dobbs said. "They really wanted a Seminole component in their book."

Preslynn had never considered writing a book before this project.

"It was fun because you got to write down what you thought," said the 10-year old. "It was cool to put your ideas in a book. I want it to be published and go in libraries so little kids can read it and know bullying isn't a good thing."

Preslynn believes including the Seminole character in the book was important and that it shows respect to the language and culture. In one of the passages she worked on, Hoktefusvw had to decide whether or not to retaliate when she was pranked.

"If she would have done it back, she would have been like a bully too," Preslynn said. "She realized that she knew how it felt to be bullied and decided to be the bigger person."

TL Gopher summarized the book as a story about who is a real friend. He also enjoyed working together with the rest of the class.

"Sometimes we got in arguments, but Ms. Dobbs helped us get through them," said the 11-year old. "It was a hard and very long process, but once you get it done you feel really accomplished."

Student Candice Melton created the book's cover art. The authors decided that SummerBird was too complicated to be a picture book so they wrote it as a chapter book. Dobbs plans to have it bound and put in the school library.



Beverly Bidney

PECS second-grader Ana Augustana, 6, reads "Biscuit's Big Friend" during Stop, Drop and Schoolwide Read on Jan. 22.



Beverly Bidney

Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue Lt. Josh Eveleth and firefighter Devyn Williams ask PECS students to name their favorite books during the kickoff of Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!



Beverly Bidney

Paraprofessional Jennifer Santiago helps second-grader Ciani Smith, 6, with a few words in "Humphrey's School Fair Surprise", a third-grade level chapter book Ciani is reading.

Ahfachkee recounts Egmont Key history

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — To tourists, Egmont Key is a lovely spit of land in the Gulf of Mexico near Tampa Bay, but to Seminoles it represents the misery endured by ancestors during the Seminole Wars in the mid-1800s.

The island is disappearing due to erosion, but thanks to the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, the story of the atrocities suffered by the Seminoles and the heroism of those who escaped will live on in a book being created by THPO. As well as the history of the island, the book will contain oral histories and student artwork related to Egmont Key.

Maureen Mahoney, THPO archaeologist, and David Scheidecker, THPO field technician, gave a presentation about Egmont Key to students at Ahfachkee Jan. 11 to ensure that legacy will not be forgotten.

The only permanent structure on the island, a lighthouse, was built on the island in 1848 and promptly destroyed by a hurricane. It was rebuilt the following year and still stands today. During the wars, the U.S. Army captured Seminoles and tried to contain them on land near Fort Myers.

"Being a swamp, the soldiers didn't know the area so people escaped all the time," Scheidecker told the students. "Their solution was to turn Egmont Key into a prison camp. It was also referred to as a containment camp and a concentration camp. Hundreds or thousands of people were held there.

We aren't sure what it was like because there are no photos or records available, but we are trying to find some."

Disease and suicide claimed lives on Egmont Key. A story told by a member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma during a recent outing to the island illustrates how desperate the people held there must have been.

"One group didn't want to be taken to Oklahoma so they held hands, walked into the sea and drowned themselves rather than be taken," Scheidecker said.

Another dramatic story with great significance to the Tribe took place when Billy Bowlegs, his warriors and families were captured and taken to the island to await relocation to Oklahoma. The group was loaded onto the Grey Cloud and taken to St. Marks, south of Tallahassee, to gather supplies for the rest of the journey.

Once there, Polly Parker convinced the soldiers to allow her off the ship so she and some others could gather medicine for the journey. She escaped and made her way

400 miles to Okeechobee. Many of her descendants still live in Brighton.

When Tampa Bay was dredged, the sand and soil from rivers that replenished the island were cut off so normal tides washed away the land. Egmont Key today is about one-third the size it was in the 1800s; it is only about three-quarters of a mile long.

"One of the reasons THPO is out there is to try to preserve the story," Scheidecker said. "There are efforts to save the island, but we aren't sure if they are going to work. We want to make sure the story doesn't go away with the island itself. We want people to know what happened there."

Medicine Man Bobby Henry gave an oral history about what he knew about Egmont Key to Mahoney, which she shared with the students. Henry said he believed Parker and some others jumped off the boat to look for medicine in the swamp. Then they took off.

"Young kids today, they don't know nothing about where we lived before," Henry said on the recording. "We need to talk about it."

Ahfachkee parent and storyteller Billy Walker sat in during the THPO presentation and shared his thoughts with the students.

"She was a powerful medicine lady," Walker said. "You need to learn our legends and stories because that's who we are. Hold onto your roots. We are a very special people."



Beverly Bidney

Ahfachkee students listen intently to a THPO presentation about the history of Egmont Key.



Beverly Bidney

THPO Field Technician David Scheidecker makes a presentation to high school students at Ahfachkee Jan. 11.

Boys & Girls Club celebrates Christmas with The Polar Express



Courtesy photo

Boys & Girls Club students happily show off their Polar Express tickets during the holiday party, making sure club facilitators know they all have their magic passes to learn about the spirit of Christmas.



Courtesy photo

Donning their most comfortable pajamas, Boys & Girls Club members sport their new conductor hats given to them as an early Christmas gift from the club.



Courtesy photo

The kids from the Hollywood Boys & Girls Club couldn't help but smile after going on their adventure with the Polar Express in December.

Tampa student inducted into National Honor Society

Eleventh-grade student Victoria Smith, 16, attends Grace Christian School in Tampa and was recently inducted into the National Honor Society. Smith, who has one of the highest GPAs at her school with a 3.92, was inducted into the society for having a high GPA, giving back to the community, demonstrating leadership and having an overall good sense of character.

Smith is the daughter of Tribal member Jahna and Candy Smith, who reside in the Plant City area.



Center for Native American Youth to recognize Champions for Change

FROM PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth (CNAV) will celebrate its sixth cohort of CNAV Champions for Change through a series of recognition events in Washington, D.C. in February. The 2018 Champions include Damien Carlos (Tohono O'odham Nation), Isabel Coronado (Muscogee Creek Nation), Shawna Garza (Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma), EllaMae Looney (Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation), and Anthony Tamez (Wuskwiki Siphik First Nations Cree and Sicangu Lakota).

"The Champions for Change program celebrates extraordinary young leaders from diverse backgrounds, all of whom are uniquely positioned to change their communities in positive ways," said CNAV Founder and former U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan. "We created this program to acknowledge the efforts of young Native leaders, support their growth and inspire other Native youth across the country to take action within their own tribal nations."

Collectively, the 2018 Champions are working to connect Native youth with the healing power of tribal lands, reintegrate formerly incarcerated Native Americans, advocate for Native youth in foster care, revitalize Native languages, and eliminate race-based mascots, among other important change initiatives.

Champions for Change is the Center for Native American Youth's flagship youth leadership initiative. Each year, CNAV selects five up-and-coming Native change makers between the ages of 14 and 23 to serve as Champions. CNAV works closely with each Champion to develop their leadership and advocacy skills through tailored resource sharing, mentorship, skill building and networking opportunities.

"Each Champion is tackling an important issue that affects Native youth throughout the country," said CNAV Executive Director Erik Stegman. "CNAV is privileged to work with such passionate advocates whose stories showcase their resilience and their ability to inspire other young people in Indian Country."

The Champions will share their stories at a panel discussion Feb. 13 in Washington.

Damien Carlos, Tohono O'odham Nation
Age: 19
Hometown: Sells, Ariz.

Damien harnesses the healing effects of ancestral lands to help Native youth battle feelings of isolation and depression. In connecting Native youth to Mother Earth and Tohono O'odham culture, Damien builds relationships with young people that help them reconnect, build confidence and recognize their self-worth. In addition to being a student at Tohono O'odham Community College, Damien is founder of the I'oligam Youth Alliance, an Earth Ambassador for United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. (UNITY), and serves on the Tribal Youth Health Advisory Board for the National Indian Health Board.

"What helped me was learning our ceremonies, traditional stories, and how to work with the land. By learning how to love the desert, we learn to love ourselves and heal."

Isabel Coronado, Muscogee Creek Nation
Age: 21
Hometown: Okmulgee, Okla.

After witnessing the effect of

incarceration on Native communities in her home state, Isabel helped create the American Indian Criminal Justice Navigation Council. AICJNC is an initiative of the Southern Plains Tribal Health Board that trains successfully reintegrated ex-offenders to help others navigate the criminal justice system. The program includes a special support group, where Isabel helps give a voice to children with incarcerated parents.

"My dream is to continue breaking down barriers for those who have made mistakes, bridge gaps in criminal justice and make the changes necessary to help tribal nations combat incarceration."

Shawna Garza, Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
Age: 18
Hometown: Shawnee, Okla.

Shawna grew up in foster care and is working to counter stereotypes of Native American foster youth. By striving to be a mentor and leader in her community, Shawna hopes to inspire other youth to break intergenerational cycles of abuse and addiction. Shawna is a role model to her younger siblings and peers alike, encouraging Native youth to graduate and reach for their dreams.

"I overcame statistics that said I shouldn't graduate, and am doing my best to 'break the cycle' in other ways too. I want Native youth to know that no matter what their past is, they can turn it around and make something of their future."

