



## Seminole Tribune Voice of the Unconquered

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### **Hard Rock lays** groundwork for Wisconsin casino-resort

**STAFF REPORT** 

Hard Rock International (HRI) has purchased 60-acres of land for \$15 million in Kenosha, Wisconsin, to develop a casinoresort with the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. The Village of Bristol, which owned the land, approved the deal July 19.

The land deal is an initial step in a renewed effort to develop a casino-resort after then-Gov. Scott Walker rejected a similar plan seven years ago.

The Menominee Tribe would own the casino and related facilities and HRI would be the developer and manager of the project, according to a statement from the Menominee Tribe on July 20. Plans for the project include a casino, hotel, music venue and a Hard Rock Cafe, among other amenities.

Menominee Tribe Chairman Ronald J. Corn Sr. said in the statement that the effort is aimed at "providing necessary resources for the ongoing and growing needs of the tribe's members." The Menominee Tribe is ranked as one of the largest and poorest tribes in Wisconsin and regularly reports some of the highest rates of poverty and lowest ratings for health outcomes of any area in the state, the statement said.

In the statement, Corn praised the Seminole Tribe, which owns HRI, for its continued support of the project. He said that adding the Hard Rock brand and HRI's expertise to the project would help "ensure that the Kenosha casino will be an appealing destination for people from throughout the Midwest.'

## BC, Brighton ship thousands of calves

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Despite a stubborn heat wave, the cow pens on the Brighton and Big Cypress reservations were busy from July 11-21 as thousands of calves were shipped out to feedlots around the country. The annual event is the culmination of the year cattle owners spent caring for calves.

It was a productive year for the 60 owners who shipped the calves. They will spend the next few months eating and when they reach about 1,350 pounds, they will be sent to market.

Cattlewoman Mary Jene Koenes is a third generation cattle owner. Her grandfather Albert Billie was one of the original Seminole cattle owners and her mother Mary Billie Waggerby also owned cattle. She has been in the tribe's cattle program for 35 years.

"I was born into cattle ranching and have been around them all my life," Koenes said. "I love being around cattle and enjoy the lifestyle of being a rancher."

Her herd has about 170 head and she shipped 55 calves. This year, she lost six calves and cows during birthing and had to bottle feed a couple of calves. Predators are ever-present and she lost one to coyotes. For the last eight years, she's had donkeys in the pastures which has helped deter most

"We are a cow-calf operation," Koenes said. "We are the start of everybody buying their meat at the grocery store. A lot of kids don't even know where their meat comes from. I like teaching them. The Seminoles have always been around cattle, they picked up what was left by the Spaniards and have been raising them ever since."

The result of the year was better than ♦ See WISCONSIN on page 7A Koenes thought it would be. The drought



After being sorted into groups, calves wait in the shade of massive old live oak trees at the Big Cypress cow pens.

in the spring and winter was a long one, followed by too much rain. The rains brought the mosquitos, which caused the cows to walk around a lot, which led to weight loss.

"Overall, we did really well," Koenes I'm glad of that, too." said. "I'm very thankful the Lord blessed us very well this year. I didn't hear of any injuries with our cowboys and cow crew and

♦ See SHIPPING on page 6A

## Miss Indian World receives big Seminole welcome

Tashina Red Hawk, a national 4-H spokesperson, visits reservations

> BY BEVERLY BIDNEY Staff Reporter

In a change of scenery from her Sicangu Lakota Reservation in South Dakota, Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk experienced the Seminole Tribe's culture and traditions and Florida's summer humidity during a trip July 20-23

Red Hawk visited the Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood and Immokalee reservations and made it a point to spend time with tribal youth.

"The youth are so lively, they're great," said Red Hawk, 18, a member of the Sicangu Lakota Oyate, or Rosebud Sioux Tribe. "They are sacred and can learn so much in seconds. Teaching them their culture is

really important." Before she was crowned Miss Indian World in April, Red Hawk already had plenty of other accomplishments. She was the South Dakota high school rodeo ambassador and during the pandemic she opened her own business, a coffee shop, on the Sicangu Lakota Reservation, also known as the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. She is serving as the national 4-H agriculture spokesperson and is the national 4-H Youth

she travels the country and the world. Red Hawk's visit to the Big Cypress Reservation included a stop at the culture center where she and her mother, Noella Red Hawk, who accompanied her on the trip, ate fry bread and drank sofkee with Tammy Billie and Tania Cypress.

The women talked about which traditional foods are important to their tribes. Billie mentioned garfish, deer meat, turtle soup and mudfish. Red Hawk said it was culturally important that she learn to hunt, butcher and cook deer. She also said her tribe eats buffalo, but not pork.

Many tribes have a form of fry bread, but Red Hawk had never had anything quite like the delicate fry bread Billie made for the visit. Sofkee was served and both mother and daughter were impressed with the traditional

"We have something like this made with corn, it is our ceremonial food," Red Hawk said. "We use it very sparingly, only in ceremonies.'

"Life does not get any better than this," her mother said. "This is sacred food. I feel greatly honored and loved."

The next stop on the tour was the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, where both Red Hawk women delighted in the lushness of the landscape.

◆ See MIW on page 4A



Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk, center, and 4-H coordinator Kimberly Clement, center back, meet with kids in the gymnasium on the Immokalee

## Tribe celebrates its Hollywood class of 2022

BY DAMON SCOTT Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe held a celebration of its Hollywoodarea high school graduates and those who have received advanced degrees at an event July 26 at the Seminole Estates on the Hollywood Reservation.

Hollywood and Broward County graduates and their families enjoyed a catered meal before graduates took to the stage to be recognized by Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola. They received a slew of graduation gifts on the way back to their seats.

Chef Stephanie "Pyet" DeSpain (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas) was the

guest speaker who talked about her life and career and sought to motivate the students to create a successful future for themselves and their communities

"I had to crawl my way up the ladder not only as a chef but also as a female and as an Indigenous woman," DeSpain said.

DeSpain, 31, was the winner of the first season of Gordon Ramsay's "Next Level Chef" TV series. DeSpain is well known for creating Indigenous fusion cuisine, which combines the food of her Native American and Mexican heritages.

'You have resources in this room that can take you however far you want to go in life. That decision is up to you," DeSpain said. "Be proud of what you're passionate about. Be proud about who you are and about

your culture and upbringing and make sure that you never dim your light for anyone."

The event was emceed by Councilman Osceola and organized by the Hollywood Council Office.

'One thing I can't stress enough to you is the opportunity that you have in front of you," Councilman Osceola said to the graduates. "You have your parents who are going to support you along the way, but you also have the Seminole Tribe of Florida that's going to support you in your decisions. We're going to give you all the resources you need to make your dreams come true. Find what your passion is and get after it."

♦ See GRADS on page 3A



**Damon Scott** 

Chef Stephanie "Pyet" DeSpain talked to graduates about her life and career.

## Editorial

#### Our ancestors survived against all odds, we owe it to them to vote

#### Deb Haaland

any people don't know that Native Americans didn't have the right to vote in federal elections until we were granted U.S. citizenship in 1924 and that it wasn't until the 1960s that the last state granted us the right to vote in state elections. This is the sad and ironic truth — even though Indigenous communities in North America are some of the oldest democracies in the world.

Participating in governing is a time honored and sacred tradition in our Indigenous communities. Our ancestors and relatives survived against seemingly insurmountable odds, which is why we owe it to them to make our voices heard at the

This is why I became an organizer in the first place. I knew that generations of laws restricting the right to vote for Native people impacted our participation in elections, and that it would take a concerted effort to register voters; ensure they had the information about voting dates, locations and hours; and personal outreach to increase voter participation.

With my voting rights champion, WWII veteran Miguel Trujillo in my mind, I would lace up my sneakers, drive out to remote communities in New Mexico, and go door to door. I can't count how many times I knocked on someone's door and heard that it was the first time anyone had ever reached out to them to register to vote. Since my organizing days in the early 2000s, we've made strides to increase the Native vote. But as we fast forward to today, we face the same battles.

Recent attempts such as closing certain polling locations, limiting early voting, changing polling location hours, and even drawing maps to hush the voices of specific populations are consistent attempts to restrict voting access.

With President Biden's support, we are working with states to expand access to voting at Department of the Interior-operated post-secondary Tribal institutions. In May, I was proud to announce that Haskell Indian Nations University (Haskell) in Kansas and the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) in New Mexico will be

Globe and Mail (Canada)

rior to this month, the head of

things don't happen often, so it is remarkable

that Pope Francis, hobbled by age, made the

primarily came to apologize to the Indigenous

peoples of Canada for the significant role the

church played in the operation of residential

schools, and the mental, physical and sexual

met with mixed reactions. Some Indigenous

people greeted it warmly and said they felt it

was sincere. Some went as far as to say that it

opened the door to forgiveness on their part,

and to the possibility of personally moving

the former senator and member of the Peguis

First Nation in Manitoba who chaired the

Truth and Reconciliation Commission, says

the Pope fell short when he apologized for

the misdeeds of individual Catholics, but not

Catholic Church, which operated at least

60 per cent of residential schools, was more

than just a passive contractor to the federal

government, which funded and oversaw

the residential school system starting in the

where the church called for the government

of Canada to be more aggressive and bold

in its work to destroy Indigenous culture,

traditional practices and beliefs," Mr. Sinclair

Pope's statement was too limited, and overly

cautious. Even so, the fact that his visit was

dedicated to contrition and reconciliation

makes this one of the more significant events

There are many who will agree that the

wrote after the Pope's apology

"There are clear examples in our history

The TRC's research found that the

for the Church as a whole.

Others, not so much. Murray Sinclair,

Not surprisingly, the Pope's apology was

abuse inflicted on Indigenous children.

What makes it historic is that the Pope

the Catholic Church had visited

Canada only three times. These

**Editorial Board** 

trip here this week.

designated voter registration agencies under the National Voter Registration Act. This action seeks to remove barriers to voting by allowing these institutions to facilitate voter registration opportunities for enrolled students and members of those communities.

These may seem like small steps, but to the students at Haskell, SIPI and Native communities everywhere, this is one way we can live up to our democratic Indigenous roots. Participatory democracy is part of who we are as people – collaboration, consensus and common good are built into our cultures and traditions. Voting is sacred and we must use our voices in every election.

Our votes reflect our values and the issues we care about. When we vote, we can impact the direction of the country, because our votes determine who has the power to make decisions for our communities. From school board, to governor, to President leadership matters.

Our communities will thrive when leaders in elected office know and understand the federal government's obligations to Tribal nations. When I was in Congress, I heard from many Tribal leaders about how much more efficient it was to walk into a meeting with an elected leader who already understood and knew what trust responsibility meant and what government-to-government relationships are. It is inspiring for young people to see themselves in an elected leader, and it is one of the many reasons I believe strongly that representation matters.

Your voice and your vote can make a difference. There are places in this country where Native votes can turn the tables and drive our country toward progress. The strides we're taking for Native people at all levels of government can and will be slowed down if we don't use the power of our votes to make our voices heard.

I encourage everyone to learn about the candidates on the ballot, reach out to your election officials, and vote in the upcoming

Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland is the first Native American to serve as a cabinet secretary. She is a member of the Pueblo of Laguna and a 35th generation New

This op-ed was published on indianz.

in the long history of the fight for Indigenous

Canadians, and to the world at large, of the

degree to which First Nations, Metis and

Inuit peoples have become a political force

in this country. Their concerns have gone

visit be organized by Ottawa, and that Pope

Francis be greeted by the prime minister and

the governor-general, but the pontiff only

came because Indigenous people demanded

long resisted calls to apologize, even as other

churches made amends. But the Vatican

could not look away last year, after two First

Nations discovered hundreds of unmarked

graves near the sites of two former Catholic-

run residential schools. Many of the graves

are believed to hold the remains of children

who died of preventable diseases, far from their families, and were buried with little or

to Canada is one of the biggest moments to

come out of many decades of struggle by

successfully, to have the treaties they signed

respected (and the many places where there

were no treaties recognized as such), and

they fought to have their rights affirmed in

Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution.

They won \$2-billion in compensation and

a prime ministerial apology for residential

school survivors in 2008 and, just this month,

the Assembly of First Nations reached a

\$20-billion settlement with Ottawa related

to the chronic underfunding of child welfare.

to eliminate their cultures, Indigenous

people are the fastest growing and youngest

cohort in the country, at 4.9 per cent of the

And for all the state's past attempts

♦ See POPE on page 5A

Getting a remorseful Pope on a plane

They have fought in courts, mostly

no ceremony.

population.

Indigenous people.

It wasn't easy. The Catholic Church

Protocol may have required that the

from peripheral to mainstream.

It's also a reminder to non-Indigenous

The Pope's visit, and the long

struggle for Indigenous rights

#### Pope's apology in Canada was historic, but for some Indigenous people, not enough

Years after a Canadian-governmentfunded commission issued findings detailing a history of physical and sexual abuse of Indigenous children in the country's Catholic-run residential schools, Pope Francis on July 25 issued an apology on Canadian soil.

"I am sorry," the pope said, speaking in Maskwacis, Alberta, at the lands of four Cree nations.

"I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples," Francis said near the site of the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School, where groundpenetrating radar has been used to try to locate unmarked graves of students who died while attending the school.

The residential schools forcibly separated Indigenous children from their parents as part of an effort to convert them to Christianity and assimilate them into the wider Canadian culture. In total, 150,000 children from Canada's First Nations tribes were placed in 139 schools run under government contract — most by the Catholic Church — over a 150-year period.

A 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission report prompted by the harrowing tales of survivors concluded that "[children] were abused, physically and sexually, and they died in the schools in numbers that would not have been tolerated in any school system anywhere in the

The schools were designed "not to educate" the Indigenous children, "but primarily to break their link to their culture and identity," the report said. It concluded that the establishment and operation of the schools "can best be described as 'cultural

Officially, 4,120 children died while in the care of the schools, mostly from diseases such as tuberculosis that ran rampant, according to government statistics. But estimates range considerably higher. The commission, in its report, acknowledged that the true number "is not likely ever to be known in full."

Last year, the unmarked graves of 215 children were found on land once occupied by the Kamloops Indian Residential School. At one time, it was the largest residential school in Canada with 500 students enrolled in the 1950s.



Pope Francis speaks July 25 with Indigenous peoples in Maskwacis, Alberta.

Earlier this year, Francis expressed "shame and sorrow" for the Catholic Church's role in abuses and for "the lack of respect" shown to Indigenous cultures and their values.

"It's a step in the right direction," said Congress of Aboriginal Peoples National Chief Elmer St. Pierre of the pope's apology on Monday. But "it could have been better,"

"When you sing the song [it should be] coming from your heart," said St. Pierre, who was present in Maskwacis when Francis spoke. Francis' statement was "read off a script," he says.

Canada has paid billions of dollars to Indigenous communities as part of a settlement with some 90,000 survivors of the residential schools. Canada's Catholic Church says its dioceses and religious orders have already paid \$50 million to the tribes and expects another \$30 million in coming

Carol McBride, president of the Native Women's Association of Canada, said she hoped the pope's apology would start a dialogue between the church and First Nations that would lead to the release of school records and the return of tribal artifacts that she says reside at the Vatican. The Holy See insists the headdresses, carved walrus tusks and other items were gifts to Pius XI, who was pope from 1922 until his death in 1939.

"I just can't understand why they don't want to release those files," McBride said. "And the same thing goes with the artifacts. Those are our First Nations and Indigenous people's artifacts. Why are they sitting there at the Vatican? Why are they not here?

She says she welcomes the pope's apology, but acknowledges "a lot of mixed emotions at this point, where some people are happy with the visit and the intent and [others don't] want to hear about it at all."

The pope on July 25 specifically asked forgiveness for "projects of cultural destruction and forced assimilation promoted by the governments of the time."

More than 350 similar boarding schools — about a third managed by various Christian denominations — operated in the U.S. up until the last of them were closed in the 1970s. Beginning a century before, Indigenous children were sent to these off-reservation schools, where they were forbidden to speak their native language and forced instead to use English.

Last year, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, the country's first Native American Cabinet secretary, commissioned a review of the school system for Native children in the U.S. The investigation has already identified marked or unmarked burial sites at approximately 53 schools, according to the Interior Department.

## **Supreme Court's ruling causes Indian Country unease**

BY DAMON SCOTT Staff Reporter

The Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta decision handed down in late June by the U.S. Supreme Court has caused unease among many in Indian Country. The decision expands the states' authority over Native

The conservative court ruled in a 5-4 decision that state governments have the right to prosecute non-Natives for crimes committed against tribal members on reservations. Typically, federal authorities have jurisdiction to investigate serious, violent crime on reservations when the suspect or victim is Native American. But the Castro-Huerta decision means states will share in that authority when the suspect is not Native American and the victim is.

Castro-Huerta also weakens the effect of the court's McGirt v. Oklahoma decision in 2020, which found that most of eastern Oklahoma was still legally Indian Country, where many crimes were beyond the purview of state law. But the Castro-Huerta decision has an effect beyond Oklahoma.

Justice Neil Gorsuch, who wrote the court's dissent, said the ruling was "...an

embarrassing new entry into the anti-canon of Indian law ... Truly, a more ahistorical and mistaken statement of Indian law would be hard to fathom.'

Justice Brett Kavanaugh disagreed in the court's majority opinion.

"The Court today holds that Indian country within a State's territory is part of a State, not separate from a State," he wrote. "As a matter of state sovereignty, a State has jurisdiction over all of its territory, including Indian country.'

Officials at the National Congress of American Indians, the Native American Rights Fund, and other stakeholders, still aren't sure exactly how the decision will effect how crimes will be prosecuted and by whom. But most agree that the decision has potentially larger implications for the future of Indigenous sovereignty.

#### **Indian Child Welfare Act**

One worry is that the decision is a foreboding sign for the court's next term, which begins in October, when it will hear the constitutionality of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) in the case now known as Brackeen v. Haaland. The court could decide that the 44-year-old law is unconstitutional

based on claims by some plaintiffs, which want to adopt Native children, that ICWA is race-based and in violation of equal protection. If the court found that ICWA was racially motivated, it could overrule existing state statutes. The plaintiffs have other objections to ICWA as well.

The main plaintiffs in the case are Chad and Jennifer Brackeen of Texas, who initially fostered a boy without realizing the Navajo Nation would not allow an adoption.

ICWA became federal law in 1978 to prevent Native children from being raised outside of their tribes. It was enacted because Native children were being taken out of their communities at alarming rates.

Sarah Kastelic, (Alutiiq), the executive director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association, told the Tribune earlier this year that Indian Country is rightly concerned.

'Despite what ICWA opponents say, they do not have the best interests of Indian children at heart," she said. "Opponents of ICWA do not know what's best for Native kids. Their motives are to overturn tribal rights for profit, to access tribal land and natural resources and ultimately to dismantle

tribal sovereignty.' More information is at nicwa.org.

## ICT founder Tim Giago dies at 88

**STAFF REPORT** 

Stalwart newspaperman Tim Giago Oglala Lakota) died July 24 in Rapid City, South Dakota. He was 88. Doris Giago, his former wife, told Indian Country Today that he succumbed to complications from cancer and diabetes.

Giago founded the Lakota Times newspaper in 1981 with Doris Giago. It was based on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota where he grew up and was considered the first independently owned Native American newspaper in the U.S.

In 1983, Giago organized dozens of Native journalists and formed the Native American Press Association, which later became the Native American Journalists Association. He was NAJA's cofounder and served as its first president. In 1985, Giago was the recipient of a prestigious H. L Mencken award for editorial writing.

"He paved the way for countless journalists, bringing the hard-hitting Native American issues to light, [and] helping [to] change policies at a local, state and national level," his wife Jackie Giago, said on a GoFundMe page she recently set up to help with expenses after he underwent surgery.

Giago moved the Lakota Times to Rapid City in 1989 and changed the name to Indian Country Today. He was also the owner and publisher of Native Sun News Today, where he continued to work as editor emeritus until weeks before his death, according to an Indian Country Today report.

Giago would eventually sell Indian Country Today to accept a Nieman Fellowship in journalism at Harvard University. In 1994, he was inducted into the South Dakota newspaper hall of fame. In all, Giago was involved in founding seven Native American newspapers or magazines over a 40-year span.

The U.S. Navy veteran was also known for being outspoken about abuses that took schools. He wrote extensively about his time as a student at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission, now the Red Cloud Indian School, on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. 2006

place at Indian

boarding

book "Children Left Behind: The



Tim Giago.

Dark Legacy of Indian Mission Boarding Schools," he wrote about his time at the school.

For Indian Country Today's full report

on Giago, go to indiancountrytoday.com.

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

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## Community

## **Southern rockers meet Seminole** superfan Richard Osceola

Staff Reporter

If you give Richard Osceola the chance, he'll talk to you about music for as long as you let him. He says it's in his blood particularly Southern rock.

"Seminole country grew up on those kinds of bands," Osceola said. "A lot of the older generations grew up in Southern rock, country, blues and jazz. We're big fans."

A couple years ago at a show in Jupiter, Osceola met Charlie Starr – the lead vocalist and guitarist of Atlanta-based rock band Blackberry Smoke. After signing Osceola's Blackberry Smoke cowboy hat, Starr commented on how much he liked the Florida State University-Seminole patchwork vest Osceola was wearing.

"I told him my mother made it for me and that I'd have one made for him," Osceola said.

His oldest daughter, Madeline, crafted

the vest and fast forward two years later -Osceola presented it to Starr prior to a July 14 show at Revolution Live in Fort Lauderdale.

"He was very honored that we gave it to him," Osceola said.

Osceola's uncle, Howard, sent a cowboy hat with Seminole beadwork with his nephew to also give to Starr. Tribal member Ricky Doctor, from the Big Cypress Reservation, did the beadwork.

"My uncle asked me to give it to him. I grew up building chickees with him and we were always into music," Osceola said. "The

Osceola family has always been into music.' Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola, his brother, went to the July 14 show as well.

Richard Osceola said he's seen Blackberry Smoke perform live three times. He particularly remembers when they opened for country music act Zac Brown Band at a Tampa show. He hopes they'll be invited to perform at a future Seminole Tribal Fair & Pow Wow on the Hollywood

"We need more Southern rock at the Hard Rock," Osceola said with a chuckle. "I try to scout these bands out before they get too popular and get them to perform at Field

Elizabeth Cook, who is from Wildwood, Florida, is one of the acts Osceola helped book to perform at a Brighton Field Day concert in early 2020 before the pandemic hit. Cook is Nashville-based country music artist and radio host on SiriusXM's "Outlaw Country" station.

While Osceola has lived on the Brighton Reservation for the past 10 years, he's originally from the Hollywood Reservation.

'We used to go to concerts at the old Hollywood Sportatorium," he said. "That's where I saw Lynard Skynard.

Lynard Skynard is one of Osceola's top three favorite bands along with Blackberry Smoke and the Marshall Tucker Band. He's seen all three perform live.



Richard Osceola, left, and Charlie Starr of the Blackberry Smoke outside of Revolution Live in Fort Lauderdale on July 14. Osceola first met Starr at a live show in Jupiter.



Calvin Tiger (2) At left and right, Richard Osceola gifted Charlie Starr of Blackberry Smoke a Seminole vest and hat outside of Revolution Live in Fort



#### GRADS From page 1A

The 2022 high school graduates are Elyse Alvarado, Petra Battiest, Griffin Billie, Ashlee Cypress, Jarred Cypress, Bruce Deitz Jr., Clarice DeMayo, LeAnne Diaz, Kylie Drake, Dathan Garcia, Jahniyah Henry, Madison Jumper, Jennie Osceola, MaryJane Osceola, Samuel Osceola, Rafael Ramirez, Ja'Kailee Stewart,

recognized for receiving higher education degrees in 2022 are Kyle Doney, Carson John-Carney, Bradley Latchford, Tomie Motlow and Mia

Many of the graduates in attendance took to the stage and thanked their families, the tribe and members of the Education Department staff for their

"I'd like to thank my mom – she's helped me through everything. She's been my mom and my dad," Drake Skye Stubbs and Trace Wilcox. Those said. "I'd like to thank my uncles and me.

my grandma for helping instill the love of music and my family and my life. And I want to thank the entire tribe – just being a part of it is a blessing and I think it everyday.'

Laptop computers are among the gifts graduates will receive from the Hollywood Council Office.

"I want to thank the tribe, first of all, for giving me the opportunity from elementary to high school," Stubbs said. "And to my family – especially my dad and my late mom – for believing in



Tomie Motlow, left, and Kyle Doney were among the higher education graduates honored at the Hollywood event.



### **GENERAL TRIBAL ELECTION**





MAY 8, 2023



VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVES WILL BE HELD ON THE RESERVATIONS OR VISIT THE

TRIBAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE IN HOLLYWOOD OR BRIGHTON TO REGISTER

UNLESS YOUR RESIDENCY HAS CHANGED, YOU DO NOT NEED TO RE-REGISTER

DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MARCH 1, 2023

**VOTER REGISTRATION PACKETS WILL BE MAILED OUT ON** 

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2022** 

TO ALL **ELIGIBLE** TRIBAL MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT

REGISTERED TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION

**VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS AND PHOTO ID ARE DUE BACK TO** 

THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS BY MARCH 1, 2023

**Questions Regarding Election or Voting Status Contact:** 



**SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE** (954) 966-6300 X 11461





## **SATURDAY, AUGUST 27**

**Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood** Doors Open at 9:00 AM **Meeting Starts at 10:00 AM** 

Facemasks are recommended, however not mandatory. Continental Breakfast & Lunch will be served Shareholders Only

**For Vendor Information Contact:** Kyla Billie: (954) 995-1998 or kyladavis@semtribe.com Richard Hendricks: richardhendricks@semtribe.com

#### **→** MIW From page 1A

"We come from a dry climate, we don't mind the heat," Noella Red Hawk said. "We don't have the humidity, but today we're enjoying it.'

After visiting the museum, Miss Indian World was greeted by a group of kids at the Herman L. Osceola Gym. They asked Red Hawk plenty of questions about being Miss Indian World. She had some of her own for them and wanted to know if anyone was in 4-H. She talked about her love of animals and that she plans to become a veterinarian. She attends South Dakota State University where she is studying animal science.

"My love for animals all started with 4-H," said Tashina, who joined 4-H at age 8. "It helps my spirit. The 4-H values are the same as Indian values. I learned leadership and other things from 4-H."

One of the kids asked about the Miss Indian World competition and she told them one of the things she had to do was to talk for three minutes about one thing she is passionate about.

"I talked about what it means to adorn someone," she said. "I see a lot of beautiful skirts here. Someone made that for you, adorned you, because they love you.'

To earn the post as the national 4-H agriculture spokesperson, Red Hawk wrote essays and was interviewed. It helped that she volunteers at an emergency clinic for animals and made many connections through her years at 4-H.

"The greatest leaders in life have a support team," she said. "Before 4-H I wouldn't have stood up to sing or speak to you. 4-H gives you that support."

Her platform as Miss Indian World centers on youth, culture and animals. She reaches out to Native youth and emphasizes the importance of cultural identity as she travels to pow wows, conferences and schools to speak and give presentations.

In Immokalee, she met with a group of kids in the gym. She described her Rosebud Reservation, which has an abundance of wild roses. She asked the kids what they wanted to be; answers included football player, chef and veterinarian. She told the kids that she started loving something about 4-H at around

"The wonderful thing about 4-H is there are coaches and counselors to guide you," she said. "I didn't know there were so many things you can do in 4-H."

Red Hawk is an avid barrel racer and horse trainer in South Dakota, where the state sport is rodeo

"Horses help me maintain my connection to who I am," she said. "Horses are sacred to the Lakota, they came to us as protectors. If you're going to own something that eats and drinks, you have to love them like family and take care of them."

The Red Hawks led the Immokalee kids in a round dance, which they explained traditionally lasts all night.

"During winter when we have no pow wows, it keeps us together as a nation," Noella Red Hawk said. "We celebrate each other's company. As the world is healing itself outside, we come together and stay healthy inside.

On the Hollywood Reservation, Miss Indian World and her mother were introduced at the Tribal Council meeting and met youth and adults in the Howard Tiger Recreation Center. In Brighton, they rode on a swamp buggy for the first time, toured the sugar cane field and tasted the sweet stalks and visited the Florida Seminole Veterans Building and Culture Department.

"I got to see how our regions gave our tribes different ways to be resourceful," Red Hawk said. "The Seminole people are so hospitable and are wonderful hosts. I learned so much. It was an enlightening and enjoyable experience."



Miss Indian World meets President Mitchell Cypress, left, and Brighton Councilman Larry Howard.



Miss Indian World meets a couple of youngsters in Hollywood.



Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk, center, and her mother, Noella Red Hawk, left, sample sofkee and fry bread made by Big Cypress Culture instructor Tammy Billie during a visit to the Big Cypress Reservation on July 21.



Courtesy photo

Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk meets with kids in Hollywood at the Howard Tiger Recreation



Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum director Gordon Wareham joins Noella Red Hawk, center, and Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk outside the museum in Big Cypress. The women are holding some of the gifts given to them by the museum.



After a visit with youth in Immokalee, Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk shares a group hug with



Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk, center with crown, is surrounded by kids and a few adults in the Herman L. Osceola Gym in Big Cypress.

## Tribalwide fairs promote health and fitness

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY **Staff Reporter** 

After a two-year pandemic delay, the Seminole Health and Human Services Department (HHS) hosted health and wellness fairs on reservations in July to help tribal communities live a healthier life.

Hundreds of tribal members attended the fairs in Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood and Immokalee. (See page 9A for more about the Hollywood fair).

About 20 tribal departments and vendors set up shop in the Florida Seminole Veterans Building on July 12. Tables filled with information, food samples and other giveaways were staffed by department representatives or health professionals. Tribal member Albert Snow stopped at the pharmacy booth, where he got some Covid-19 testing kits.

"I come out here every year," said Snow, of Brighton. "I like to see what else I can learn. I'm healthy, except for my diabetes.

I'm going to get my A1C checked.' A1C is used to monitor sugar levels in people who have diabetes.

Everyone who entered the health and wellness fair received a health passport which listed each booth. As participants engaged with a booth, the passport was signed by the vendor. The passports were an effective way to encourage attendees speak to the staffers manning the booths and get the information offered. Bags were provided for swag, such as sunscreen, healthy snacks and toys, which was generously handed out at each booth.