Anthony Tamez, Wuskwiki Siphik First Nations Cree and Sicangu Lakota
Age: 18
Hometown: Chicago, Ill.

Anthony Tamez challenges misconceptions about urban Native youth. As co-president of Chi-Nations Youth Council in Chicago, Anthony leads Native youth in medicine walks to harvest ancestral plants, participates in demonstrations like the Standing Rock movement, helps young people with regalia making and more. Anthony is also passionate about advocating for the elimination of race-based mascots that promote stereotypes, and works against the ongoing erasure of indigenous people in what is now known as "Chicago".

"A lot of the time, Urban Indians are thought of as absent of culture because we live in concrete jungles surrounded by settler and pop culture. Many believe we don't even have land to practice our traditional harvesting and ceremonies, but the truth is what little access to land we have, we utilize it to persevere and enhance our tribal and inter-tribal cultures."

EllaMae Looney, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Age: 17
Hometown: Pendleton, Ore.

EllaMae advocates for language revitalization among Native youth in Oregon. She's learning all three Native languages spoken in her tribal community — Walla Walla, Nez Perce and Umatilla — and is surveying Native youth to determine how to best deliver language lessons. EllaMae believes that language is a critical aspect of Native American identity.

"Tomorrow is not promised. The Creator can take a fluent speaking elder any day, so I feel it is my duty to step up and save our language. Now is not the time to turn our backs on learning our languages, customs, or culture. If we turn away now, we lose our identity as Natitaytma (Native Americans)."



Arts & Entertainment

Native Reel Cinema Festival heads to Hollywood Hard Rock

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

Preserving culture is only possible when people take the time to understand its origins, respect its traditions and implement it into their lives in the future. The Native Reel Cinema Festival aims to do just that — celebrate the art and culture of Native Americans through film and showcase that celebration to all.

Now in its fourth year, the free festival gathers dozens of people every year to learn about the stories of Native Americans through film. This year, the festival will take place at the Hollywood Hard Rock Hotel and Casino on Feb. 9 and 10 in meeting rooms 1 through 4.

On Feb. 9 from 8 to 10 p.m., spectators can see the award-winning film “Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World,” directed by Catherine Bainbridge. Following the film, producers Stevie Salas and Christina Fon will accompany Black Eyed Peas music artist Taboo in a question-and-answer panel. As an added bonus, guests will also get to see a special performance by Taboo and the

Magnificent 7 — a group of Native American artists from different tribes, including Zack “Doc” Battiast, Spencer Battiast, Emcee One, Drezus, PJ Vegas, SupaMan and Natalia Aka.

The festivities will continue Feb. 10 from 8 to 10 p.m. with a screening of the 1958 film “Wind Across the Everglades.” The festival will also put on a special presentation of the 2015 film “Ronnie Bodean.” Afterwards, there will be another Q&A session and special guests, including Taboo, director and artist Steven Paul Judd (“Ronnie Bodean,” “Search for the World’s Best Indian Taco”) and actors Wes Studi (“Hostiles,” “The Last of the Mohicans,” “Ronnie Bodean”), Martin Sensemeier (“The Magnificent Seven,” “Wind River,” “Westworld”), Michelle Thrush (“Pathfinder,” “Blackstone,” “Dead Man”).

The festival is part of the Tribal Fair and Pow Wow, which starts Feb. 9 with alligator wrestling and a wildlife show at noon and ends the night of Feb. 10 with the Bill Osceola Memorial Rodeo at Hollywood Rodeo Arena.

“Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World” earns plenty of praise

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

HOLLYWOOD — Accolades continue to pile up for the Native American music documentary “Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World.”

The film, which will be shown Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. during the Seminole Tribal Fair and Pow Wow at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, delves into the significant impact indigenous icons Link Wray (Shawnee), Randy Castillo (Apache), Jesse Ed Davis (Comanche/Kiowa) and others have had on the industry and fellow musicians.

The showing will be followed by a Q&A session featuring producer Christina Fon, executive producer Stevie Salas (Apache) and Taboo (Shoshone) from the Black Eyed Peas. Salas and Taboo appear in the film.

Directed by Catherine Bainbridge, the film has had showings throughout North America and overseas, including Austria, Estonia, France, India, Italy, Germany and Sweden. It garnered immediate attention thanks to its world premiere in early 2017 at the Sundance Film Festival, where it earned the Special Jury Award for Masterful Storytelling.

The praise hasn’t ceased for a film that describes itself as “the untold story of the Native American influence on blues, jazz, folk, rock, pop and heavy metal.”

The “Rumble” mantelshelf includes Boulder International Film Festival’s Best Music Documentary, Hot Docs’ Rogers Audience Award for Best Canadian Documentary and Favorite Feature, and the Audience Award from the Biografilm Festival. It was also nominated for a Critics Choice Documentary Awards for best music documentary and in the Music Movies Competition at the Cleveland International Film Festival. The film even made it onto an early Academy Award documentary list for potential nominations.

“Rumble” has also received a healthy heap of positive reviews, including from The New York Times.

“If you couldn’t name two Native American musicians at the beginning of the documentary, you’ll remember at least a half-dozen after the end. And it’s a good bet you’ll be searching for their albums, too,” Times critic Ken Jaworowski wrote last summer.

From Wray’s instrumental guitar smash

hit titled “Rumble” in 1958 emerged a sound that brought to music a new level of being cool, looking cool and sounding cool.

“‘Rumble’ had the power to help me say ... ‘I’m going to be a musician,’” Iggy Pop said in the documentary.

The film’s profiles include the triumphs and tragedies of Randy Castillo — drummer for Ozzy Osbourne and later for Motley Crue — and Jesse Ed Davis, who, among many accomplishments, played guitar in Jackson Browne’s hit “Doctor My Eyes.”

“Rumble,” the film, pays homage to Natives throughout the musical spectrum, including the jazz singing of Mildred Bailey (Coeur d’Alene), whose music from the 1930s and 40s caught the attention of a young Tony Bennett.

“From 16 to 20 years old, that’s the only thing I listened to was Mildred Bailey. I just said I wanted to learn to sing like her,” Tony Bennett said in the film.

Dozens of other stars appear in interviews, including Jackson Browne, Buddy Guy, Martin Scorsese, Steven Tyler and Steven Van Zandt.

The Seminole Tribe and Hard Rock helped “Rumble” become a reality, something the producers gratefully acknowledged during a Q&A session with audience members after the documentary opened the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival in November at Hard Rock Live.

“A huge thank you to the Seminole Tribe of Florida and [Hollywood Councilman] Chris Osceola and everyone at Hard Rock because we couldn’t have finished the film without them. They were amazing supporters,” Fon told the audience at the November showing.

The combination of Native Americans and rock ‘n roll proved to be a natural fit for the Tribe and Hard Rock to get involved, which occurred toward the later stages of production.

“It only makes sense that if you’re talking about Indians who rock the world,



After the showing of “Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World” on opening night of the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, a Q&A session is held with, from left, guitarist and executive producer Stevie Salas, actor Graham Greene, producer Christina Fon and Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola on Nov. 3, 2017 at Hard Rock Live in Hollywood.

we’ve got to be in there, the Seminole Tribe of Florida has to be in there,” Councilman Osceola said at the showing.

Councilman Osceola said Hard Rock International Chairman and Seminole Gaming CEO Jim Allen was shown the film during the editing phase and wanted to get on board.

“How can we be a part of this and how can we help make sure this thing gets across the finish line,” Councilman Osceola said.

“It was a crucial time for us because we needed a little help, but I want to make it a point that we did not go like a lot of people with our hand out; we tried to make this a legitimate thing and we’re very thankful,” Salas said.

Salas was a driving force behind the creation of the film, which took four years to complete. He didn’t grow up on a reservation, but rather in San Diego where he rode surfboards and played guitars. As his own music career began to flourish — including playing on tour alongside Rod Stewart — Salas said he became more aware about the pivotal role his fellow Native Americans played in music and their impact on non-Native stars. He wanted the rest of the world to know, too.

“We never knew Native American people had a place at the table for the development of the music that we all listen to this day,” Salas said.

Check out the latest books in Brighton

BY LI COHEN
Copy Editor

It’s time to check out the latest additions to the Billy Osceola Memorial Library in Brighton. Every month, the library adds a new assortment of books to their collection. All Tribal members, descendants, community members and employees are encouraged to discover the latest stories and take a journey into the world of literature. Below is the list of the books and their official summaries as published by the authors.

“Warcross” by Marie Lu

“For the millions who log in every day, Warcross isn’t just a game—it’s a way of life. The obsession started ten years ago and its fan base now spans the globe, some eager to escape from reality and others hoping to make a profit. Struggling to make ends meet, teenage hacker Emika Chen works as a bounty hunter, tracking down Warcross players who bet on the game illegally. But the bounty-hunting world is a competitive one, and survival has not been easy. To make some quick cash, Emika takes a risk and hacks into the opening game of the international Warcross Championships—only to accidentally glitch herself into the action and become an overnight sensation.