Once the passports were filled up and returned to the HHS's sign in table, the attendees were entered into raffles for prizes and given a ticket for lunch at a food truck. Another important aspect of the wellness

fairs was a survey tribal members filled out to help the HHS plan for the coming year. The needs assessment survey is done every

"We want to learn about their interests and have more activities that support them," Suzanne Davis, integrative health director, said. "We want to incorporate traditions and culture into our program. We base our activities on what tribal members want."

The theme of the health and wellness fairs all had a fun, beachy vibe and were decorated with colorful flowers and



With his arms and bags loaded with giveaways from the Brighton health and wellness fair, Iverson Huggins picks up some hand sanitizer to add to his collection.

summery props.

'The decorations were all held from the 2020 fairs," Davis said. "The tribe was shut down on the same day the Big Cypress fair was held. We were all lined up and ready to go that day."

The decorations were taken out of storage and used two years later.

The theme is pretty and refreshing," said Barbara Boling, Brighton HHS education coordinator. "We were all ready for that."

With plenty of activities aimed at them, kids from the preschool and Boys & Girls Clubs had fun during the health and wellness fair. In addition to making their own smoothies by riding a stationary bike, the kids posed for photos with props in a photo booth, tasted a few treats and chose toys from baskets at many of the booths.

Iverson Huggins, 8, said he went at 'super speed" to make a smoothie, which he enjoyed after it was sufficiently mixed in the blender attached to the stationary bike.

A face painter inside kept the kids' attention while a climbing wall and surfingthemed bouncy ride was outdoors for the kids to enjoy. At the Immokalee fair, the face painter brought giant bubbles, which the kids chased down gleefully.

Seminole Fire Rescue in Immokalee brought an electronic fire on a video monitor, which could only be put out with an actual fire extinguisher retrofitted to put out the fire on the screen. Kids lined up to give it a try.



**Beverly Bidney** 

Albert Snow visits the pharmacy booth at the Brighton health and wellness fair July 12.



Members of the Brighton Boy & Girls Clubs get cool shades and other goodies at the HHS booth.



Brighton Fire Rescue Lt. Kevin Pinkerton signs off on Samuel Slocum's health passport, indicating he received the information offered at the Fire Rescue booth and will be entered into a raffle for prizes.

### **Record set** straight: **Jim Thorpe** gets his gold medals (again)

**BY DAMON SCOTT** Staff Reporter

Legendary athlete Jim Thorpe was the first Native American to win a gold medal in an Olympics. He won two – in the decathlon and pentathlon – in the 1912 Summer Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden, 110 years ago. But until now his official Olympic record has been a source of controversy.

On July 15, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) reinstated Thorpe (Sac and Fox Tribe) as the sole champion in his events - after first being stripped of his medals and later being named a co-champion. It's vindication for Thorpe's family and scores of supporters who have advocated for the reinstatement for decades.

"A moment 110 years in the making, to finally hear the words officially spoken again, 'Jim Thorpe is the sole winner of the 1912 decathlon and pentathlon.' [It's] a glorious time of celebration [for] all of his friends, family and supporters. Hooray!" Anita Thorpe, his granddaughter, said in a

During his medal ceremony in 1912, King Gustav V of Sweden famously proclaimed Thorpe the "world's greatest athlete." Many still consider him to be the greatest all-around athlete in the history of modern sports. Thorpe also played baseball for the New York Giants and football for the Canton Bulldogs, where he won three championships.

But six months after his historic Olympic run, in 1913, reports surfaced that Thorpe had been paid room and board while playing in a minor league baseball division years before. It was considered a violation of the Olympic rules that were in force at the

See THORPE on page 6A



After 110 years, Jim Thorpe is once again an Olympic gold medalist.



Hollywood Elder Services organized a trip to Coconut Creek to see a private screening of the "Elvis" movie June 28.

## Hollywood elders spend afternoon with 'Elvis'

**BY CALVIN TIGER** Reporter/Intern

COCONUT CREEK — A private screening for the newly released "Elvis" movie was on display for 16 Hollywood tribal elders at Silverspot Cinema in Coconut Creek on June 28.

After seeing a preview of the movie, Elizabeth Bridon, Hollywood Elder Services site manager, came up with the idea to offer the early afternoon trip to the elders.

Austin Butler portrays Elvis Presley alongside Tom Hanks, who depicts Presley's shrewd manager Col. Tom Parker.

The biographical musical drama focuses on Presley's musical journey starting from his younger years where he first meets Parker. The movie starts with Parker's point of view while he is on his deathbed narrating the events of how he and Presley first met. Working in carnivals with entertainers, Parker was familiar with identifying talent and charisma. It is at this point where Parker hears a young Presley over the radio and was immediately hooked on his musical talent.

As the future king of rock-and-roll gathers new fans, some of the public did not care for his onstage antics. Parents were concerned his music's influence on younger audiences. During that time, Presley was attacked in the media by racist politicians

for his involvement with Black musicians. It was around this time an incident occurred at one of Presley's live performances that nearly led to a jail sentence. Parker was able to negotiate on Presley's behalf with the government for him to serve a two-year stint in the military instead of facing a jail

While stationed in Germany during his military service, Presley met his future wife, Priscilla Presley. After the completion of his military duty, Presley returned stateside and became more politically outspoken over the assassinations of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Sen. Robert Kennedy.

The relationship between Parker and Presley started to unravel when Presley wanted to do a world tour and Parker had other interests for him. Parker locked Presley into a multiyear contract at a Las Vegas hotel. The film depicts that Parker had his own intentions for himself over what Presley wanted to ultimately do. Presley's life headed to a downward spiral of negative events from being under the influence of narcotics and having multiple affairs. Elvis and his wife would eventually split due his drug addiction and she left with their daughter, Lisa Marie. Following their split, the star's addiction would maintain a tight grip over his life which resulted in his death

group from Hollywood. For some, such as Adam Osceola, it served as a trip down memory lane. Osceola recalled watching Presley on TV when he was younger. For others, such as Joe Osceola Jr., the film provided a learning experience.

"I never knew about the management side about Elvis," Osceola Jr. said.

Similar to the group's sentiments, the

movie has received mostly positive reviews from the pros. The New York Times A.O. Scott stated the movie "lurches and wobbles," but added "It's a musical, and the music is great." The Guardian described it as a "blistering, turbocharged chronicle of the King." The film, which lasts more than two and a half hours, has a 94% favorable score with audience reviews on Rotten Tomatoes.



The movie was well received by the Austin Butler stars in the movie "Elvis." which details the rise and fall of the star.

## 'Healing' tour next step in boarding school initiative

BY DAMON SCOTT Staff Reporter

The Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), began a "Road to Healing" tour July 9 in Oklahoma as part of the ongoing federal Indian boarding school initiative that was launched in June 2021.

The tour at U.S. locations is expected to continue for 12 months. It is designed to allow Native American survivors of the federal Indian boarding school system to share their stories, to connect communities with trauma-support resources, and to record an oral history.

Additional tour stops are expected

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to include Arizona, Hawaii, Michigan and South Dakota, with other states to be announced for 2023.

"I know that this process will be long and difficult. I know this process will be painful. It won't undo the heartbreak and loss we feel. But only by acknowledging the past can we work toward a future that we're all proud to embrace," Haaland said in a statement.

According to the Department of the Interior (DOI), from 1819 through the 1970s the U.S. implemented policies that established and supported Indian boarding schools across the country. By 1926, 60,889, or nearly 83% of Indian schoolage children attended boarding schools. The purpose was cultural assimilation by

> Capital University in 1989 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990, Federal Bar in 1992, and the Fed-

eral Trial Bar in 1994.

forcibly removing the children from their families, communities, languages, religions and cultural beliefs. Many endured physical and emotional abuse and in some cases died.

An initial DOI investigation found that from 1819 to 1969, the federal Indian boarding school system consisted of 408 federal schools across 37 states or (then) territories, including 21 in Alaska and seven in Hawaii. Churches ran more than 150 schools – about half each by Catholic and Protestant groups, according to the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition. The investigation also identified marked or unmarked burial sites at 53 different schools across the system – a number the DOI expects to increase.

A DOI-led inventory of the schools -

that includes profiles and maps – has Florida connections. It notes the St. Augustine Day School for Apache Children at Fort Marion, dating to 1886 and 1887. The DOI information states that while Fort Marion was used to incarcerate members of various tribes, including Seminoles, the crowded conditions prompted officials to visit the site and assess whether some of the young men and teenagers would make good pupils for boarding schools. Florida is also referenced in connection with a Mississippi school from 1820 to 1830.

More information is at doi.gov and boardingschoolhealing.org.

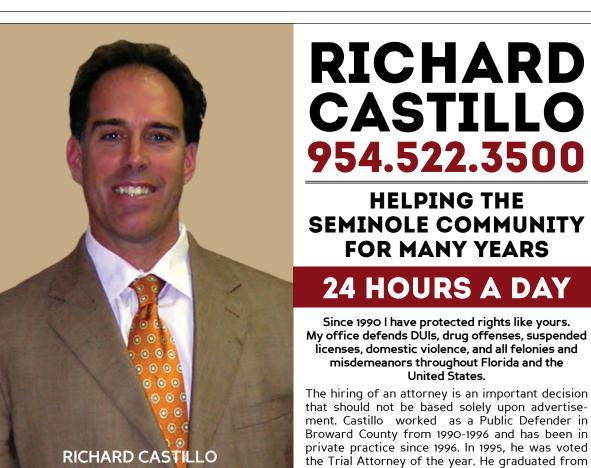
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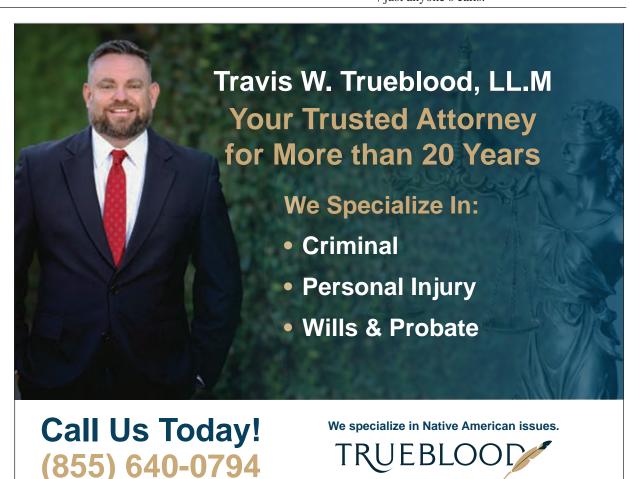
**♦ POPE** From page 2A

There is still a long way to go. Too many Indigenous people – especially those living on First Nations reserves – are worse off than their non-Indigenous neighbours, with poorer health, lower incomes, higher unemployment and higher drop-out rates. They are overrepresented in prison and in foster care. And they continue to have to resort to the courts to keep Ottawa moving forward on critical issues, which is frustrating in an era that is supposed to be about reconciliation.

But though there is disappointment that the head of the Catholic Church didn't say and do more, the fact that the Pope made this "penitential pilgrimage" can be seen as another demonstration of the persistence and resilience of Indigenous people, and where it has brought them. The Vatican doesn't take just anyone's calls.

LegalFeather.com





## **♦ SHIPPING** From page 1A

Koenes is an ardent supporter of the Seminole 4-H program; she sponsored four and sold three calves to the ambitious youngsters. Her grandson, Koda Osceola, 8, raised and sold a hog last year and made enough money to purchase his own steer.

"That's what we like to see," said Seminole Indian 4-H coordinator Kimberly Clement. "It's what 4-H is all about."
Sunshine Frank shipped about 40 calves

and two went to 4-H kids. She doesn't spend too much time in the pastures, but enjoys being there when they are working the cattle.

"They looked really nice and healthy this year," Frank said.

Wyatt Youngman, who earned a degree in citrus and horticulture from Florida Southern College in December 2021, has a small herd of 50 head near his home in Lake Placid and a larger one of 120 head in Big Cypress. He shipped 15 calves.

"Mine is a new herd and it's off cycle," Youngman said. "Over two years I've pieced together cattle from other herds."

Youngman hoped to make a career in citrus, but the industry has taken a hit. He is considering selling his 458 acre grove and going into cattle instead.

"There is no market for citrus anymore," Youngman said. "I'd rather be farming and ranching, but here I am ranching.

Preparing the calves for shipping is a team effort made by cattle owners and cowhands that starts at sunrise. Cows and calves are herded from the pastures into the owners' pens, where the calves are separated from the cows. The recent heavy rain left may pastures with tall grasses that cowboys on horseback had to navigate to get the animals to the pens.

It was 94 degrees without a cloud in the sky in Big Cypress on July 19 as cattle foreman Andre Jumper and cowhand Randy Rueda went into the woods on Cory



Cattle owner Mary Jene Koenes looks at paperwork during the shipping.

the animals with great success.

Work in the cow pens is crowded, dirty

and can be dangerous. The cowboys work in very close proximity to animals who weigh

hundreds of pounds more than they do. It's

hot, but it is shaded to keep the cows from

Wilcox's pasture to retrieve the animals. overheating. Work starts early in the day for the same reason, by afternoon it is too hot for Jumper brought his dogs to help round up

shade to provide enough comfort. Cattle from the Board pastures at St. Thomas near Brighton and Parker Island in Lake Placid were shipped from July 25 to Aug. 5.



Above, Natural Resources director Aaron Stam and Jessie Carter move a group of calves from one pen to another in Big Cypress. Below, Emma Urbina counts calves as they come off of an owners trailer and into the cow pens. The animals are counted again as they are loaded onto the large, multilevel cattle truck.





Cowhand Randy Rueda and Big Cypress Natural Resources cattle foreman Andre Jumper round up cows and calves from Cory Wilcox's pasture into his pen for sorting.



Natural Resources director Aaron Stam, left, and Todd Johns coax calves into a holding pen before being loaded onto the cattle truck during calf shipping in Big Cypress on July 19.



**Beverly Bidney** 

After a morning of hard work, cowhands join the cattle owners in a generous cowboy lunch in a chickee behind the Big Cypress cow pens. Owners whose calves are being shipped that day provided the meal.



**Beverly Bidney** 

During a day of hard work, Naha Jumper, left, Emma Urbina, center, and Josh Jumper find time and energy to share a laugh in the cow pen.

## **↑ THORPE** From page 5A

The IOC stripped him of his medals, removed his name from the official record and never gave Thorpe due process. The gold medals were awarded to the respective silver medalists in the events, despite the fact that they refused the recognition.

Thorpe died in 1953 at 64.

In 1983, the IOC reinstated Thorpe to

the Olympic record and presented his family with duplicate medals after decades of effort by supporters and after the Swedish Olympic rules for the 1912 Olympics were uncovered and legal action was threatened.

But supporters still had a point of contention – that the official Olympic record still listed Thorpe as a co-champion in his events, instead of champion.

The Native-led nonprofit Bright Path Strong helped keep the issue in the spotlight, something the IOC noted in its reinstatement

of Thorpe. The organization's name is inspired by Thorpe's given name of "Wa-Tho-Huk," which translates to "Bright Path."

"We are so grateful this nearly 110-yearold injustice has finally been corrected, and there is no confusion about the most remarkable athlete in history," Nedra Darling, Bright Path Strong cofounder, said

in a statement. Many tribes and Indian Country organizations worked to have Thorpe's medals reinstated. Supporters included the Tuolumne Band of Me Wuk Indians, Chicken Ranch Rancheria Me-Wuk Indians of California, Tonto Apache Tribe, the Mohegan Tribe, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Sealaska Corp., National Congress of American Indians, Native American Rights Fund, National Native Boarding School Coalition, Indian Gaming Association, Native American Finance Officers Association and more.

"Jim Thorpe faced seemingly insurmountable odds on and off the field. He represented this country before it even recognized Native Americans as citizens but he never gave up," Bright Path Strong board member Dennis Hendricks, said in a statement. "He was an inspiration then and he is an inspiration now. Today is yet another victory for this great hero."

For more, go to brightpathstong.org.



A ribbon cutting ceremony marks the grand opening of the Bristol Casino in Bristol, Virginia, on July 8. The temporary casino will be used while a Hard Rock hotel and casino are built on the property. From left, Martin Kent, president and CEO of the United Co.; Clyde Stacy, president of Par Ventures; Jim McGlothlin, chairman of the United Co.; Seminole Tribe Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr.; Jon Lucas, Hard Rock International COO; and Allie Evangelista, president of Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Bristol.

## Hard Rock opens Virginia's first casino

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor** 

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Bristol is expected to be completed within the next two years at the site of a former mall in Southwest Virginia. For now, guests can try their luck and skill in a temporary casino on

The temporary casino, known as Bristol Casino - Future Home of Hard Rock, held a grand opening July 8. Seminole Tribe Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony alongside Hard Rock executives and partners. Business and community leaders also attended. The casino presented a \$100,000 donation to the United Way of Bristol TN/VA through gaming proceeds generated at casino events July 5 and July 7.

Until the doors opened, Virginia had never had a casino. In late April, the Virginia Lottery Board – by unanimous vote – issued a license to Hard Rock to operate the first

"Since enacted by the 2020 General Assembly, the board's priority for casino gaming in the Commonwealth is that it be conducted with integrity and in a responsible manner," Ferhan Hamid, board chairman, said in a statement at the time. "[This] approval reflects the confidence we have

**STAFF REPORT** 

music icon will be performing at Hard Rock

Live in Hollywood. Bruce Springsteen and

The E Street Band are scheduled to take

the stage at the 7,000-seat venue on Feb. 7,

Rock Live, which also hosted the Rolling

2023, at 7:30 p.m.

after Paul McCartney

**HOLLYWOOD** — Another major

The announcement came two months

performed at Hard

in the rigorous and conscientious review conducted by Virginia Lottery staff."

The 30,000-square foot temporary casino has 870 slots and 21 gaming tables, two restaurants, two bars/lounges, a sports book and a Rock Shop retail store.

The permanent facility will be a \$400 million project with a grand opening slated for the summer of 2024. It is expected to employ 1,200 and feature 1,500 slots and 55 tables. The project includes a 300-room room hotel, a Hard Rock Live music venue, five restaurants and four bars/lounges, a sports book and Rock Shop.

Hard Rock officials said the area is ideal considering Bristol and its bordering sister city - Bristol, Tennessee - have long histories with country music. The area is home to the Birthplace of Country Music Museum. Hard Rock and the local chamber of commerce also share an affection for large guitars. Outside its office, the chamber features a 20-foot guitar, a tad smaller than Hard Rock's 450-foot Guitar Hotel that towers above Hollywood.

"Hard Rock's rich and storied music legacy is a perfect fit for Bristol, the 'Birthplace of Country Music,'" Jon Lucas, COO of Hard Rock International, said in a statement. "The casino's gaming and dining amenities will make it a major entertainment

Hard Rock Live lands another music legend

destination for residents from across We appreciate the ongoing the region. collaboration from the Virginia Lottery. Their team has been great to work with. Finally, we look forward to opening the permanent casino within two years and bringing the full legendary Hard Rock experience to Bristol."

In a joint statement, partners involved in the project stressed its local economic

"We are glad that the project is having an immediate impact in boosting Bristol's economy... This is only a start, as the project will generate even more jobs when the permanent casino opens," said Jim McGlothlin, chairman of The United Co., and Clyde Stacy, president of Par Ventures. "These benefits extend across southwest Virginia as communities receive additional tax revenue from the project. Local businesses in the Tri-Cities will see an economic development boost from increased tourism visitation and spending. All of this would not have been possible without the strong support from local residents and leaders, for which we remain incredibly

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of Hard Rock International.

## **Forbes: Hard Rock** International a 'best employer for women'

STAFF REPORT

Hard Rock International (HRI) was recognized by Forbes as one of the country's 'best employers for women" for a fifth consecutive year July 28.

The global media company annually surveys 60,000 Americans working for businesses with at least 1,000 employees to identify those that are most dedicated to "diversity, equity and inclusion."

"It is with great pride that Hard Rock continues to be recognized among the top companies actively making strides in diversity, equity and inclusion and be featured as a best employer for women," Tracy Bradford, president of Seminole Hard Rock Support Services and cofounder of the "Seminole and Hard Rock Women in Leadership" mentoring program, said in a statement.

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity

Since 2016, more than 1,000 women have participated in the mentorship program and/or a specialized education conference, according to the statement. HRI said the mentorship program has resulted in a 26% increase in vice president positions and a 31% increase for managers and directors.

"In the last year alone, female representation at the executive committee level has doubled, and the majority of these appointments are women of color," the statement read.

HRI also made the Forbes "best employers" list this year in the categories of "new graduates," "diversity" and "large

Hard Rock has more than 45,000 employees throughout its cafes, hotels and casino properties across the globe.

To view the full Forbes list, go to forbes.com. More information about HRI is available at hardrock.com.



"Angel" is a bartender at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa.

## **Study: Hard Rock Hotels** top in guest satisfaction

STAFF REPORT

**HOLLYWOOD** — Hard Rock Hotels has once again been recognized for its high marks in guest satisfaction.

J.D. Power's 2022 North America guest satisfaction study ranked Hard Rock Hotels No. 1 among "Upper Upscale Hotel Chains." It's the fourth consecutive year that Hard Rock has been recognized. The hotel brand scored top marks this year and in 2019 and 2021. In 2020 it ranked No. 2.

Research, data and analytics firm J.D. Power analyzes more than 34,000 guest responses to survey questions and ranks more than 100 hospitality brands across eight markets to measure guest satisfaction, advocacy and loyalty.

Hard Rock was ranked No. 1 in five areas - arrival/departure, guest room, food and beverage, hotel facilities, and cost and

"Exceptional team members are the key to great guest service, and we are so grateful to each and every one at Hard Rock who helps provide the one-of-a-kind, authentic experiences our guests have come to love about staying with us," Jon Lucas, COO of Hard Rock International, said in a statement.

The Hard Rock Hotel New York recently opened in the heart of Manhattan, while the Hard Rock Hotel Marbella in Spain is due to open this month.

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of Hard Rock International. More information is at hardrockhotels.com.

### **Hard Rock Hotel opens in** southern Spain

STAFF REPORT

Hard Rock Hotel Marbella, near the southern tip of Spain, opened July 14. The property, which underwent a full renovation, was acquired in June 2021 by Stoneweg and Bain Capital Credit, the real estate investment firm. It is managed by Palladium Hotel Group.

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of Hard Rock International.

"We are delighted to announce the launch of Hard Rock Hotel Marbella in Puerto Banús, one of the most stunning parts of the Costa del Sol," Jesús Sobrino, CEO of Palladium Hotel Group, said in a statement. "Puerto Banús is a perfect destination for the Hard Rock Hotels brand and its magnificent offering. Its inimitable style, it's gastronomic and leisure offering and its eagerness to impress guests will make this hotel a reference point for the area. We are convinced that Hard Rock Hotel Marbella is going to become a really key destination for

visitors and residents in a very short time."

The hotel features 383 rooms, including 64 suites. A VIP rooftop infinity pool and bar and a swimming pool surrounded by gardens are among the amenities. Memorabilia from Hard Rock's collection on display include an acoustic guitar from Elvis Presley, a satin purple jacket worn by Prince and sequined dresses worn by Lady Gaga.

Studio Gronda, an international architecture and interior design firm, designed the venue, which blends Hard Rock's signature design with elements that touch on Andalusian style and culture.

We are proud to build on our success with numerous recent openings in Europe," Graham Kiy, area vice president of hotel operations EMEA at Hard Rock International, said in a statement. "Hard Rock's partnership with Palladium Hotel Group has been a great success in Ibiza and Tenerife. We are thrilled to expand to Marbella where we will integrate into the brand into the fabric of this much loved and vibrant destination.'



Hard Rock

Stones in November 2021. Springsteen, 72, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1999. He has won 20 Grammys and an Academy Award, been the recipient of the Kennedy Center Honors and performed at halftime of the Super Bowl. The concert is part of Springsteen and the E Street Band's international tour that

is scheduled to feature 31 performances starting Feb. 1, 2023, at Amalie Arena in Tampa. Their last tour in North America came in 2016. The group's most recent studio album -

"Letter To You" - was released in 2020 and marked their first live recording together in

For information, more brucespringsteen.net.



Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band are slated to play Hard Rock Live on Feb. 7, 2023.

#### Sports bar with gaming options opens at Hard Rock

FROM PRESS RELEASE

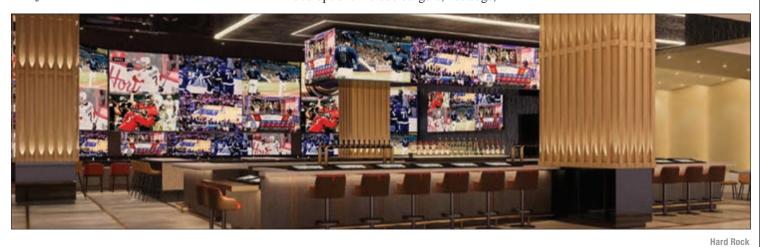
**HOLLYWOOD** — Hard Rock Sports Bar recently opened at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood. The bar is adjacent to Hard Rock Live and features

a table games pit with a dozen tables of live wings, nachos and other items. blackjack. A wraparound bar with 31 seats includes electronic table games, including

LED TV screens with sports action are

prominently displayed. Food options include burgers, hot dogs,

Bar service is open from noon to 4 a.m. daily. Food service is available Wednesdays through Fridays starting at 5 p.m. and weekends starting at noon.



Hard Rock Sports Bar at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood.

## **♦ WISCONSIN** From page 1A

The size of the project is expected to be trimmed back from seven years ago, however, "to reflect the increased number of gaming facilities in both Wisconsin and northern Illinois." The Hard Rock Casino Rockford,

in Rockford, Illinois, opened a temporary casino in 2021, with a permanent casino expected to open perhaps as soon as next year. It's located about 90 miles from Kenosha.

Corn said the scaled down project will still create jobs and be substantial.

"It will still be a Hard Rock brand and be an incredible addition to the community, the local and regional economy, and the state," he said.

No timeline for construction has been set, as several government entities, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, would need to approve the plans. The land is located near Interstate 94 and 60th Street in Kenosha.

### Repatriating rare books

BY LAURA DELLO RUSSO Registrar

**BIG CYPRESS** — In the fall of 2021, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum received a large donation of books from Ms. Iretta Tiger, a tribal member from Hollywood who also works in the museum's Collections Division. The nearly 100 books in the donation, many of which are rare and historically significant, relate to the cultures and traditions of various Indigenous tribes across North America. The books once belonged to Gerald Weiss, a former professor of anthropology at Florida Atlantic University, who was living in Boca Raton. The collection included such books as "The League of the Iroquois," "History of the Calumet Dance," "The Delight Makers: A Novel of Prehistoric Pueblo Indians," and "Sandpaintings of the Navaho Shootingway and The Walcott Collection."

Sadly, Professor Weiss passed away in April 2021 and it was when his daughter,

Ana, began clearing out his estate that the collection of books was found. Ms. Tiger had been assisting Ana with the organizing of her father's belongings, and she offered to bring the books to the museum. The goal was to return the individual books to their respective tribes.

While the Collections Division at the museum added 27 of the books to its own library and archives, the mission also began to repatriate the others. With dozens of Native American tribes being represented in these books, the challenge was to find the appropriate contacts. Staff started reaching out to tribal museums, cultural centers, and libraries across the continent with the hope that the books could be returned to the communities in which they belong.

Since October 2021, 32 books have been returned to the following locations: Seneca Iroquois National Museum, Navajo Nation Library, Pawnee Nation's Historic Preservation Office, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Blackfeet Community College, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's Historic SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

AH-TAH-TH-KI

M U S E U M

A PLACE TO LEARN, A PLACE TO REMEMBER

Preservation Office, Nulhegan Abenaki Tribe's Historic Preservation Office, Akwesasne Library, Oneida Nation Museum, Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana, Pamunkey Indian Museum and Cultural Center, Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center, Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre, Winnebago Little Priest Tribal College, and

An additional 30 volumes and annual reports from the Bureau of American Ethnology have also been sent to the University of Florida, where they will become part of the collection at the Humanities and Social Sciences Department.

the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural

Heritage Center.

The final book in the donation, Zuni Fetishes by Frank Hamilton Cushing, proved to be more of a challenge to repatriate. However, that book was finally mailed to the Zuni community's A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center in mid-July.

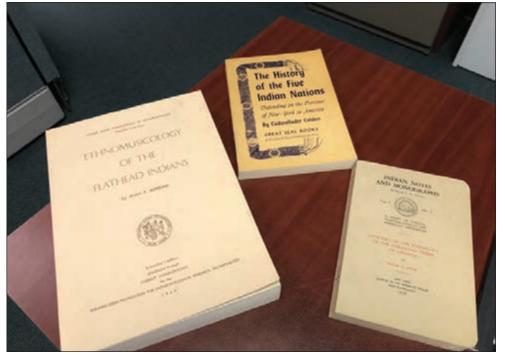
Ms. Tiger is thrilled to see so many of the books returned to their proper homes; there, they can be enjoyed by tribal members, researchers, museum visitors and surrounding communities alike. Another unexpected benefit of these repatriation efforts comes from the valuable connections formed between the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and the other tribal organizations. Many of these museums and libraries were both eager

and grateful for the donations, and bridges have now been built through this process. It is the hope that these connections may continue to grow in the future. For now, Ms. Tiger and the other members of the Collections Division are gratified to know these culturally important books are back where they belong.

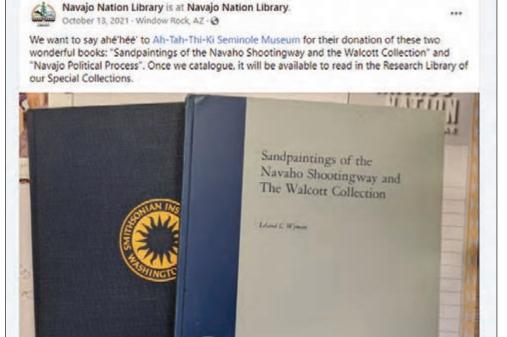
To learn more about this project, or to view the books and objects within the museum's collection, please contact museum@semtribe.com or visit us on Big Cypress. You can also check out the museum's collection online: https://semtribe.pastperfectonline.com.



Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
One of the books accessioned into the Ah-TahThi-Ki Museum's permanent collection, ATTK



Ah-Tah-Thi-K
Three books donated from the collection of Professor Weiss.



Facebool

The Navajo Nation Library tags the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in a Facebook post about the donated books.