Convinced she’s going to be arrested, Emika is shocked when instead she gets a call from the game’s creator, the elusive young billionaire Hideo Tanaka, with an irresistible offer. He needs a spy on the inside of this year’s tournament in order to uncover a security problem . . . and he wants Emika for the job. With no time to lose, Emika’s whisked off to Tokyo and thrust into a world of fame and fortune that she’s only dreamed of. But soon her investigation uncovers a sinister plot, with major consequences for the entire Warcross empire.”

“Ember Falls” by S.D. Smith

“The stage is set. It’s war. Morbin Blackhawk, slaver and tyrant, threatens to destroy the rabbit resistance forever. Heather and Picket are two young rabbits improbably thrust into pivotal roles. The fragile alliance forged around the young heir seems certain to fail. Can Heather and Picket help rescue the cause from a certain, sudden defeat?”

“Democracy: Stories from the Long Road to Freedom” by Condoleezza Rice

“From the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union to the ongoing struggle for human rights in the Middle East, Condoleezza Rice has served on the front lines of history. As a child, she was an eyewitness to a third awakening of freedom, when her hometown of Birmingham, Alabama, became the epicenter of the civil rights movement for black Americans.

In this book, Rice explains what these epochal events teach us about democracy. At a time when people around the world are wondering whether democracy is in decline, Rice shares insights from her experiences as a policymaker, scholar, and citizen, in order to put democracy’s challenges into perspective.

When the United States was founded, it was the only attempt at self-government in the world. Today more than half of all countries qualify as democracies, and in the long run that number will continue to grow. Yet nothing worthwhile ever comes easily. Using America’s long struggle as a template, Rice draws lessons for democracy around the world — from Russia, Poland, and Ukraine, to Kenya, Colombia, and the Middle East. She finds that no transitions to democracy are the same because every country starts in a different place. Pathways diverge and sometimes circle backward. Time frames for success vary dramatically, and countries often suffer false starts before getting it right. But, Rice argues, that does not mean they should not try. While the ideal conditions for democracy are well known in academia, they never exist in the real world. The question is not how to create perfect circumstances but how to move forward under difficult ones.”

“The Purling of Prince Oleomargarine” by Mark Twain and Philip Stead

“In a hotel in Paris one evening in 1879, Mark Twain sat with his young daughters, who begged their father for a story. Twain began telling them the tale of Johnny, a poor boy in possession of some magical seeds. Later, Twain would jot down some rough notes about the story, but the tale was left unfinished . . . until now.

Plucked from the Mark Twain archive at the University of California at Berkeley, Twain’s notes now form the foundation of a fairy tale picked up over a century later. With only Twain’s fragmentary script and a story

that stops partway as his guide, author Philip Stead has written a tale that imagines what might have been if Twain had fully realized this work.

Johnny, forlorn and alone except for his pet chicken, meets a kind woman who gives him seeds that change his fortune, allowing him to speak with animals and sending him on a quest to rescue a stolen prince. In the face of a bullying tyrant king, Johnny and his animal friends come to understand that generosity, empathy, and quiet courage are gifts more precious in this world than power and gold.”

“Robinson” by Peter Sis

“A boy who loves adventure. A mysterious ocean journey. A remote island wilderness.

Discover what surprises await in this beautiful dreamlike exploration of courage and loneliness, independence and friendship. Lush, transporting paintings float from reality to fantasy and back again as Peter Sis blends a true story from his childhood with the fictional adventure of Robinson Crusoe to create a moving, magical picture book that readers will want to return to again and again.”

“Cast No Shadow” by Nick Tapalansky

“Greg has lived in Lancaster his whole life. The town’s always had its quirks, and being born without a shadow means he’s counted among them. When Greg discovers an old mansion in the woods just outside of town, he didn’t expect to meet a smart, beautiful, funny, and...very dead teenage girl named Eleanor.

Yeah. He’s in love with a ghost. And before he knows what’s happening, Greg finds himself at the wrong end of a history lesson when the town’s past, and his own, threaten to pull the two of them apart permanently.”

“Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker” by Shelley Johannes

“Beatrice does her best thinking upside down. Hanging from trees by her knees, doing handstands . . . for Beatrice Zinker, upside down works every time. She was definitely upside down when she and her best friend, Lenny, agreed to wear matching ninja suits on the first day of third grade. But when Beatrice shows up at school dressed in

black, Lenny arrives with a cool new outfit and a cool new friend. Even worse, she seems to have forgotten all about the top-secret operation they planned!

Can Beatrice use her topsy-turvy way of thinking to save the mission, mend their friendship, and flip things sunny-side up?”

“Spinning” by Tillie Walden

“It was the same every morning. Wake up, grab the ice skates, and head to the rink while the world was still dark.

Weekends were spent in glitter and tights at competitions. Perform. Smile. And do it again. She was good. She won. And she hated it.

For ten years, figure skating was Tillie Walden’s life. She woke before dawn for morning lessons, went straight to group practice after school, and spent weekends competing at ice rinks across the state. Skating was a central piece of her identity, her safe haven from the stress of school, bullies, and family. But as she switched schools, got into art, and fell in love with her first girlfriend, she began to question how the close-minded world of figure skating fit in with the rest of her life, and whether all the work was worth it given the reality: that she, and her friends on the team, were nowhere close to Olympic hopefuls. The more Tillie thought about it, the more Tillie realized she’d outgrown her passion—and she finally needed to find her own voice.”

“Mrs. Sherlock Holmes” by Brad Ricca

“Mrs. Sherlock Holmes” tells the true story of Grace Humiston, the lawyer, detective, and first woman U.S. District Attorney who turned her back on New York society life to become one of the nation’s greatest crime-fighters during an era when women were still not allowed to vote. After agreeing to take the sensational case of missing eighteen-year-old Ruth Cruger, Grace and her partner, the hard-boiled detective Julius J. Kron, navigated a dangerous web of secret boyfriends, two-faced cops, underground tunnels, rumors of white slavery, and a mysterious pale man, in a desperate race against time.

“Bolshoi Confidential” by Simon Morrison

On a freezing night in January 2013, a hooded assailant hurled acid in the face of the artistic director of the Bolshoi Ballet. The crime, organized by a lead soloist, dragged

one of Russia’s most illustrious institutions into scandal. The Bolshoi Theater had been a crown jewel during the reign of the tsars and an emblem of Soviet power throughout the twentieth century. Under Putin in the twenty-first century, it has been called on to preserve a priceless artistic legacy and mirror Russia’s neo-imperial ambitions. The attack and its torrid aftermath underscored the importance of the Bolshoi to the art of ballet, to Russia, and to the world.

The acid attack resonated far beyond the world of ballet, both into Russia’s political infrastructure and, as renowned musicologist Simon Morrison shows in his tour-de-force account, the very core of the Bolshoi’s unparalleled history. With exclusive access to state archives and private sources, Morrison sweeps us through the history of the storied ballet, describing the careers of those onstage as well as off, tracing the political ties that bind the institution to the varying Russian regimes, and detailing the birth of some of the best-loved ballets in the repertoire.

From its disreputable beginnings in 1776 at the hand of a Faustian charlatan, the Bolshoi became a point of pride for the tsarist empire after the defeat of Napoleon in 1812. After the revolution, Moscow was transformed from a merchant town to a global capital, its theater becoming a key site of power. Meetings of the Communist Party were hosted at the Bolshoi, and the Soviet Union was signed into existence on its stage. During the Soviet years, artists struggled with corrosive censorship, while ballet joined chess tournaments and space exploration as points of national pride and Cold War contest. Recently, a \$680 million restoration has restored the Bolshoi to its former glory, even as prized talent has departed.”

“That is My Dream!” by Langston Hughes

Langston Hughes’s inspiring and timeless message of pride, joy, and the dream of a better life is brilliantly and beautifully interpreted in Daniel Miyares’s gorgeous artwork.

Follow one African-American boy through the course of his day as the harsh reality of segregation and racial prejudice comes into vivid focus. But the boy dreams of a different life — one full of freedom, hope, and wild possibility, where he can fling his arms wide in the face of the sun.”

Reservation Economic Summit to be held in Las Vegas

FROM PRESS RELEASE

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development will hold its 32nd annual Reservation Economic Summit (RES) at The Mirage in Las Vegas from March 5-8. RES is the most-attended economic development event in Indian Country, bringing together tribal leaders, entrepreneurs, government officials, suppliers, and many more to do business and learn more about important economic development topics facing businesses and entrepreneurs in Indian Country. Diné Development Corporation is the presenting sponsor of the summit.

“This year, RES will reestablish itself as the National Center’s – and Indian Country’s – premier economic development event,” said Chris James, President and CEO of the National Center. “We are bringing together thousands to network, share their wisdom and knowledge, and learn

about all of the great developments and economic opportunities for Native businesses and entrepreneurs. From March 5th–8th, the Mirage in Las Vegas is where Indian Country comes to do business.”

RES Las Vegas 2018 will feature time-honored programs and events such as the American Indian Artisan Market, as well as new offerings. Highlights of RES include:

- Sessions designed to give Native business owners and entrepreneurs the basics in business.
- A workshop on grant writing to assist businesses on the process of procuring funds from grants and how to navigate the grant procurement process.
- A session on STEM fields and how the American Indian Science and Engineering Society develops culturally relevant STEM programs for Native students and communities.