# Sale offers glimpse into variety of Seminole art

BY CALVIN TIGER Reporter/Intern

BIG CYPRESS — The Seminole Artist Experience Art Sale was a sight to behold July 15 as several tribal artists displayed their art at the Ah-Tah-Thi-ki Museum on the Big Cypress Reservation.

In addition to the art, handmade crafts were for sale. Artists Elgin Jumper and Krystle Bowers read their original poetry. Artists Eyanna Lee Billie, Alyssa Osceola, Wilson Bowers and Tyler Tigertail also showcased their art for sale.

The artists showcased their personal artistic styles through their work.

Tigertail showed multiple art pieces along with several hand-carved woodwork items. He has been an artist since age 16 and

works primarily in painting and carving.

"The woodwork, my family used to do it, it is a generational thing. My grandfather, Little Tigertail, he was a woodcarver so he used to do it, so it's kind of in my family. So you know, I'm trying to keep it going," Tigertail said.

Tigertail said the tribal axes hold a great amount of personal and cultural value to him and help bring him awareness of the Seminole Wars.

Billie showed her art that is inspired by Japanese comic styles. Billie and her parents shared an interest in comics.

"My mom was into Manga, which is

Japanese comics, and my dad was always into Marvel and DC. So I grew up with two completely different art styles," she said.

Billie attends the Savannah School of Art of Design in Savannah, Georgia. She would also like to study in Japan at some point.

Wilson Bowers has been drawing since he was in elementary school. He uses tribal patchwork design in his artwork as well as spray painting on many surfaces, including skateboards.

"I like to see it done differently," he said about his own artistic style and approach.

Jumper was another artist that read poetry from Shakespeare while also painting on a canvas in-between. He has been a full time artist since 2004 and draws his artistic inspiration from his various outlets.

"I look at a lot of different art, different styles," Jumper said.

He is a big fan of art history and gets inspiration from art that moves him, which gives him the artistic push to paint in a specific style. Jumper is also a published proct.

Osceola focuses on painting live people and bringing the artwork to life. She also had many different tribal inspired art pieces on display.

The next Seminole Artist Experience Art Sale will be held Aug 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.at the Seminole Okalee Indian Village and Museum in Hollywood.



Calvin Tiger (4)

Above, Wilson Bowers (left) presents his artwork on display alongside Krystle Bowers at the Seminole Artist Experience Art Sale on July 15 at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. At right, Eyanna Billie's art on display; lower right, Alyssa Osceola works on one of her canvases; below, Elgin Jumper works on a painting while museum director Gordon "Ollie" Wareham plays the flute during the event.



Calvin Tiger







# Health \*

### HHS hosts health Fair on Hollywood Reservation

**STAFF REPORT** 

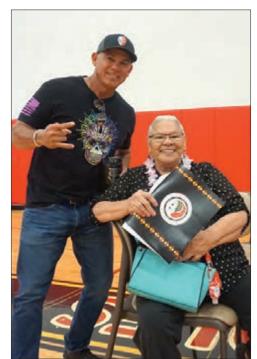
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Seminole Tribe's Health and Human Services Department (HHS) hosted a daylong health fair July 26 on the Hollywood Reservation.

Tribal members and employees filled the Howard Tiger Recreation Center to visit 22 booths representing tribal departments that were disseminating information, promoting healthy lifestyles and handing out goodies.

Departments with booths included the Center for Behavioral Health, Native Connections, AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education), We Do Recover, Environmental Health, Culture, Boys & Girls Club, Seminole Fire Rescue, Emergency Management and more.

Information was available about nutrition, dental health, Elder Services, tribal pharmacies and clinics, and tribal health plans.

Representatives at each booth stamped a card that was given to participants after they visited.



Damon Scott
Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola visits with

Wanda Bowers at the health fair.



Damon Scott

Ashley Garay, left, and Ashley Maurice staffed the AWARE booth at the health fair in Hollywood.



Damon Scott



Ulecia Green, left, and Magalie Pena both work in HHS health plan administration.

Damon Scott

The We Do Recover program handed out information and goodies to attendees. From left to right are Sonja Buck, Charlie Tiger and Olivia Aquino.



Employees from the Center for Behavioral Health staffed a booth at the event.

Damon Scott

# New Covid-19 vaccine available, Broward monkeypox cases rise

Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe's Health and Human Services (HHS) department is offering a new Covid-19 vaccine to adults called Novavax. It is intended as a primary vaccine for those who have never received one, not as a booster

HHS said Novavax is the first proteinbased vaccine available for Covid-19 in the U.S. Protein-based vaccines have been used for more than 30 years for viruses such as the shingles and the flu. HHS said some people have been holding out for a more "traditional vaccine."

The CDC recommended Novavax as another primary series option July 19.

"If you have been waiting for a Covid-19 vaccine built on a different technology than those previously available, now is the time to join the millions of Americans who have been vaccinated," CDC director Rochelle P. Walensky, said in a statement. "With Covid-19 cases on the rise again across parts of the country, vaccination is critical to help protect against the complications of severe Covid-19 disease."

HHS continues to encourage tribal members and employees to wear a mask "when appropriate" due to a rise in Covid-19 cases at the tribe and in Florida.

"The good thing is that hospitalizations have not increased [at the tribe]," Dr. Vandhana Kiswani-Barley, HHS executive director, said July 27.

Meanwhile, the World Health Organization declared monkeypox a "public health emergency of international concern" July 23. Kiswani-Barley said there have been no reported cases within the tribe. While there is a vaccine for monkeypox, she said it would only be given to individuals who have had "a positive exposure and/or positive test results."

Kiswani-Barley said the Florida Department of Health told her that it would aid the tribe with vaccine and treatment options in the event there is a positive monkeypox case. The Florida Department of Health reported that there were 129 cases of monkeypox in Broward County as of July 24 – the most in the state.

Monkeypox can spread in different ways, according to the CDC, including through direct contact with an infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids. It can spread through respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact, such as kissing, cuddling, or sex. It's also possible for people to get monkeypox from infected animals, either by being scratched or bitten by the animal or by preparing or eating meat or using products from an infected animal.

HHS said monkeypox symptoms usually begin with a fever and can include headache, muscle aches, exhaustion, chills and backache. After a fever, a rash develops within one to three days (sometimes longer), often beginning in the face and spreading to other parts of the body. Lymph nodes in the neck, armpits or groin may also swell.

For more information about Covid-19, monkeypox or vaccines, call the HHS hotline at (833) 786-3458. More information is also available at cdc.gov.

#### NIHB to host conference in D.C.

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The 39th annual National Tribal Health Conference will be held Sept. 26-28 in Washington, D.C. The conference, hosted by the National Indian Health Board, will explore health policy, tribal health equity and its impact on American Indian and Alaska

Native tribal nations. The conference seeks to advance tribal capacity to influence federal law and policies and serves as a forum to discuss tribal health care, public, behavioral, and environmental health, legislative and policy priorities.

For more information visit nihb.org.

#### IHS to hold partnership conference

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Federal, tribal, and urban Indian health care staff are invited to attend the Indian Health Service's Virtual Partnership Conference from Aug. 29 to Sept. 1. The conference will discuss the understanding of

roles in the provision of health care, how to support today's Indian health system and the role of information technology and health IT in delivering health care and managing resources efficiently.

For more information visit ihs.gov.

#### **Health powwow on Facebook**

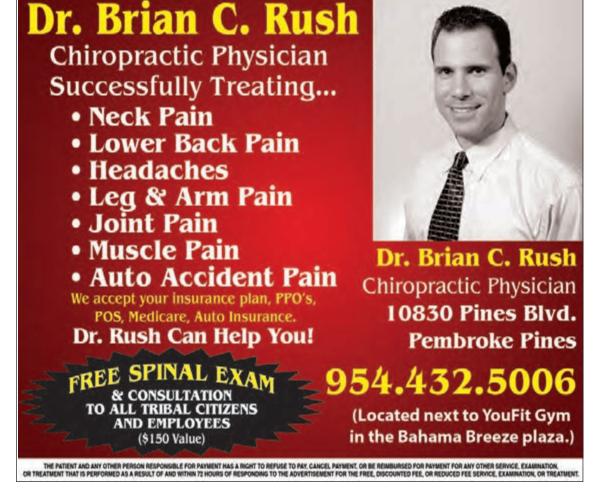
FROM PRESS RELEASE

The American Indian Cancer Foundation's 11th annual Powwow for Hope: Dancing for Live, Love, and Hope will be held on Facebook on Aug. 13 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. EST.

AICAF is trying to raise \$100k to help support its work in improving Indigenous people's access to cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and survivor support.

Visit americanindian cancer.org for more information.





## SEMINOLE SCENES \*



WORKING MAN AND DOGS: Andre Jumper and his dogs head to the woods to round up cows and calves in Cory Wilcox's pasture for the Big Cypress calf shipping July 19.



BRIGHTON DEVELOPMENT: Construction work continued in July on the Flowing Well development, Brighton's newest neighborhood.



SPECIAL GUEST: Miss Indian World Tashina Red Hawk (Sicangu Lakota) addresses the Tribal Council at the start of its meeting July 21 in the headquarters auditorium. Red Hawk visited the Hollywood Reservation and other reservations during her visit to Florida.



**Beverly Bidney** 

ROCKIN' ROWERS: Hard Rock Atlantic City had the top fundraiser team at the Gilda's Club Dragon Boat Festival on July 9. The Rockin' Rowers raised more than \$15,000. The festival is a day of dragon boat races that benefit free programs for people impacted by cancer through Cancer Support Community New Jersey at Gilda's Club.



 $WARRIOR\ WOMEN:\ Tina\ Osceola,\ director\ of\ the\ Seminole\ Tribe's\ Tribal\ Historic\ Preservation\ Office,\ was$ recognized July 27 at the WEWIN 2022 conference at the Foxwoods Resort Casino on the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation in Mashantucket, Connecticut. WEWIN stands for Women Empowering Women for Indigenous Nations. Osceola was noted as one of four Indigenous women who have impacted Indian Country through "their leadership, influencing change, and increasing awareness for the betterment of the community, nationally and globally." From left to right are Osceola, Cheryl Andrews-Maltais, chairwoman of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), and Stacy Bohlen, CEO of the National Indian Health Board.



BURSTING BUBBLES: Kids attending the Immokalee wellness fair July 21 have fun chasing and bursting huge bubbles sent afloat by the face painter in residence for the day.



**Hard Rock** Hollywood/ Facebook COLORFUL FOURTH: The **Guitar Hotel** in Hollywood is lit in red, white and blue stripes July 4.

## **NATIONAL NATIVE NEWS**

#### Tribe staffing Nevada town fire station amid shortages

NIXON, Nev. — According to Washoe County, the town of Gerlach, Nevada, has struggled to hire and retain firefighters for months -- leaving the community with limited emergency protection.

That all changes with the help of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

"This partnership allows us to put two firefighters into the station 24-hours a day," said Pyramid Lake Fire Chief Don Pelt. "By doing this, we will be hiring five additional firefighter medics up for that area that will rotate between Gerlach and Pyramid Lake so

that they can keep their skills sharp. An agreement with PLPT Fire Protection District and Washoe County is allotting five additional team members to help staff the station. This partnership upgrades life support services from intermediate to advanced.

"It gives the folks up there a better opportunity to get to a timely transport to the hospital," said Chief Pelt.

The Gerlach Citizens Advisory Board recently eliminated two fire medics from the

Pyramid Lake firefighters say they're more than happy to fill in and connect the Gerlach community with the help they need.

In the past, it would take us an hour or two to get out there, said Pyramid Lake firefighter Doug Levin.

He added: "Now, we've got somebody five minutes away from them so, we're hoping that they'll reach out to us with smaller issues before they become big issues.'

Per the five-year agreement, Washoe County will cover the salary and benefits of the new recruits. They're also funding the station, supplies and equipment purchases.

In addition, the PLPT Fire Protection District will receive \$35,000 for dispatch services through the Washoe County Sheriff's Office.

"Here we are having the ability to go and help somebody else, which is an awesome feeling and it shows that the tribe has really excelled in providing emergency fire and emergency medical services for its communities that we could take on such a task up North," said Chief Pelt.

According to Pelt, the new agreement makes the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe the largest fire protection district in Washoe County in terms of land coverage. The agreement can be terminated by either party with 120-day written notice.

- News4 and Fox11 (Reno, Nevada)

#### Onondaga Nation will regain 1,000 acres of NY forest

The Onondaga Nation is set to regain over 1,000 acres of ancestral land in central New York in what the Department of Interior calls "one of the largest returns of land to an Indigenous nation by a state."

'This historic agreement represents a unique opportunity to return traditional homelands back to Indigenous people to steward for the benefit of their community," said Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland in a June 29

"We look forward to drawing upon the Onondaga Nation's expertise and Indigenous knowledge in helping manage the area's valuable wildlife and habitat. Consistent with the President's America the Beautiful initiative, all of us have a role to play in this Administration's work to ensure our conservation efforts are locally led and support communities' health and well-

land transfer includes the headwaters of Onondaga Creek, more than 45 acres of wetland and flood plains, and approximately 980 acres of forest and fields, says the Department of Interior. The area is also home to a variety of wildlife, including brook trout in the creek, great blue heron, songbirds, waterfowl, hawks, bald eagles, frogs, bats, and white-tailed deer.

Onondaga Nation Chief Tadodaho Sidney Hill expressed joy at the milestone land return.

"It is with great joy that the Onondaga Nation welcomes the return of the first substantial acreage of its ancestral homelands," said Hill in the release. "The Nation can now renew its stewardship obligations to restore these lands and waters and to preserve them for the future generations yet to come.'

"The Nation hopes that this cooperative, government-to-government effort will be another step in healing between themselves and all others who live in this region, which has been the homeland of the Onondaga Nation since the dawn of time," Hill continued.

The land was previously owned by Honeywell, which was ordered to sign over the title and full ownership of the property to the Onondaga Nation by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as part of a settlement reached over Honeywell's contamination of the

environment. For years, Honeywell contaminated the Onondaga Lake, parts of its tributaries, and the surrounding wetlands with mercury and other dangerous substances, according to a 2017 release from the Department of Justice. A 2018 settlement through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Program required Honeywell to turn the land over to the Onondaga Nation and to implement 18 restoration projects on the affected land, according to the Department of Interior.

Honeywell, which operated several manufacturing plants in Onondaga County, is currently working on several of those restoration programs, including grassland restoration, preservation of wetland habitat, and improvement of public services like hiking trails and a public boat ramp, says the Department of Interior.

- CNN

#### **Cherokee Tribe supports** renaming Clingmans Dome in **Smoky Mountains National Park**

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Tribal Council passed a resolution July 14 in support of changing the name of the highest peak in Great Smoky Mountains National Park: Clingmans Dome.

Long before the mountain on the Tennessee-North Carolina border was a National Park attraction, the Cherokee referred to it as Kuwahi, which translates to "mulberry place." Tribal medicine men would journey up the mountain and pray for guidance, then share the visions they had with the rest of the community.

Lavita Hill, treasury specialist for the tribe, said she and her friend, fellow activist Mary Crowe, spent the last month preparing the name change proposal for the tribal government's approval. Hill said she was inspired by Yellowstone National Park's renaming of Mount Doane to First Peoples Mountain, which was based on the recommendation of the Rocky Mountain Tribal Council.

Before the Cherokee Indians were forcibly relocated in 1838, they lived for hundreds of years in what are now parts of Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina.

"It's not like we just occupied the land, we lived on the land," Hill told NPR. "Our own government, towns, language, our own newspaper; we were thriving communities. Then, due to forced removal, we were forced out of our homelands.'

Some of the Cherokee went into hiding, some in the forests on Kuwahi, while the rest of the tribe made the forced journey to Oklahoma for relocation. Nearly 4,000 Cherokee died in what later became known as the Trail of Tears.

The Cherokee who remained in the area purchased 57,000 acres of property in 1876, known as the Qualla Boundary, in western North Carolina.

In 1859, the Cherokee's sacred mountain was dubbed Clingmans Dome, after the North Carolina senator and Confederate brigadier general Thomas Lanier Clingman. Clingman had explored and measured mountain peaks in the area.

But Hill said the Cherokee name for the mountain is far more fitting considering the tribe's history and because Clingman had no ties to the area; he lived in Asheville, 75 miles east of Kuwahi.

She said their fight for the name change is just the beginning.

'We've obviously been through a lot of heartache and hurt," Hill said. "What we are trying to put out there now is how Cherokee names are important, how that plays into our culture and history and keeping us alive."

With the support of the tribal government, Hill explained, the next step is submitting paperwork to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names for consideration, which she hopes to have completed by the end of the year.

"This was the starting point," Hill said. "We've just now kicked off the work."

- NPR

#### Omaha Tribe receives grant for hydroponic farming

Tribal Planner Mike Grant and Attorney General Theresa Rachel of the Omaha Tribe joined representatives from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Rural Prosperity Nebraska initiative and the U.S. Department of Agriculture in July to finalize the terms of the \$671,000 agriculture grant awarded to

"The Omaha Nation Hydroponics Initiative is on the cutting edge of nontraditional agriculture, not only for tribal communities, but for all communities here in Nebraska," said Ted Hibbeler, a Rural Prosperity Nebraska extension educator and head of the Native American Coalition, a program that facilitates community development and leadership in Native communities and connects Native traditions and cultures with nontribal communities.

Instead of growing crops in soil, hydroponic farming is an agricultural practice that grows fruits and vegetables in sand, gravel or liquid that is infused with nutrients the plants need to grow. While the plants receive their nutrients from water instead of soil, the solutions, temperature and equipment in hydroponic greenhouses are highly monitored and controlled. This results in less water usage and greater yields than traditional soil-based agriculture.

'We can grow a crop of bib lettuce in six to seven weeks from seed to finish, whereas in soil, that same crop would take eight to nine," said Stacy Adams, an agronomy and horticulture professor who runs the hydroponics lab at Nebraska. "Hydroponic fruits often are heavier, fleshy and less tough, making them more palatable."

Not only will the hydroponic facility greatly increase the Omaha Tribe's sustainable food production capacity, but it will be the first and only facility of its kind in the nation on tribal land.

"We're well aware that we want to go through the traditional methods of crop farming — corns, beans, squash — but we also want to go into the nontraditional, which is the hydroponics," Grant said. 'We want to make sure we are taking full

advantage of any opportunity that comes to us to feed our people, our families and our children. The flipside of that is they learn proper nutrition.'

The \$671,000 will cover the first stage of the initiative — one year to construct the three greenhouses, which will be dedicated to leafy greens, substantial vegetables such as tomatoes and cucumbers, and herbs. The second stage, Hibbeler said, will include "training and educating (tribal members) on how to do their own hydroponics operation, so it can serve as a hydroponics business incubator for economic development for tribal members.

"Studies have shown that when individuals better understand where foods come from and are actively engaged with their production, healthier lifestyles result," Adams said. "In this era of colorful food packaging that masks empty sugars, fats and carbs, experiencing food production and interacting with flavorful produce could benefit the population as a whole."

- Nebraska Today (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

#### Tribe raises concerns about offshore wind development

In July, the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians submitted comments to the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management expressing significant concern about proposed development of offshore wind energy off the Oregon Coast in areas designated by BOEM as the Coos Bay and Florence call areas.

'The tribe supports any green economic development project that follows the law and does not harm our environment or tribal cultural resources. Given this, the Tribal Council takes the decision to submit these comments seriously," said Tribal Council Chair Brad Kneaper. "These comments follow the passage of a Tribal Council resolution earlier this month that calls upon BOEM to engage in meaningful government-to government consultation with the tribe and to take action to ensure that offshore wind energy development in any area of interest to the tribe avoids or mitigates impacts to tribal cultural resources to the satisfaction of the tribe.'

In multiple communications with BOEM, the tribe raised a number of concerns to BOEM about wind energy development. These comments include a request that important, cultural viewsheds be excluded from the Call Areas, that wind development, including necessary infrastructure such as transmission lines, not impact areas designated as a Traditional Cultural Property (Q'alya ta Kukwis shichdii me) (located in Coos Bay comprised of the estuary features and adjacent shoreline resources), that development not occur in areas containing cultural features located on submerged landforms, and that wind development avoid areas critical to resident and migratory species, including important areas for fishing.

The tribe has called the coast its home since time immemorial. The archaeological record of Oregon tribal nations spans more than 11,000 years. The tribe consistently advocates that any projects, on land or offshore, avoid impacts to sites of traditional and religious significance to the tribe, including the TCP features and other sites, such as viewsheds, resources, and submerged landforms that possess associations with the cultural practices, traditions, beliefs, lifeways, art, crafts, or social institutions of our living community.

The federal government must engage with the tribe to address our concerns. BOEM has stated that it worked closely with tribe. While there has been engagement with the tribe, this engagement has been a one-way conversation with BOEM providing information to the tribe. BOEM has been nonresponsive to addressing our concerns or requests to date. For example, BOEM solicited for tribes to provide input on environmental studies, however, BOEM did not invite further conversations with the tribe when we provided study concepts, but we did learn recently that the Bureau met with the State of Oregon extensively to identify prior studies for funding," said Chair Kneaper.

'The tribe initially asks BOEM to exclude areas of significant cultural importance to the tribe in a January letter, but BOEM included these areas anyway without engaging in government-to-government consultation with the tribe," said Chair Kneaper. "Our comments and resolution reiterate that expectation that BOEM uphold its trust obligation to protect tribal resources and exclude those areas. If BOEM does not, the tribe will need to look at all opportunities to ensure that wind energy development avoid impacts to resources that are important to the tribe."

- Curry Coastal Pilot (Brookings, Oregon)

#### Maine Gov. urges Congress to delay federal tribal rights bill, citing negotiations with Wabanaki

Maine Gov. Janet Mills wants Congress to delay acting on a bill intended to give Wabanaki tribes in Maine access to future federal rights and protections that other tribes enjoy.

Under terms of the 1980 Land Claims Settlement Act, the Wabanaki are currently excluded from beneficial laws and protections that apply to most other federally-recognized tribes.

A bill sponsored by Rep. Jared Golden would change that, at least going forward.

Golden's bill advanced in the House Natural Resources Committee [in June], the

first of many hurdles needed to move the legislation through Congress and into law. The legislation is also part of a House draft of next year's federal interior budget.

But Gerald Reid, the governor's top attorney, wrote to leaders on the House Appropriations Committee [in July], asking that they defer action on Golden's bill until the state and tribes have negotiated their own compromise.

The letter was first reported by the Bangor Daily News.

The governor does not want to see the Wabanaki Nations unfairly excluded from certain benefits that are generally available to federally-recognized tribes, and she believes there is potential for negotiated agreement that would address this concern," the letter reads. "To that end, I am now actively discussing the potential for such an agreement with tribal representatives.'

The letter also included testimony that Reid first provided to Congress back in April, which laid out the state's concerns with the federal bill, known as the Advancing Equality for Wabanaki Nations Act.

Mills, tribal leaders and state lawmakers spent much of this year's special legislative session considering an array of tribal bills. The governor signed two separate measures earlier this year, one that granted Maine tribes the exclusive right to offer online sports betting, and another intended to help the Passamaquoddy tribe resolve water quality issues on their land.

But a broad overhaul of the 1980 settlement act never made it out of the legislature, over fears of a potential veto from Mills. Maine's tribes acknowledged progress had been made but vowed to continue their push for sovereignty.

Spokeswoman Lindsay Crete pointed to a statement that Mills made back in April, which said she believed progress could be made on Golden's bill. The governor is currently negotiating with Maine tribes and simply wants Congress to allow time for those discussions to continue, Crete added.

But Golden, in his own statement, said the question of whether future federal laws should apply to tribes, including those in Maine, is one "squarely" one for Congress to consider — and doesn't require the state's approval.

"The state has had ample time opportunity to provide productive suggestions over the past five months,' Golden said. "Although they have alluded to a willingness to pursue a compromise with the tribes, I understand little progress has been made thus far. While we welcome good-faith efforts to improve the legislation, we will not slow our forward momentum in advancing a bill on which Congress has the principal authority.'

Tribal attorneys are discussing the legislation, which has backing from the U.S. Interior Department, with the governor's office, Chief Kirk Francis of the Penobscot Nation confirmed.

"But I am concerned that those discussions are not happening often enough and are not resulting in any meaningful progress towards compromise," he said. "We want to try to address any reasonable concerns raised by the governor, but the current practice of allowing the state to essentially block the application of any federal law intended to benefit tribal governments is nonsensical and harms both tribal communities and the nearby non-tribal communities."

Rep. Chellie Pingree of Maine's first district has seen the letter, a spokeswoman for her office confirmed. Pingree leads the interior budget-writing panel in the House, and in statement, said she "felt it was important to include language that puts us further down the path to fixing the disparity that has uniquely challenged Maine's tribes for decades.

If a bill were to advance through the regular Senate process, Sen. Susan Collins will "consider it carefully" and listen to both opponents and advocates for the proposal, said Annie Clark, the Republican senator's spokeswoman.

Sen. Angus King is speaking with stakeholders and is still evaluating whether he'll introduce or support such a measure, a spokesman for the Independent senator said

Francis said the tribe will work with the federal government and Maine's congressional delegation in the coming weeks, with the goal of passing a bill by the end of this year.

- Maine Public Radio

#### **Hualapai leader urges Senate** to OK water plan, as wells fail in drought

WASHINGTON—Hualapai Chairman Damon Clarke told a Senate committee on July 20 that getting access to Colorado River water is "the only feasible solution" for his tribe, whose wells are failing under the stress of the continuing drought.

The Hualapai Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2022 would give the tribe water rights to the Colorado, Verde and Bill Williams rivers and fund construction of water infrastructure that would deliver about 4,000 acre-feet of water a year to the tribe.

Besides delivering water to the roughly 1,600 Hualapai on the reservation, the project would serve Grand Canvon West and its Skywalk, tribe-owned tourist attractions that Clarke said are major employers of tribal members.

"The Colorado River is the only feasible solution to these problems and the only water supply that can satisfy the longer term needs of our population," Clarke said in testimony to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. "The lack of a secure water supply is a major

obstacle we still face."

The Hualapai reservation encompasses around 1 million acres along 108 miles of the Grand Canyon, with the Colorado River serving as the northern boundary. But previous agreements have not allowed water to be drawn from the Colorado for the tribe, which relied on wells for its water.

But a two-decade drought, believed to be the most severe in the Southwest in 1,200 years, has sent water levels at Lake Mead and Lake Powell to historic lows and has dried up the wells and stressed nearby aquifers the Hualapai relied on.

Three years ago, those wells suddenly failed because of the drought," Clarke said.

The Hualapai have been working for decades to expand their water rights, efforts that were often opposed by the Interior Department. But Jason Freihage, Interior's deputy assistant secretary for management, told the committee Wednesday that the department is "pleased to support" the latest bill, which brought a fleeting smile to Clarke's face.

Besides expanding access, the bill would also create a \$180 million Hualapai Water Trust Fund Account and a \$5 million Hualapai Water Settlement Implementation Fund Account that would be used for construction, operations and environmental compliance costs for a water pipeline.

The bill was sponsored by Arizona Democratic Sens. Kyrsten Sinema and Mark Kelly. Sinema told the hearing the bill provides "long-term stability to the Hualapai tribe's water needs in northern Arizona, which is especially important as Arizona and the Southwest face historic drought conditions.'

An identical House bill was sponsored by Rep. Tom O'Halleran, D-Sedona, and cosponsored by Arizona Reps. Greg Stanton, D-Phoenix; Paul Gosar, R-Prescott; Ruben Gallego, D-Phoenix; and Ann Kirkpatrick, D-Tucson. It got a hearing May 12 before the House Natural Resources Committee, but no further action has been taken.

In a statement after the bill was introduced, O'Halleran said it "takes into account tribal sovereignty, the protection of our most precious natural resource, and the growing communities of Peach Springs and Grand Canyon West."

Besides less-crowded views of the Grand Canyon, the Hualapai owned and operated Grand Canyon West includes the Skywalk, a glass-bottomed walkway that extends 70 feet into the the canyon, with the canyon floor 4,000 feet below. But water shortages have affected the tribe's ability to keep these tourism services up and running.

'The collapse of these wells have forced us to limit our operations at Grand Canyon West, threatening our tribal economy and the main source of employment for our members," Clarke told the committee.

To keep operations running, the tribe has had to pump water from an aquifer and haul it "15 miles by truck on a gravel road to get to Grand Canyon West," Clarke said. "It is the only way we can continue our remaining operations at Grand Canyon West.'

The Hualapai "will help in any way we can to secure enactment of this critical legislation," said Clarke, who called the bill "absolutely essential if our tribe is to attain a secure future on our reservation, to accommodate future growth of our population and to realize the full economic potential of our reservation.'

- Cronkite News/Arizona State University

#### First Nations, B.C. government move to ban black bear hunting in an effort to protect rare spirit bears

The British Columbia, Canada, government has banned the hunting of black bears in the territories of the Kitasoo/ Xai'xais and Gitga'at First Nations in the Great Bear Rainforest, in response to a joint proposal by the nations to protect one of the rarest bear species on the planet: the spirit

"This is the only part of the world where you'll likely find a spirit bear," said Douglas Neasloss, co-ordinator for the Kitasoo/ Xai'xais Stewardship Authority (KXSA).

"Anytime someone shoots a black bear, it could be carrying that recessive gene so we wanted to see that hunt over."

Spirit bears, also known as kermode bears or moksgm'ol in the Tsimshian language, are black bears with a white coat the result of a recessive gene found in about one in 10 black bears in British Columbia's Central and North Coast regions, according to research from the University of Victoria in collaboration with the nations.

The B.C. government announced the new regulations on July 1, which include stipulations on hunting closures covering 8,158 square kilometres of Kitasoo/Xai'xais and Gitga'at territories, and approximately 13 per cent of the Great Bear Rainforest. It is a region wildlife biologists say is home to the highest concentration of black bears possibly carrying the rare gene.

Neasloss says this is the only part of the world where spirit bears appear. "It's just such a rare thing to see something so beautiful and white just come out of a dark green forest," he said.