- A “Buy Native” Procurement and Matchmaking Expo to match Native businesses with corporate and federal procurement opportunities.
 - A panel session with other leading Native organizations to discuss their shared agendas and mutual initiatives to advance the interests of Indian Country.
 - Updates from key Congressional staff so attendees can get the latest information on federal legislation pertinent to Indian Country.
- Throughout the week, the RES trade show will feature stages for exhibitors to feature their products and services to those in attendance. The trade show will also host a marketplace where small businesses can sell their products, from booths purchased at a discounted rate.
- For more information about RES, including how to register, visit res.ncaied.org and view the agenda.

Bill introduced for Native American rancher assistance

FROM PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Sen. John Thune, a Republican from South Dakota, recently introduced the Native American Livestock Assistance Act of 2018 (S. 2316). According to a press release from Thune’s office, as part of his ongoing effort to introduce multiple proposals to be included in the 2018 farm bill, the legislation would provide more disaster assistance for horses and other grazing livestock owned by individual Native Americans. The bill would make horses that are kept

for personal use and are owned by individual Native American tribal members (and who own or lease land that is used to graze or feed those horses) eligible for the Livestock Forage Program and the Livestock Indemnity Program.

According to the release, the bill also provides premium discount assistance for individual Native American ranchers who purchase policies for the Risk Management Agency Pasture, Rangeland Forage crop insurance programs for the first time.

“Since horses are an important part of Native American culture,

tradition and day-to-day life and many Native Americans own grazing livestock, I’ve written this legislation to provide greater assistance to these tribal members when natural disasters occur,” Thune said.

Harold Frazier, chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe said: “The legislation’s one-time increased premium discount assistance for the Pasture, Rangeland and Forage grazing insurance would provide a much-needed incentive to encourage individual Native American ranchers to participate in this helpful insurance program and sustain their grazing livestock operations.”

U.S. Mint \$1 coin depicts sports legend Jim Thorpe

FROM PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON — The United States Mint has announced the reverse (tails) design of the 2018 Native American \$1 coin. The coin’s theme pays homage to sports legend Jim Thorpe.

The 2018 reverse design depicts Thorpe, with the foreground elements highlighting his football and Olympic achievements.

Inscriptions are “JIM THORPE,” “WATHO-HUK” (Thorpe’s Sac and Fox tribe name), “UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,” and “\$1.” United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Michael Gaudioso created the design.

Products containing the 2018 Native American \$1 coin are scheduled to go on sale on Feb. 15.

Authorized by the Public Law 110-

82, the Native American \$1 Coin Program celebrates the important contributions made by Native American tribes and individual Native Americans to the history and development of the United States. The public law mandates that a reverse design, with an image emblematic of one important Native American or Native American contribution, be issued at a rate of once a year.

The obverse (heads) design of the

Native American \$1 coin continues to feature the central figure “Sacagawea” carrying her infant son, Jean Baptiste. Inscriptions are “LIBERTY” and “IN GOD WE TRUST,” while the year, mint mark, and “E PLURIBUS UNUM” are incused on the coin’s edge.

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To the Tribal community at large, the Draft Control Schedule and Priority List for Tribal and BIA Roads are available for review/comments at the office of the Public Works Department of the Seminole Tribe located at 3107 N. State Rd.7 Hollywood FL 33021. Comments must be received no later than February 8, 2018. For additional information, contact Fabian Lefler, P.E. or Emran Rahaman of the Public Works Department at 954-894-1060.

PEOPLE WITH MEDICARE - NEW MEDICARE CARDS

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will mail you a new Medicare card between April 2018 and April 2019. Medicare is removing your Social Security number from your card and is replacing it with a number that is unique to you. Your new Medicare number will contain a combination of numbers and uppercase letters. This change will help protect your identity.

Once you get your new card, safely and securely destroy your old card and start using your new card right away. Protect yourself by making sure no one can get your personal information from your old Medicare card.

Please make sure your mailing address with Medicare is up to date. If your address needs to be corrected, contact Social Security at ssa.gov/myaccount or 1-800-772-1213. TTY users can call 1-800-325-0778. You may also contact one of the Medical Social Workers at the STOF Health Clinic for assistance in updating your address.

Beware of anyone who contacts you about your new Medicare card. CMS will never ask you to give them personal or private information to get your new Medicare number and card.

Below is a sample of the new Medicare card:



HAVE YOU SEEN US ONLINE?



Sports



Motlow wraps up FSU career at Independence Bowl

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

SHREVEPORT, La. — Justin Motlow cherished every part of the final moments in his last football game as a Florida State Seminole.

After the Seminoles walloped Southern Miss, 42-13, in the Independence Bowl on Dec. 27, Motlow sported a big smile as he put on a championship hat amid the team's celebration on a chilly and overcast Wednesday afternoon in Shreveport, La. Motlow posed for photos with several teammates, including Brandon Barrett, Jake Duff, Corey Martinez, Jake Rizzo, and then he hopped onto the podium to bask in the trophy presentation by ESPN. On his way off the field for the final time, the first member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida to play football for FSU signed a few autographs for fans.

"It was different just because it was my last time putting on the uniform," Motlow said as he stood near midfield at Independence Stadium after the game. "It felt really surreal having everything finally come together in this final moment. I'm just really proud of my team. All the adversity we fought through the entire season, we finished it the right way. I love everyone on this team and I'm so proud."

FSU's 7-6 season didn't match all the preseason hype placed on the Seminoles as a top contender to win the national championship. The season-ending loss of starting quarterback Deandre Francois on opening night and the controversial departure of coach Jimbo Fisher to Texas A&M on Dec. 1 served as bookends FSU would prefer to forget, but the team rallied to finish with a winning record thanks to four consecutive victories during a stretch that Motlow won't soon forget. In a homecoming



Kevin Johnson

Seminole Tribal member and Florida State wide receiver Justin Motlow, left, battles Southern Mississippi's Cornell Armstrong in the fourth quarter of the Independence Bowl on Dec. 27 in Shreveport, La. FSU won, 42-13, in Motlow's final game as an FSU Seminole.

victory against Delaware State in November, the 5-foot-11, 189-pound wide receiver snagged his first college reception and later scored his first touchdown on a diving catch in the end zone. The following week he saw some brief playing time in a win at rival Florida and then had one catch in a win against Louisiana-Monroe in his final game at Doak Campbell Stadium in Tallahassee.

As for the bowl game, a temperature of 40 degrees at kickoff accompanied by a biting wind forced the 33,601 spectators to bundle up in winter gear. Some players on the sideline — including Motlow — wore their hooded team jackets.

FSU led 7-6 after the first quarter and pulled away with a 23-6 halftime lead and a 33-13 cushion after three quarters.

Motlow entered the game in the fourth. The ball came his way twice on passes from quarterback J.J. Cosentino, but both fell incomplete, including one in the end zone in which Motlow dove but the ball sailed just beyond his outstretched hands. Minus a reception, the play was reminiscent of his 12-yard TD grab a few weeks earlier that carried so much significance — Motlow being the first Seminole tribal member to score for the football Seminoles — it was deemed FSU's Play of the Season by Athlon Sports.

"It was a different play; it looked similar. Almost had another one; it was that close," Motlow said.

Although he didn't make any catches against Southern Miss, Motlow still enjoyed every moment of his final weeks as an FSU player.

"The past couple months have been the highlight of my career here," Motlow said. "It showed how all the hard work paid off for these couple of moments I had out there."



Kevin Johnson

After FSU's rout against Southern Miss in the Independence Bowl, Justin Motlow (86) is joined by teammates Colton Plante (33), Jake Rizzo (14), Brandon Barrett (36) and Gilbert Henric Jr. (28).

Even before the season's first snap, indications pointed to a memorable season for Motlow. His name caught plenty of attention when it appeared in the second slot at one of the wide receiver positions on the team's depth chart for the season opening showdown against Alabama.

Motlow didn't see any playing time in that game against the eventual national champions. In fact, playing time was sparse throughout the four years for the preferred walk-on who arrived at FSU in 2014 after notching more than 1,100 receiving yards in his senior season at Tampa Catholic. Motlow probably could have seen more game action in college had he gone to a less prominent program, but he's glad he chose FSU.

"Not for a second do I regret this decision. It's been one of the most amazing experiences of my life," he said. "I want to thank my parents (Lisa and Clarence) especially. They helped me get here and everybody that made this amazing journey possible, it was awesome."

Although his days of pulling on No. 86 in garnet and gold are over, Motlow wants

to remain a positive influence for younger Seminoles who aspire to excel in athletics.

"I just can't reiterate it enough: Just don't ever think you aren't good enough," he said. "If you have to walk on somewhere or if you don't make it at first, just keep trying. I never thought I would be scoring a touchdown and that happened. I never thought I'd make the travel squad and that happened. I never thought I'd make the depth chart and that happened."

For the season, Motlow appeared in five games with four catches for 27 yards and that one historic touchdown.

Motlow will graduate this spring. He plans to move back to Tampa and would like to work for the Tribe's Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

"I would definitely like to do something with public relations," he said.

Regardless of where his future takes him, FSU football's first Seminole Tribal member has already served the tribe as no one else before him.