- CBC

# SOUTH FLORIDA'S ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION



AUG 5 A.R. RAHMAN



SEP 4
CARIN LEON



SEP 11 DPR LIVE



SEP 16 ALICIA KEYS



OCT 1 MAXWELL WITH FANTASIA



OCT 8
SMASHING
PUMPKINS WITH
JANE'S ADDICTION



AUG 24 LUCERO & MIJARES



SEP 10 AMY SCHUMER



SEP 12 SCORPIONS & WHITESNAKE



SEP 22 GREEN DAY



OCT 7
BEN PLATT



OCT 15 CHRIS STAPLETON









## Education



## SWEP students get inside look at Hard Rock operations

BY DAMON SCOTT Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — Ten students in the Seminole Tribe's Student Work Experience Program (SWEP) had a chance to see some behind the scenes features of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood on July 14 that most people never will. The tour was

also designed to offer a taste of what the nongaming side of a Hard Rock career might look like.

The high school students (and one new graduate) toured Hard Rock's memorabilia vault; got a tour of the Guitar Hotel's extensive pool area; had lunch at the Hard Rock Cafe; and got to see a top floor VIP suite at the flagship property.

Jo-Lin Osceola, the director of the



 ${\bf Maddox\ Osceola\ checks\ out\ the\ piano\ in\ one\ of\ the\ VIP\ suites\ in\ the\ Guitar\ Hotel\ during\ the\ tour.}$ 



Damon Scott

The SWEP tour gathered at the oculus water feature at the Hard Rock Hollywood on July 14. From left to right are Ja'Kailee Stewart, Aniya Cypress, Jailyn Mowatt, Maddox Osceola, Tomie Motlow, Jo-Lin Osceola, Niksen Motlow, Layla Petrillo, Noah Osceola, Maurice Tyler, Kajir "Kai" Harriott, Isabella Josh and Isabella Motlow.

Tribal Career Development program (TCD), said the tour was the first collaborative event between her department, the Hollywood Council Office, and Tribal Professional Development (TPD), which is part of the Education Department.

"I explained to the students that the program is designed to build business skills, develop leadership capacities and give access to senior leaders," Osceola said. "Touring the vault, pool and hotel may have been a little overwhelming, but our students

were very engaged and observant throughout the day. I'm excited to start planning the next learning tour."

♦ See SWEP on page 5B

## Big Cypress parade celebrates grads of all ages

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Big Cypress graduates paraded in a tram and other vehicles on the reservation's Josie Billie Highway July 25 to celebrate their accomplishments. At the end of the parade, on property slated for a new senior center and preschool, treats and a drive-in movie awaited them.

"This was supposed to be in June, but it was delayed," said Big Cypress Councilwoman Mariann Billie, who gifted every graduate with a traditional beaded necklace. "We are happy to celebrate their accomplishment any time."

Graduates included Carlise Bermudez, Lauren Doctor, Teyha Howard and Daleen Osceola from Ahfachkee, Canaan Jumper from American Heritage, Mya Cypress from Boca Beauty Academy and Loraine Jumper from the Big Cypress Preschool.

The grads hung out and enjoyed plenty of snacks, fruit, hamburgers, hot dogs, freshly popped popcorn and cold drinks before the "Bad Guys" movie began.



Seminole Fire Rescue leads a convoy for the Big Cypress Reservation's parade to honor its 2022 graduates July 25.

Beverly Bidney



Beverly Bidney

Ahfachkee graduate Carlise Bermudez, center, is happy to see school friends at the Big Cypress graduation parade and celebration July 25.



Beverly Bidney

Sisters Loraine Jumper, left, a Big Cypress Preschool graduate, and Canaan Jumper, an American Heritage School graduate, enjoy the Big Cypress parade and celebration in their honor.

Beverly Bidney

## Class of 2022

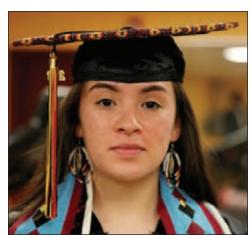




Skye Stubbs
American Heritage School
Skye will attend Louisiana State University and plans to study general business. She would like to open her own photography business and perhaps run for elected office in the tribe.



Daven Buck
Citizens High School
Daven plans to attend ATP Flight School in
Arizona and then become a pilot.



Carlise Bermudez
The Ahfachkee School
Carlise will attend Haskell Indian Nations
University in Kansas where she plans to major
in Indigenous studies and law. She hopes to
come back and work for the tribe.



Pherian Baker
Moore Haven High School
Pherian hopes to attend Universal Technical
Institute in Orlando. He would like to open his
own shop on the Brighton Reservation.



Alexis Jimmie
GED

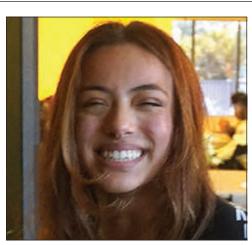
Alexis earned her GED through the Education
Department's tutoring program. She is
expecting a baby and, for now, plans to stay
home with the baby and her toddler.



Hunter Howard
The Ahfachkee School
Hunter will attend either Florida Gulf Coast
University or Indian River State College and
compete on the school swim team. He is
interested in becoming a veterinary technician.



Elle Thomas
Okeechobee High School
Elle will attend Indian River State College where
she will play softball and study business. She
aspires to own a business one day.



Kylie Drake

NSU University School

Kylie will attend Florida Atlantic University and major in music. She would like to have a music-related career.



Allie Williams

Neshoba Central High School (Miss.)

Allie will attend Ottawa University in Kansas and play for the school's bowling team. She plans to major in elementary education with hopes of teaching children at a private institution.



Timothy Tigertail

The Ahfachkee School

Timothy will attend Broward College with the goal of transferring to Georgia Institute of Technology where he will study engineering. He would like to either start his own business or work for the tribe.



Athena Bert
The Ahfachkee School
Athena has been accepted into art schools in
Sarasota, Ohio and New Mexico, but hasn't
decided which she will attend. She plans to
study illustration, storyboarding, logo design and
character development and have a career as a
cartoon artist for television.



Lauren Doctor
The Ahfachkee School
Lauren would like to attend either the Institute
of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico
or the Savannah College of Art and Design in
Atlanta. She wants to study comic writing and
animation. She would like a career in gothic style
illustration.



Adryauna Baker
Okeechobee High School
Adryauna will attend Indian River State College
and plans to transfer to a university after two
years. She will study psychology. She wants to
work on the Brighton Reservation as a mental
health advocate for young Natives.



Marina Garcia
The Ahfachkee School
Marina would like to study crime scene science,
but she isn't sure where yet. She is also
interested in a possible career in child care.



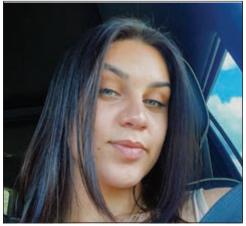
Nichelle Osceola
Miccosukee Indian School
Nichelle is interested in attending Johnson &
Wallace University for culinary arts.



Ava Nunez
Immokalee High School
Ava will attend Thomas University in
Thomasville, Georgia, where she will play
softball. She plans to study childhood education
and become a teacher after graduation.



Caleb Burton
Okeechobee High School
Caleb wants to be a long haul truck driver.



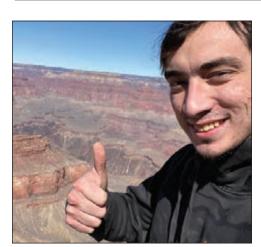
Clarice DeMayo
American Heritage School
In August, Clarice will be studying in London at
the University of Oregon's international campus
for three weeks. In September, she will attend
the University of Oregon to study business and
art history.



Tammy Martinez
Penn Foster
Tammy will attend Indian River State College and study business. She hopes to become a business owner when she graduates.



Ja'Kailee Stewart
NSU University School
Ja'Kailee will attend the University of Colorado
in Colorado Springs. She plans to major in
criminal justice and pursue a career in the field.



Brandon Osceola
GED
Brandon enlisted in the U.S. Army and was scheduled to start basic training in July. He wants a career in the military and then to find a house with land and relax. He would also like to give back to the tribe in some way.



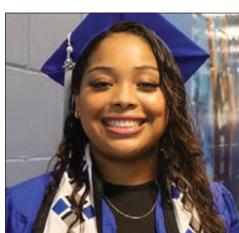
Tehya Howard
The Ahfachkee School
Tehya plans to take some time off from school
to figure out what she wants to do.



Noah Tigertail-Billie Miccosukee Indian School Noah is undecided on his future plans.



Ashanti Gore
GED
Ashanti earned her GED through the Education
Department's tutoring program. She would like
to take some college classes and learn about
opportunities in the medical field.



**Jahniyah Henry** NSU University School Jahniyah will attend Pace University in New York for liberal arts.

## Class of 2022



Jordan Osceola The Ahfachkee School Jordan has many interests and plans to explore her options to become either a bartender, tattoo artist and/or a math teacher.



Daleen Osceola The Ahfachkee School Daleen plans to attend the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and major in illustration. Her goal is to illustrate Native American children's books.



**Leilani Burton Okeechobee High School** Leilani will attend Indian River State College for two years and then transfer to either Florida **Gulf Coast University or the University of Central** Florida. She plans to major in elementary education and become a teacher.



Canaan Jumper American Heritage School Canaan will attend the University of Arizona. She will study behavioral science. She would like to work in a career for the tribe.



**Joss Youngblood** Okeechobee High School Joss will attend Indian River State College where she plans to study psychology. She would like to be a school therapist.



**Jaytron Baker Moore Haven High School** 



**Kayven Osceola-Emily Okeechobee High School** 



**Diego Gopher Moore Haven High School** 



**Petra Battiest** 



**Dylan Johns Okeechobee High School** 





Kyandra 'Tvfv' Harris Okeechobee High School



**Spencer Jock** Spencer worked with the tutoring department to earn his GED. He plans to travel to see family in New York and then hopes to get a job at the Immokalee casino where he worked while he was studying for his GED.

#### **Ashlee Cypress** American Heritage School

Ashlee will attend Syracuse University in New York. She would like to study fashion design and pursue a career in the industry.

> Mae'Anna Osceola Miccosukee Indian School Mae'Anna is undecided about her upcoming plans. She is interested in traveling.

## Higher education graduates 2021-22

Degree

Certificate

Certificate

Student **Katherine Bert Bobbie Billie Donald Billie** Marcella Billie Jennifer Billie Chadwick Elijah Cook **Celena Doctor Kvle Donev Kirsten Doney** Lena Frame Terance Hill **Jada Holdiness Mary Johns Timothy Jones** Randi Kittle **Bradley Latchford Thomasine Motlow** Cheyenne Nunez Marissa Osceola Cara Osceola Elizabeth Osceola **Alexus Osceola-James** Noah Paulido Leeonna Pichardo **Shannon Purvis Alana Roberts** Talia Rodriguez **Jesse Sanchez** Joseph Snow Linda Spurlock Layton Thomas Camryn Thomas **Jathan Tommie** Colton Vazquez Julian Yescas **Brydgett Youngblood** Wyatt Youngman Carson John-Carney Mia Sapp

Institute Aveda Institute Boca Beauty Academy Seminole State College of FL Rasmussen College Palm Beach State College Boca Beauty Academy University of Oklahoma Florida State University Aveda Institute Lake Tech College Valencia College Indian River State College Wilkes University Master of Arts Savannah Coll. of Arts and Design Bachelor of Fine Arts Florida State University University of Oklahoma University of South Florida Florida SouthWestern State Coll. Cameron University Arizona State University University of Alabama UTI-Orlando Paul Mitchell The School of Miami Certificate Palm Beach State College University of Miami Florida Barber Academy Florida Career College Valencia College Lynn University University of North Florida Baldwin Agricultural College Tulsa Welding School Florida Technical College Lynn University Indian River State College Florida Southern College

Certificate Bachelor of Arts Certificate Certificate Certificate Master of Legal Studies Bachelor of Arts Certificate Certificate Associate of Arts **Technical Certification** Bachelor of Science Master of Legal Studies Bachelor of Arts Associate of Arts Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Arts **Technical Certification** Associate of Arts Bachelor of Science Certificate Certificate Associate of Arts Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Science Certificate Technical Certification Bachelor of Science

Associate of Arts

Bachelor of Science

Major Esthiology Master Aesthetician Automotive Political Science Business Automotive Service Tech. Nail Technician Indigenous Peoples Law Interdisciplinary Social Science Cosmetology Baking and Pastry Arts Business Nail Technician Creative Writing Graphic Design Athletic Training, NFA Indigenous Peoples Law Sociology General Education Sports and Exercise Science **Business Communication Communication Studies** Marine Technician Specialist Cosmetology General Studies Human and Social Development Heating, Venting, Air Conditioning General Studies **Business** Accounting Agricultural Education Professional Welder with Pipefitting Culinary Arts **Biology** Hospitality and Tourism Citrus and Horticultural Science

### **Additional high school** students

(The Tribune did not have additional information about these students who were scheduled to graduate in 2022).

Okeechobee High School

San Marcos High School

**Cameron Alexander Elyse Alvarado** Alanis Baker **Jayton Baker** Janae Bankston **Griffin Billie** Jackson Billie Tony Billie Jr. **Andrew Bowers Leviticus Buster Hermione Calderon** Jesse Caldwell **Evan Cypress Harmony Cypress Jarred Cypress Tauni Cypress Bruce Deitz** LeeAnn Diaz **Angel Dillon** Julian Dillion **Leon Edouard Dathan Garcia** Isiah Garcia Kiowa Garcia Virginia Garcia **Maria Garner Justin Gopher Karey Gopher** Alonie Gore **Vivian Gore-Martinez Shyla Holata Corey Jumper** Madison Jumper Nariah Mata **Angelie Melton Desmond Miller Charles Osceola Daylon Osceola Diamond Osceola** Jennie Osceola Jordan Osceola Mary Jane Osceola Ryanna Osceola Samuel Osceola **Rafael Ramirez Edie Robbins** Francisco Rodriguez Penelope Rodriguez **Azaria Simmons Caidence Smith Corrina Smith** Willie Smith **Trevor Storm Owen Urbina** Alexus Walden **Trace Wilcox** 

Eckerd School Forest Hill Community School Penn Foster Know It All Prep Hollywood Hills High School Miami Youth Academy American Heritage School Penn Foster Canterbury School Penn Foster **Exceed Prep** American Heritage School Westlake Prep Know It All Prep NSU University School Interactive Education Acad. Interactive Education Acad. Okeechobee High School Know It All Prep East Lee High School Moore Haven High School Moore Haven High School Okeechobee High School Moore Haven High School Okeechobee High School GED Penn Foster GED Moore Haven High School American Heritage School The Ahfachkee School Okeechobee High School Bloomindale High School Pine Ridge Alternative Ctr. Lehigh Senior High School Know It All Prep The Ahfachkee School **NSU University School** Okeechobee High School Know It All Prep Know It All Prep Zuni High School Penn Foster Port St. Lucie East Bay High School Florida Virtual School **Grace Christian School** GED GED

**GED** 

Seacrest Country Day School

Know It All Prep

## Tribe celebrates festive Fourth of July



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, left, and Lillian Joni Smith take a break during lunch at Brighton's Fourth of July celebration July 1 at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena.



Taylor Battiste jumps into the cool water at the Seminole Estates pool in Hollywood during the reservation's celebration July 2.



Josh Garza aims and throws a horseshoe during the Fourth of July tournament in Immokalee.



**Damon Scott** 

Carla Gopher-Rodriguez, left, and Melissa Gopher-Carter assisted with food preparation and other tasks at Brighton's Fourth of July celebration.