"Hopefully I made our tribe proud," he said.



Kevin Johnson

Justin Motlow signs autographs for fans following FSU's victory in the Independence Bowl.



Kevin Johnson

FSU wide receiver Justin Motlow attempts to make a TD catch in the fourth quarter, but the ball was just out of his reach.



Kevin Johnson

Justin Motlow (86) leaves the field for the final time as a Florida State Seminole after the Independence Bowl.



Kevin Johnson

Justin Motlow and Brady Scott (59) enjoy the postgame celebration after FSU's win in the Independence Bowl.

Brawl halts Okeechobee's strong season

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

OKEECHOBEE — Sitting in the bleachers is not the way Alicia Fudge, Julia Smith and Caroline Sweat wanted to spend the evening of Jan. 18.

The Brighton Reservation's trio of guards — all key components to what had been an outstanding season for the Okeechobee High School girls varsity basketball team — watched from the stands as Eau Gallie crushed Okeechobee, 62-20, in a varsity game that essentially featured only one varsity team.

In the wake of a bench-clearing brawl that erupted early in the third quarter of Okeechobee's home game against Pahokee on Jan. 12, Okeechobee's entire varsity squad was immediately suspended pending further review.

"It's devastating," Fudge said as she watched the Eau Gallie game. "We're sitting here watching the JV play our game."

Okeechobee's junior varsity players — including a few players who just a year ago were playing as eighth-graders for Pemaquitt Charter School — were called up to replace the varsity players in an unenviable and difficult task, especially at the Class 7A level. Through no fault of the JV players, the results from the first two games after the fight weren't kind to Okeechobee. Before suffering the lopsided loss to Eau Gallie, the Brahms lost by 11 points to Port St. Lucie, a team Okeechobee defeated by more than 30 points in the teams' first meeting when the Brahms had their regular varsity.

But the regular varsity squad won't be together the rest of the season.

After the initial suspensions were enacted, the Florida High School Athletic Association ruled on the matter and doled out six-week suspensions on Jan. 23 to four Okeechobee players and four Pahokee players. The FHSAA also fined the schools \$850 each, placed the teams on probation and are requiring both squads complete a sportsmanship course.

Okeechobee athletics director Kenny Buckner said the school would appeal the decision. He said Smith and Fudge were among the four Brahms suspended for six weeks from any athletic competition, which means they will miss the postseason that starts Feb. 5 and a portion of the spring sports season. He said Sweat was not among the four OHS players suspended and was eligible to return to the basketball team immediately. Cady Osceola, another OHS varsity player from Brighton, was not suspended. She has been out with a season-ending injury suffered in an earlier game.

As for the fight against Pahokee?

"It was crazy," Smith said. According to several accounts from Okeechobee's side, the fight ignited when a Pahokee player punched Smith in the face after they were battling for a loose ball.

"We were in a full-court press doing our defense," Smith said. "My teammate knocked the ball out and I grabbed it. Me and this girl were fighting over it and I ripped it from her, and I guess she got mad and called me the 'B' word and I got mad. Then she hit me in the face. That's how it all started."

Getting punched in the face didn't sit well with Smith or her teammates, some of whom rushed to Smith's defense.

"I swung back because she hit me first," Smith said. "That's when my friend Alicia started going and then like the whole team started going. I was pretty heated in the moment. If you get hit, of course you're going to swing back. Now we're all upset because we can't play."

"One team, one family," Fudge said about the incident.

Reports of the incident filed with the FHSAA indicated several players were swinging and pulling hair and that the fight escalated beyond the players. In a letter to the FHSAA, Okeechobee Vice Principal Vicki Goggans, who was in attendance as the administrator on duty, wrote that a female — described as not an Okeechobee High student — came out of the crowd, fought with a player on the Pahokee bench and was removed by police and trespassed from attending future events at OHS.

In conclusion, Goggans wrote that "staff, coaches and parents from both teams worked quickly to diffuse the situation" and that Okeechobee personnel assisted Pahokee with helping a student who was having breathing issues calm down.

Okeechobee, which videotapes its games, sent a clip of the incident to the FHSAA.

The game was canceled after the fight. The boys game between the schools was played as scheduled afterwards.

The fight and suspensions couldn't have come at a worse time for Okeechobee, which had a 7-2 overall record and was in second place in its district with a 4-1 mark.

"The stage was set this year for them to be great," Okeechobee coach Joe Smith said. "We had a chance to host districts this year so I jumped on that opportunity because I knew the caliber of varsity basketball team that I had. It's unfortunate everything is panning itself out like this."

Just two days before the brawl Julia Smith led Okeechobee to a 75-50 win at South Fork with a season-high 28-points.

Coach Smith said all of the players from Brighton were having good seasons.

"Julia is very good. Last year she made the team [as a freshman] and was second in scoring with 276 points," he said. "Alicia leads the district in assists. She's my court general, my point guard. She runs my offense and my defense. Caroline is our 3-point shooter. She leads the district in free-throw percentage."

Okeechobee figured it could make a strong run at the district title, but 48 seconds — which is how long the players said the fight lasted — have all but dashed those hopes.

"We really wanted to play in district [playoffs] because we thought we had a pretty good chance," Julia Smith said.

Smith, Fudge and Sweat — all of whom were averaging about 10 points per game — won't have to wait until next season to play together again. They'll be on the same Seminole team at the Native American Youth Organization's tournament on Easter weekend in North Carolina.

"We're going to have a good team," said Sweat, who scored 18 points in the first game against Port St. Lucie and 16 points against South Fork.

Meanwhile, Okeechobee's JV players — including Brighton's Caylie Huff, Haylie Huff and Luzana Venzor — are accumulating plenty of valuable varsity playing time, but in tough conditions and far sooner than anyone expected.

"They're young," coach Smith said. "Half of those girls were playing middle school basketball last year, like Caylie Huff and Hailey Huff. They were playing for Pemaquitt, a middle school, and now you're starting point guard for a high school, Class 7A, ranked second in the district, basketball team. Those girls are getting varsity experience early. I'm not asking you to be perfect; I'm just asking you to give me all you got. If you give me all you got, I'm satisfied with that."



Okeechobee guard Luzana Venzor, left, and forward Haylie Huff, were among the Okeechobee JV players called up to replace varsity players following a brawl during a game.



The South Florida Young Bulls show the prizes they received for winning the NASA men's championship Jan. 20 at the Seneca Nation of Indians' Cattaraugus Community Center in Irving, N.Y. From left, Ty Pierce, Derren Brooks, Trewston Pierce, Eric Sanders Jr., Jess Heart and Billy Brooks.

Seminole teams win NASA championships

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

The path to winning the NASA men's basketball championship was filled with challenges for the South Florida Young Bulls even before they stepped onto the court at the Seneca Nation of Indians' Cattaraugus Community Center.

Some members of the team, whose six-man roster included Seminoles' Trewston Pierce, Ty Pierce and Eric Sanders Jr., drove 19 hours from Florida, including through a snow storm, to the Seneca territory just a few miles from the shore of Lake Erie in upstate New York.

They made the adventurous trek worthwhile by going undefeated, including a 102-95 triumph against a team from Mississippi in the championship game Jan. 20 in what turned out to be a very successful tournament for the Seminole Tribe. On the women's side, the Lady Seminoles, loaded with Seminole players, won the women's championship. They also didn't lose a game.

The Young Bulls were only formed as

a team close to the registration deadline. Sanders, who organized the squad, said the last minute decision to enter the tournament left them unable to get a flight to New York so driving was the only other option.

"We had to drive up and we hit a snow storm in West Virginia. I couldn't see anything," said Sanders, who drove in snow for the first time in his life.

The players arrived safely at the tournament and quickly went to work on the court. With the Pierce brothers and Sanders along with the Oglala Sioux's Jess Heart, who lives on the Hollywood Reservation, and the tall Seneca brother-tandem of Billy Brooks and Derren Brooks, the Young Bulls won all five of their games, most by comfortable margins.

"Everybody contributed. It was a team effort," Sanders said.

Heart was the star of the championship game by pouring in 44 points. The Pierces each had 20-plus point games. The Young Bulls built a big lead early and then fought off a comeback.

"It was a good game," Sanders said. "We

jumped out on them at first. They made a run and then we clamped down on defense."

Ty was the team's most consistent scorer while Trewston provided plenty of highlight-reel material with dunks and alley-oops.

Sanders said the team plans on trying to defend their title next year.

"We're looking forward to going to North Carolina," he said.

The Lady Seminoles championship team consisted of Krystle Young, Jewel Buck, Kaitlynn Osceola, Lorri Osceola, Aria Osceola, Kelcie Jumper, Courtney Osceola and Tasha Osceola. The team compiled an unblemished 4-0 record. Aria and Kaitlynn were among the top scorers for a squad that could be a force at NASA for years to come.

"Even though NASA was the first tournament the all-Seminole Tribal member team played together as adults, the performance and chemistry at NASA showed confidence in each other and the outcome was an undefeated record," Courtney Osceola said.



The Lady Seminoles celebrate winning the women's division at NASA on Jan. 20 in Irving, N.Y. From left, Krystle Young, Jewel Buck, Kaitlynn Osceola, Lorri Osceola, Aria Osceola, Kelcie Jumper, Courtney Osceola and Tasha Osceola. The young girl kneeling is Lorri's daughter Kashlynn Cooper.



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Kevin Johnson

NSU's Skyla Osceola in midst of smooth first year

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

DAVIE — Wherever she has played basketball — from Seminole teams to American Heritage School to travel ball — Skyla Osceola has always been regarded as a smart player with exceptional court awareness skills and knowledge.

Now Osceola has carried her hoop intelligence to the next level, which, for the former South Florida prep standout is as a freshman point guard for NCAA Division II Nova Southeastern University in Davie, only five miles from the Hollywood Reservation where she grew up.

The transition from high school ball to the college ranks has been smooth for Osceola.

"She's made a fantastic transition," NSU coach LeAnn Freeland-Curry said after a 66-44 win Jan. 13 at Rick Case Arena upped the Sharks record to 9-6. "She's extremely coachable, very skilled and she's very unselfish. Just an all-around great person and a great teammate."

Osceola's ascension has been rapid, not only on the team but in the conference. As of mid-January, she led the team in assists and was fifth overall in the Sunshine State Conference.

"It's because she has such a high basketball IQ. She always makes the easy pass and we really appreciate that about her in our system because we're very much about keeping it simple, making sure you make an easy pass," Freeland-Curry said.

Not only has Osceola been among the SSC's top dishers of the ball, but she's been doing it with few hiccups. As of Jan. 15, she was No. 1 in the conference in assist-to-turnover ratio, a statistic that serves as evidence that a player is making good decisions with the ball and handles it efficiently.

"She's at 3-to-1. Great point guards have a 3-to-1 assist-to-turnover ratio," Freeland-Curry said.

Osceola said being a distributor is an aspect she takes pride in.

"I just always know where my shooters are," said the 5-foot-8 Osceola. "I like setting them up and I like seeing them score."

I like putting [the ball] in the best position for them. It makes me happy when I see my teammates score."

Osceola made an immediate impact on the Sharks in the team's season opener. Her first collegiate points came on a pair of critical free throws late in a close win against Delta State.

"It was a big moment for us, and that was the first two shots of my college career, but I know God put me in a situation for a reason," Osceola said. "I went up there and I relied on all the training I've been doing my whole entire life, and when it came down to it, I knocked it down and that was it. I was just really prepared for it and I knew I could make it. It was a big opportunity for me and I was glad I was able to finish the job."

Her season highs have come against West Alabama (11 points) and Shaw (nine assists). She's also been a factor on the boards, pulling down seven rebounds in three separate games. Having grown up in a basketball family, being such a well-rounded player seems to come naturally to Osceola.

"She very much thinks the game. Her dad Marl is an amazing coach and very much about the fundamentals. I really appreciate that a lot about her game," said Freeland-Curry, who was familiar with the Osceolas, but had not met them before Skyla came onboard. "We just knew the family because they're such a big name in South Florida in basketball and they're all known for their skill and they've done a great job developing their children to be very skilled players."

Osceola credits her parents with helping her in many ways.

"My dad was always my coach, but my mom (Francine) always helped, too, outside the court with controlling my emotions more and stuff like that. They really took a big part in that," Osceola said. "Without them, I wouldn't be the player I am today."

Playing for the Sharks and being able to attend college close to home has all worked out in the first couple months of the season.

"They're great teammates and they push me every day in practice, so do my coaches. They expect more out of me and I'm still developing into the player that they want me to become. I'm excited. I'm learning a lot of good things here," Osceola said.



Kevin Johnson

Nova Southeastern University freshman Skyla Osceola is introduced in the starting lineup announcements before the Sharks hosted St. Leo on Jan. 13.

Nova Southeastern University point guard Skyla Osceola looks for an open teammate during the Sharks' 64-44 win against St. Leo University on Jan. 13 at Rick Case Arena in Davie.

Kevin Johnson



Skyla Osceola (11) cheers for her teammates during Nova Southeastern's win against St. Leo.

Kevin Johnson

Sunni Bearden rallies Moore Haven to victory

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

NAPLES — For the past four years Sunni Bearden has been one of the most consistent and reliable players on the Moore Haven High School girls basketball team. From scoring to rebounding to passing, the senior guard from the Brighton Reservation has excelled in just about every department.

Yet in the second quarter of the Terriers game Jan. 11 against Everglades City, Bearden found herself riding the bench. Moore Haven coach Al Gary Sr. wasn't thrilled with what he saw in the first quarter as Everglades City hung with the Terriers, so he decided to sit his captain, a move he had never made before.

"I sat Sunni out. I want her to understand that if she listens she can score a lot of points," Gary said.

So while Bearden sat for a big chunk of the second quarter and for the first four minutes of the third quarter, Everglades City gave Moore Haven all it could handle. In fact, by the time Gary sent Bearden back into the game, Moore Haven trailed 21-19.

If the Terriers needed a hero, they found one in Bearden, who dominated the rest of the game. Within minutes of her return, Bearden made two layups and hit a 3-pointer to propel Moore Haven in front, 28-23. The Terriers never trailed again.

In the fourth quarter, Bearden went 4-for-4 from the free throw line, made a steal, and finished off a coast-to-coast layup as Moore Haven emerged with a 54-45 victory.

As she has in six of the team's first nine games, Bearden reached double digits in scoring. She finished with 16 points. For the season, she's averaging 10 points per game.

Softball is Bearden's primary sport, but Gary wants her to succeed regardless of what uniform she is wearing. The move to sit her proved to pay off in a big way.

"I'm just trying to get her ready for the next level, no matter what sport. I'm trying to push her to be a leader," said Gary, whose team improved to 4-5.



Kevin Johnson

Moore Haven senior guard Sunni Bearden, right, battles for a loose ball against Everglades City on Jan. 11 at Palmetto Ridge High School in Naples. Bearden scored 16 points in the Terriers' 55-45 win.



Kevin Johnson

Moore Haven captain Sunni Bearden participates in the pregame captains meeting with coach Al Gary Sr.

Harris, Baker provide strength at both ends of court for Moore Haven



Kevin Johnson

Moore Haven freshman Donovan Harris soars to the basket during the Terriers' 85-41 win against Everglades City on Jan. 11 at Palmetto Ridge High School in Naples. Harris scored 11 points.

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

NAPLES — The Moore Haven High School boys basketball roster underwent some mid-season changes, but the Brighton Reservation's Donovan Harris and Ives Baker have remained consistent contributors for the Terriers, who neared the end of January with a 9-9 record.

Harris, a 6-foot freshman guard, scored 11 points and snagged four rebounds in limited playing time as the Terriers roared past Everglades City, 85-41, on Jan. 11 at Palmetto Ridge High School in Naples.

Harris, who has been used often as the sixth man, reached mid-January averaging 7.5 points per game. He was fourth on the team in rebounds with 41. He drained a season-high 15 points in a win against North Fort Myers on Dec. 27. His scoring cooled off for a few games before he returned to double digits against Everglades City.

Harris has also shined distributing the ball. He dished out a team-high seven assists in a loss against Seacrest Country Day in early December.

Baker, a 6-foot-1 senior forward, hasn't seen as much playing time as Harris, but he's made the most of his opportunities at both ends of the court. Baker had five points and five boards against Everglades City. He scored a season high six points with five rebounds in a win against Lake Placid in

December. He also grabbed four rebounds in a win against South Fort Myers.

Moore Haven's depth and size took a hit with the departure of Harris's older brothers Robert and Richard along with Andrew Fish. All three players from Brighton shifted over to basketball after playing big roles in a full

season of football late into the fall, which included an undefeated regular season and a spirited run two rounds into the playoffs, but they are no longer with the basketball squad.

Moore Haven's regular season ends Feb. 8 at rival Clewiston.



Kevin Johnson

Donovan Harris and Ives Baker listen to coach Matt Zinser during a timeout.

Big day of bowling for Big Cypress kids



Kevin Johnson

Thelma Tigertail winds up to roll the ball down the lane Jan. 27 at Sparez in Davie. Big Cypress Recreation brought about 15 kids to the lanes for a day of bowling, lunch and fun.



Kevin Johnson

Jeremiah Gallagher gets ready to deliver a strike as Big Cypress Recreation's Greg Carter eyes the pins during the department's trip to Davie.



Kevin Johnson

Arthur Jones is all smiles after knocking over pins at Sparez.



Kevin Johnson

Isiac Gallagher uses some help to roll the ball down the lane at Sparez.

Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School 2018 softball schedule

- Feb. 13 vs Treasure Coast High (at Okeechobee High) 6 p.m.
- Feb. 13 at Okeechobee High 8 p.m.
- Feb. 22 home vs LaBelle High 5 p.m.
- Mar. 6 at LaBelle High 5 p.m.
- Mar. 7 at Moore Haven High 4:30 p.m.
- Mar. 20 home vs Okeechobee High 5:30 p.m.
- Mar. 21 home vs Clewiston High 4:30 p.m. (8th grade parent night)
- Mar. 26 at Clewiston High 4:30 p.m.
- Apr. 5 at Oslo Middle 5 p.m.

Indian relay championships to be held in Washington state

PINE RIDGE, S.D. — The Horse Nations Indian Relay Council (HNIRC) governing body of Indian Relay Racing, announced Jan. 14 that Sun Downs Race Track in Kennewick, Wash. will host the Championship of Champions Sept. 21-23. Indian Relay is a centuries old form of horse racing that shows the athleticism of both the rider and his horses. Riding bareback the rider makes three laps around the track, each lap on a different horse showcasing both speed and skill.

For more information visit www.horsenationsrelay.com.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee's Jeremiah Pickup takes a short jump shot as teammate AJ Tigertail (4) battles for position in a game against Everglades City on Jan. 16 at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium in Big Cypress.

Offense shines for Ahfachkee boys basketball

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

BIG CYPRESS — Cicero Osceola didn't have to look at his team's statistics to know that the Ahfachkee High School Warriors boys basketball squad needs to play tougher defense. The remarkable 72 points scored by one player on the other team — Everglades City senior scoring machine Scout Morris — was enough proof for the coach to re-emphasize the importance of playing sound defense.

"We didn't play very good defense. That's what hurt us a lot," Osceola said after his team fell to Everglades City, 95-70, on Jan. 16 at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium. "The kid scored 72 points. For someone to score 72 points on us, we played terrible defense."

The bright side for Ahfachkee was that its offense — led by Jeremiah Pickup with 22 points and Leviticus Buster with 20 points — looked sharp while trying to keep pace with Morris, who did most of his damage with powerful drives to the net.

Ahfachkee trailed 43-36 at halftime and it was only in the fourth quarter that Morris and his teammates pulled away. Being competitive is one step for a rebuilding program like



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee's Timothy Tigertail blocks Everglades City's Tyler Richardson.

Ahfachkee, which fell to 0-3, toward the road to victories.

"But I want to win, too. I want to see these kids win," Osceola said. "I'm happy with the kids. We've got work to do, but I'm happy."

Everglades City coach Welch, who has coached sports at the school since 1979, was thrilled to see her former player Celeste Billie at the game. Welch was also glad to face what she considers one of the stronger Ahfachkee teams she's seen throughout her years.

"That's one of the better teams," Welch said. "They're young, but they're learning and they clicked well together. I was impressed. I like that little team. If I couldn't coach Everglades, I would love to coach that team."

Pickup, Gopher

and Les Gopher (15 points) combined for eight 3-pointers that helped Ahfachkee stay in the game. AJ Tigertail scored 11 points and Timothy Tigertail had two points.

Ahfachkee's balanced scoring attack was fueled early by Buster, who opened the scoring by putting back an offensive rebound. The Warriors made smart, crisp passes in the first half, especially from the hands of Buster and Gopher who quarterbacked an effective transition game.

Early in the second quarter, Everglades City led 21-17, but Ahfachkee rallied with its strongest stretch of the evening thanks to baskets off offensive boards from Pickup and AJ Tigertail and a short jump shot from Timothy Tigertail that brought the loudest cheers of the game.

Pickup's layup down the heart of the paint put Ahfachkee in front 27-26 midway through the second quarter, but it turned out to be the last lead for the Warriors who rode a hard-working and determined Morris to victory. Morris's 72 points, which included 43 in the second



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee's Les Gopher takes a jump shot from the lane against Everglades City.



Kevin Johnson

Ahfachkee's Leviticus Buster prevents Everglades City's Jerry Pablo Ramirez from passing the ball.



Edmonton Oilers/Facebook

Former NHL player Fred Sasakamoose, 84, of the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation in Saskatchewan, drops the ceremonial puck between Chicago's Jonathan Toews and Edmonton's Connor McDavid on Dec. 29 in Edmonton with Indian chiefs from Saskatchewan and northern Alberta in the background.

Honors for indigenous hockey hero Fred Sasakamoose

STAFF REPORT

EDMONTON, Alberta — Fred Sasakamoose, known as the National Hockey League's first indigenous player, was honored prior to the Chicago Blackhawks and Edmonton Oilers game Dec. 29 in Edmonton, Alberta.

In recognition of Sasakamoose receiving the Order of Canada for his contributions to First Nations' sport and culture, the Oilers held a ceremonial puck drop ceremony. Sasakamoose, 84, of the Ahtahkakoop Cree Nation in Saskatchewan, dropped the puck between Chicago's Jonathan Toews and Edmonton's Connor McDavid with Indian chiefs from Saskatchewan and northern Alberta also at center ice.

Created in 1967, the Order of Canada, one of the country's highest civilian honors, recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. Appointments are made by the governor general on the recommendation of the Advisory Council for the Order of Canada.

Sasakamoose played 11 games for Chicago in the 1953-54 season.

The following passage is from the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame, which Sasakamoose was inducted into in 2007:

Following his time in Chicago, Sasakamoose returned home to the Ahtahkakoop First Nation northwest of Prince Albert to help give others the same

opportunities he received. With no athletic equipment, events or facilities in the area, he worked extensively to build and develop minor hockey and other sports in the community. Initially the focus was on long-distance running, but expanded to include hockey, soccer, baseball and track and field. Tournaments, leagues and sports days followed as a result of these initiatives, as well as the Saskatchewan Indian Summer and Winter Games. In addition to the goal of developing champions, Sasakamoose also promoted positive lifestyles and the importance of volunteerism.

In 1962, Sasakamoose focused his efforts on hockey as one of the founding members of the Northern Indian Hockey League. His promotion of the game helped spur the construction of arenas in communities in northern Saskatchewan. More recently, he assisted with the All Nations Hockey School in Saskatoon before establishing the Fred Sasakamoose All Star Hockey Week; a hockey camp that focuses on diversity and integration in addition to hockey skills. Sasakamoose also served on the NHL Diversity Task Force, as well as the Aboriginal Healing Foundation. Besides promoting the game of hockey, he has used the sport as a platform to bring awareness to the plight of Aboriginal Peoples throughout North America. Sasakamoose also became involved in First Nations politics following his hockey career.



Youth Program

- College preparatory and exploratory program for Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian youth (fourteen (14) years of age by July 1, 2018, and entering freshman or sophomore year).
- Classes are held daily, from 9AM – 5PM.
- Evening and weekend activities, e.g., (bowling, mall trips, swimming, sports, skating, and more!)
- Students live on FSU campus, to gain college experience.
- Classes include STEM, Computer Literacy, Writing and Journal, SAT/ACT Prep and more.
- An exploratory Academic and Career Fair featuring college, vocational and occupational careers.

Leadership Academy

- College bound high school students entering as juniors, seniors, or recent graduates (GED accepted).
- College bound activities may be separate from the youth program participants.
- Experiential on-campus visits to FSU, TCC and FAMU touring different programs and career centers.

Dates: July 21, 2018 – August 4, 2018
Questions: (850) 487-1472
Toll Free: 1 (800) 322-9186

Application Available: February 2018
Turn-in Deadline: TBD

**Those 18 or older and interested in being a Counselor or Training Assistant, please call our office for a separate application. Keep in mind these positions remain with students 24/7 during camp time.



Announcements



Stewart, Lauper to perform at Hard Rock Event Center

FROM PRESS RELEASE

HOLLYWOOD — Music icons Rod Stewart and Cyndi Lauper will perform at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood at the resort's new Hard Rock Event Center on July 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Part of a \$1.5 billion property-wide expansion, the existing Hard Rock Live arena will be razed in March 2018 and replaced with a state-of-the-art 6,500-plus-seat venue in a theater-style configuration, slated to open in 2019. In the interim, a full schedule of concerts, comedy shows and other events will take place in the newly constructed Hard Rock Event Center, adjacent to the existing poker room and meeting rooms.

Sir Rod Stewart is one of the best-selling artists in the history of recorded music with 200 million records sold worldwide. He's earned countless honors including two inductions into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, the ASCAP Founders Award for songwriting, New York Times bestselling author, Grammy Living Legend, and in 2016 he officially became "Sir Rod Stewart" after being knighted by Britain's Prince William at Buckingham Palace for his services to music and charity.

Cyndi Lauper is a Grammy, Emmy, and Tony Award-winning artist who has global record sales in excess of 50 million albums. With her first album, "She's So Unusual," Lauper won a Grammy for Best New Artist and became the first female in history to have four top-five singles from a debut album. With a string of unique follow-ups, Lauper has continued to push her own boundaries, exploring electronic dance music, American standards, the Memphis blues and, with her latest studio album "Detour," country classics from the '40s, '50s, and '60s which features collaborations with some of country music's most-celebrated artists.

Tickets cost \$355, \$230, \$155 and \$95. All seats are reserved and available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at www.myhrl.com, www.ticketmaster.com or charge by phone: 1-800-745-3000.



Rod Stewart

Kuro to host Friends of James Beard benefit dinner

FROM PRESS RELEASE

HOLLYWOOD — Kuro at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood will host its third annual Friends of James Beard Benefit dinner March 2. The collaboration dinner kicks off at 7:30 p.m. and will feature a five-course dinner prepared by Seminole Hard Rock and Kuro's Creative Culinary Director Chef Alex Q. Becker and James Beard Award winner Chef Stephanie Izard of Chicago's Girl & the Goat; Little Goat; and Duck Duck Goat. Ted Allen, a multiple James Beard Award winner, cookbook author and host of Food Network's "Chopped" and "Chopped Junior," will emcee the event. Following the dinner, guests will have the opportunity to participate in a Q&A with chefs Becker and Izard on the evening's culinary offerings.

Izard was the 2013 James Beard Award winner for "Best Chef: Great Lakes." She is the executive chef/partner of three critically acclaimed restaurants in Chicago. Most recently, Izard competed in the Food Network's "Iron Chef Gauntlet," where she defeated Chefs Bobby Flay, Michael Symon and Masaharu Morimoto for the title of Iron Chef.

Proceeds from the dinner will benefit the James Beard Foundation's National Scholars program. Launched in 2016, the program provides high-impact scholarships of \$20,000 to culinary-focused candidates of exceptional talent.

Tickets are \$175 per person and can be purchased via Ticketmaster.com. Space is limited. For more information on the event, visit: www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com/jbf.



U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, center, approves the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma's fee-to-trust application for a gaming facility Jan. 19 with Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin and Shawnee Chief Ron Sparkman.

Shawnee Tribe's fee-to-trust application for gaming facility approved

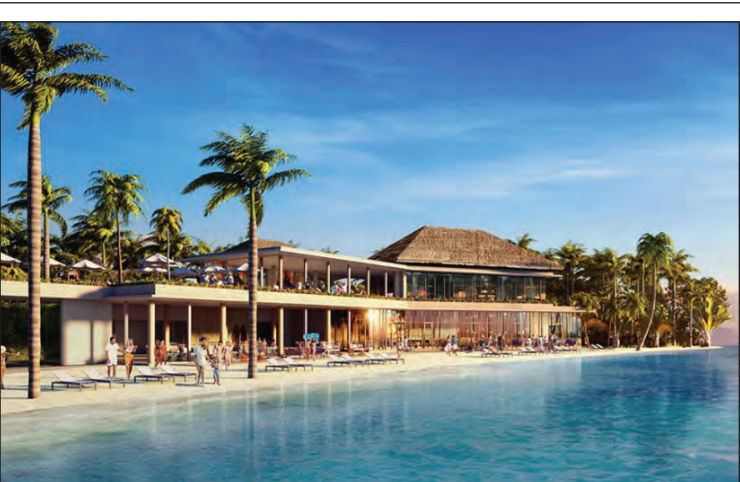
FROM PRESS RELEASE

OKLAHOMA CITY — U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke approved the Shawnee Tribe's application to put 103 acres of land in Guymon, Texas County, Oklahoma, into federal Indian trust status for gaming during a signing ceremony Jan. 19. The Shawnee Tribe proposes to develop a 42,309-square foot gaming facility on the site comprised of a 20,206-square foot gaming floor, a restaurant, retail space, and office spaces for the Shawnee Tribe Gaming Commission. The federally recognized tribe, landless for more than 160 years, is headquartered in Miami, Okla., and has approximately 2,500 members.

"One of my top priorities for the Department of the Interior is to make tribal sovereignty meaningful, and that includes providing the basis for tribes to build and strengthen their economies," Zinke said. "This gaming facility will create 200 jobs and bring in \$30 million annually to the Tribe."

"I want to thank Secretary Zinke for approving the Shawnee Tribe's application to put land into trust, which will provide the Shawnee people with their first land base in well over a century," said Shawnee Tribe Chief Ron Sparkman. "We've worked hard to set ourselves on the path to a better future, and this project will help us achieve our goals of tribal self-sufficiency through economic progress."

The Tribe's application was considered under the Secretary's authority to acquire the land in trust for it under the Shawnee Status Act of 2000 through the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934.



Hard Rock to open cafe, hotel in Maldives this fall

FROM PRESS RELEASE

ORLANDO — Hard Rock International plans to expand its portfolio in South Asia this year with Hard Rock Hotel Maldives and Hard Rock Cafe Maldives, slated to open Oct. 1. As part of the Emboodhoo Lagoon project, the first integrated resort destination in the Maldives, the brand is working in collaboration with Thailand-based development company Singha Estate Public Company Limited.

The property will be located within one of the Maldives' largest lagoons, Emboodhoo Falhu, a 20-minute speedboat ride from the airport. The first phase of development consists of a \$311.5 million investment that is expected to stimulate tourism, offering vacationers a

combination of offerings such as hotels, entertainment, retail and fine dining. Hard Rock Hotel Maldives will be one of three resorts included in the development, boasting 178 expansive guestrooms, family suites, beach villas and one and two-bedroom overwater villas.

"Traditionally regarded as being a popular honeymoon destination, we at Hard Rock are excited to work with the Singha Estate team to captivate multi-generational travelers, showcasing that the destination can cater to more than just newlyweds," said Todd Hricko, senior vice president, head of global hotel development for Hard Rock International.

Hard Rock Hotel Maldives will create more than 350 jobs and the entire integrated resort will create an additional 1,250.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ISSUANCE OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL PERMIT

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4

Water Protection Division – Grants and Drinking Water Protection Branch
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Public Notice Number SE18UIC001

UIC Permit Application Number SEI0002

February 1, 2018

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 intends to issue an Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit under the authority of Title 40 the Code of Federal Regulations at (40 C.F.R.) Parts 124, 144, 146, and 147 to:

Seminole Tribe of Florida
Public Works Administration
3107 North State Road 7
Hollywood, Florida 33021

The proposed Class I Nonhazardous Industrial UIC area permit will authorize the construction, operation, plugging and abandonment of the IW-1 disposal well located at the Seminole Tribe of Florida Brighton Water Treatment Plant, Latitude 27° 4' 15" N, and Longitude 81° 03' 34" W.

The permitted well will be used to inject membrane plant concentrate brine produced from the Seminole Tribe of Florida – Brighton Reservation Water Treatment Plant. The injection zone will be in the Oldsmar Formation in the open hole interval from 2,750 to 3,250 feet below land surface.

The proposed UIC permit was drafted in accordance with the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 USC §300f et seq., commonly known as SDWA) and other lawful standards and regulations. The permit limitations and conditions are tentative and open to comment from the public. Persons wishing to comment upon or object to any aspects of the permit issuance are invited to submit same in writing within thirty (30) days of this notice to EPA Region 4– WPD/GWUIC; ATTN: Jason B. Meadows; 61 Forsyth Street SW, 9T25; Atlanta, Georgia, 30303-8960 or via email to R4GWUIC@EPA.GOV. The public notice number and the UIC permit number should be included in the first page of comments. All comments received during the public notice period will be made a part of the administrative record of this permit and will be available for public review.

All comments received within the thirty-day period will be considered in the formulation of the final determination regarding the permit issuance. Any interested person may, within the thirty-day period, request a public hearing, as provided by 40 C.F.R. §124.12. Where there is a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit issuance, the EPA Regional Administrator or her designee will hold a public hearing. Any request for a hearing must be in writing to the address given above and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

After consideration of all timely written comments, the requirements and policies in the SDWA and appropriate regulations, and, if a hearing is held, after consideration of all comments, statements and data presented at the hearing, the EPA Regional Administrator or her designee will make final determinations regarding the permit issuance. If the final determinations are substantially unchanged from the tentative determinations outlined above, the EPA Regional Administrator or her designee will so notify all persons who submitted written comments or participated in the hearing, if any was held. If the final determinations are substantially changed, the EPA Regional Administrator or her designee will issue a public notice indicating the revised determinations.

Within thirty (30) days after the Regional Administrator serves notice of the above final permit decision, any person who filed comments or participated in the public hearing, if any, may petition the Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) to review the permit decision or any condition therein. Any person, who failed to file comments or failed to participate in the public hearing, if any, may petition for administrative review only to the extent of the changes from the draft to the final permit decision. Additional information regarding administrative review is available in 40 C.F.R. §124.19 or by contacting Mr. William Bush of the Office of Regional Counsel at the above address or telephone number (404) 562-9538. Technical information regarding the permit review is available by contacting Mr. Jason B. Meadows of the Ground Water and UIC Section at (404) 562-9399. A petition to the EAB under 40 C.F.R. §124.19 is a prerequisite to the seeking of judicial review of the final permit decision.

The administrative record, including application, statement of basis, draft permit, comments received and additional information on hearing procedures is available by writing to the EPA at the above address, or for review and copying at 61 Forsyth Street SW, 9th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303-8960, between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copies will be provided at a cost of 20 cents per page.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone who may be interested in this matter.

FOR SALE

LAST SIX OF VIN#	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILEAGE/ HRS	CONDITION	STARTING BID PRICE
A33165	2007	FORD F350 PICKUP TRUCK	F350 CREW CAB SUPER DUTY (4WD)	164,426	Poor	\$1,668.00
772143	2007	CLUB CART	XRT-800 (Gas)	N/A	Poor	\$1,059.00
795109	2007	CLUB CART	XRT-800 (Gas)	N/A	Poor	\$999.00

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)



Theodore Nelson Sr.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, SW5813, Indian Child Welfare Consultant-Expert, Board Member National Indian Child Welfare Association, Licensed and Insured, Seminole Health Plan Provider

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