The new water park at the Seminole Estates clubhouse proves to be a popular destination for kids during Hollywood's celebration.



Efraim Colon swings with all his might during a pickup game of baseball at the Immokalee Fourth of July celebration July 1.



Aislinn Osceola tries her luck in a beanbag game at the Hollywood celebration.



**Damon Scott** Jaylee Osceola, left, and Isabella Spencer enjoy their painted faces during Brighton's celebration.



Sonja Buck competes in the horseshoe event at the Hollywood celebration.



**Beverly Bidney** 

Jerome Davis, left, and Emmett Johnson show the prizes they won in carnival games at Hollywood's



Charlie Julian, left, and Miguel Estrada race each other down the water slide at Brighton's Fourth of July celebration.



**Beverly Bidney** 

## **♦ SWEP** From page 1B

Osceola is a former graduate of the TCD program and has been developing an enhanced version of it. She said 10 tribal members are currently in the program and there are nine alumni.

The TCD program entails learning the various departments of hotel and casino operations. Trainees learn from a blend of on-the-job training, specialized classroom training, seminars and workshops, best practices, mentoring and work experience. Trainees can be placed at any of the tribe's six Florida casino locations.

"The tour was excellent," Tomie Motlow, special adviser to Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola, said. "I heard a couple students say they were interested in the internship at the vault and another was ready to put in her application in to work in the special events department."

Kajir "Kai" Harriott, the Education Department's student and professional development success coach, was on the tour to assist and answer questions. He said the SWEP students on the tour are working in a variety of tribal departments, including Seminole Media Productions, Housing, Public Safety, Health and Human Services, the Native Learning Center, Hollywood Board Office, Culture Department and the Boys and Girls Club.

SWEP is one option under the TPD umbrella at the Education Department. It also offers the Work Experience Program (WEP) and the Emerging Leaders Program (ELP). Work experience positions are paid and hours range from 20 to 40 hours a week, depending on the department and program.

For more information on TCD, contact Osceola by email at jolin. osceola@stofgaming.com. For more on Education Department programs, visit seminoleeducation.com.



Courtesy photo

Layla Petrillo tours one of the VIP suites in the Guitar Hotel on July 14.

## Cousins Krysta Burton and Brydgett Youngblood celebrate IRSC graduation

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

Krysta Burton and Brydgett Youngblood grew up not far from each other in Okeechobee and Brighton. The first cousins recently shared an important milestone when they both graduated from Indian River State College with associate degrees.

Burton earned an Associate of Arts in health science. She plans to attend school to become an emergency medical technician and paramedic, but will take a gap year before she pursues the next step of her education. Burton is also interested in nursing and said if she decides the EMT and paramedic fields aren't for her, she will go into nursing instead

"I don't have family in the medical field, but it's always been an interest of mine," Burton said. "There are so many different aspects of the field and so much you can do, I'd never get bored. If I do go into nursing, I'd love to be in the emergency room."

Burton is glad to have graduated and is ready to start a new chapter in her life. She is the first in her household to graduate from college; her mother Micki Burton started but never finished college.

As for graduating together with her

cousin, Burton said they didn't see each other often since they attended different campuses of IRSC.

"But it was cool to graduate with my cousin," Burton said.

Youngblood earned an Associate of Arts in culinary management and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree. Her interest in the culinary and hospitality field began when she first learned to cook.

"I switched majors a few times and realized I really like cooking and wondered if I could go to school for it," Youngblood said. "I love baking and stuck with it."

She likes to bake cakes, desserts and pastries, but she also wants to go further in the field. She plans to ultimately get a bachelor's degree in business so she can learn the business side of running restaurants. Eventually she would like to open her own bakery.

Her young daughter and new baby keep Youngblood busy, but she wants to get a job and learn about the business before she continues her education.

"It feels good to be a graduate, but I'm glad to be done for now," she said. "I'm glad I found something I love to do and I'm happy I got my degree."



Mya Cypress earned her second degree in two years from the Boca Beauty Academy. The new degree is as a Master Aesthetician, the first one was in cosmetology.

A 2019 Ahfachkee School grad, Cypress said her goal is to own a storefront spa one day. She took the courses and learned to be a professional aesthetician for that reason.

"I want to be well rounded in my knowledge," she said. "But make-up is my main focus."



Beverly Bidney

Mya Cypress

## UNITY wraps up conference

FROM PRESS RELEASE

MESA, Ariz. — Nearly 2,000 Native youth from around the country spent five days in mid-July at the United National Indian Tribal Youth's annual conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The conference, presented by the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, featured keynote speakers chef Stephanie "Pyet" DeSpain (Prairie Band Potawatomi), the first-ever winner of Gordon Ramsay's "Next Level Chef;" and James Anderson (Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Ojibwe), a trainer, author and co-founder of the Lifeskills Center for Leadership.

Native American and Alaska Native youth and advisors from rural and urban tribal communities participated in educational workshops that emphasized Native American storytelling, culture and skillsets.



Beverly Bidney

Higher education graduates, and cousins, Krysta Burton, left, and Brydgett Youngblood



Participants enjoy lunch at Hard Rock Cafe.



Courtesy photo



The legs of animals are more often than not their most significant body part. Whether they are using them to charge after prey or escape a predator, it is imperative that the legs function well. Just like there are differences in human arms and legs, quadrupeds, or mammals that walk on four legs, have similar differences. The bones are shaped entirely different but the general makeup of the entire arm, or front foot and leg, or hindfoot is the same. Usually the THPO Archaeology Department recovers the larger portions of the animal limbs because they are sturdier and can hold up better against the elements. However, this month's artifact features a rarely found bone from the leg: the patella.

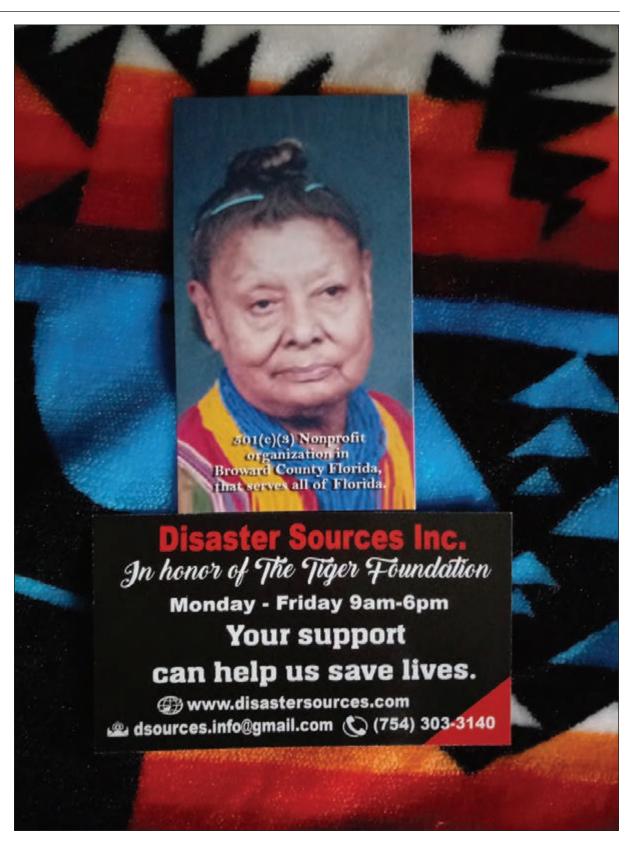
The patella, or kneecap, is a hard knobby bone that is surrounded by ligaments and muscle. It acts as a barrier to the hinge joint that is created by the femur (upper leg/thigh bone) and the tibia (lower leg/shin bone). When an animal starts to run, ligaments supported by the patella pull on the shin bone. The patella in this case belongs to one of the most skittish animals in Florida: the deer. The Collections team has identified many different deer bones over the years but this is the first time for a patella. This bone helps a deer get up to speeds of 35-40 mph.

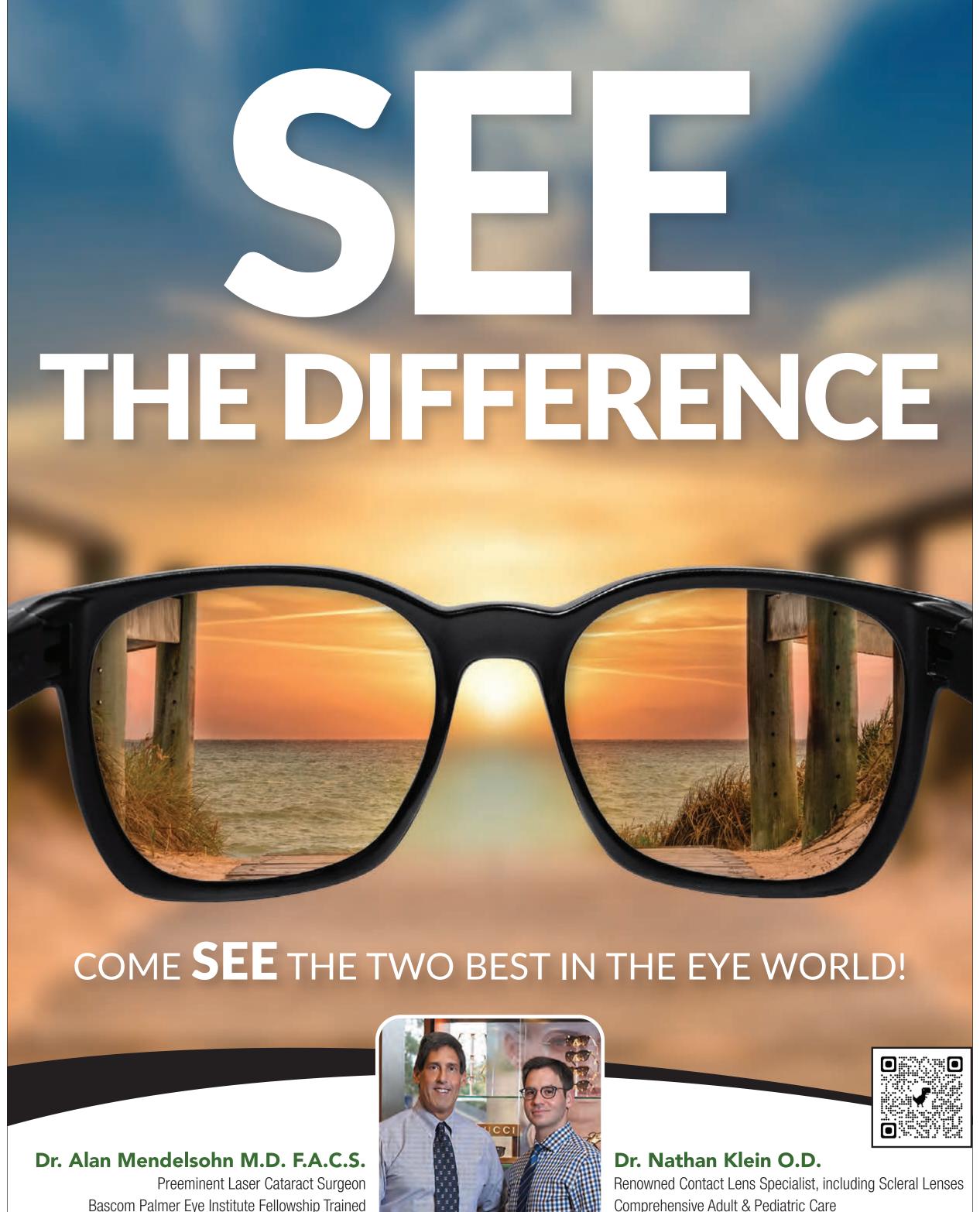












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# Sports\*

## Florida teams shine at NABI

Skyla Osceola coaches Native Soldiers girls to championship game

> **BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor**

The Seminole Tribe's Skyla Osceola is not through yet with making her mark as a basketball player, but she has already begun to compile an impressive coaching resume.

For the second year in a row, Osceola guided the Native Soldiers to the girls championship game at the Native American Basketball Invitational, one of Indian Country's largest sporting events of the year.

The invitational, for Native youth ages 13-18, annually draws 64 girls teams and 64 boys teams to the Phoenix area.

Osceola played in NABI when she was younger, but never reached a championship game. The perks are high for the two boys and two girls teams that make it to the NABI championships. They get to play in the home arena of the NBA's Suns and WNBA's Mercury.

Last year, Native Soldiers didn't get a chance to play the championship in the arena because of scheduling conflicts with the Suns being in the NBA Finals. This year the calendar was clear. In fact, an added caveat was the Mercury's home game the night before the championship. The Mercury hosted Seattle in Sue Bird's final regular season trip to Phoenix, which is home to her good friend Diana Taurasi. Osceola and her team attended the Mercury-Storm game and were honored at halftime in front of more than 14,000 fans at Footprint Center on what was also Native American Night.

In addition to taking in all the extracurricular activities, Osceola said she hopes her players also learned what the pinnacle of women's basketball is all about. "I just hope they got to see what the next

elite level looks like," she said. Less than 24 hours after the Mercury

game, Osceola was coaching in the arena, getting a feel for the big time.

'It's a super nice arena. It was a privilege to be able to coach in there where a lot of great players hoop in from WNBA to NBA," she said.

Osceola's team faced the Rezbombers from Arizona in the title tilt that was broadcast on ESPN+. After winning its first seven games, often by lopsided margins, Native Soldiers ran into an obstacle with a loss to the Rezbombers the day before the

The rematch was evenly played in the first half except for the final 90 seconds which the Native Soldiers would love to



Native Soldiers coach Skyla Osceola talks to her team during a timeout of a semifinal game at the Native American Basketball Invitational in Phoenix.

have back. The Rezbombers turned a onepoint lead into a 11-point cushion at halftime and went on to post a 70-51 win.

Osceola described that late dry spell in the first half as a "good learning opportunity for both coaches and players; to look back and know how to handle those situations

Still, being runner-up in a tournament that features a bevy of future college players culminated a strong week for Native Soldiers.

"We emphasized defense, rebounding, and out working people. If we can stop teams and push the ball, we knew we had a great chance of winning each game," Osceola said.

Most of Native Soldiers' roster came from tribes outside of Florida; Elsa Stier (Miccosukee) was the team's lone player from Florida.

As for playing, Osceola said she is excited to be back on the women's team at Nova Southeastern University, where she is a graduate student. Osceola had an outstanding freshman year in 2017-18 as she led the team in several categories, but she's been plagued by injuries since then. She last played for the am in the 2019-20 season.

"I am extremely excited about [playing]," she said.

See NABI on page 4C



Mark Jones



N2Deep's Chanon Frye rises above the defenders during a NABI game in Phoenix.



Mark Jones

### 'Fresh' Walters set for first college season

**STAFF REPORT** 

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte football team, which includes freshman wide receiver Roger "Fresh" Walters, will begin its 2022 season in Walters'

The 49ers will open their season Aug. 27 in Boca Raton against Florida Atlantic University at 7 p.m.

Walters, the son of Seminole tribal member Sheree Sneed, grew up at the tribe's Chupco's Landing in Fort Pierce before moving to Port St. Lucie. He starred in football and basketball at St. Lucie West Centennial. In football, he was a three-star recruit by ESPN.com/Scout. He earned allstate honorable mention and was named first

The 5-foot-10 Walters is one of 23 freshmen on the roster. He will wear No. 5, sharing the number with defensive back Wayne Jones.

The season opener is a Conference USA game, but both schools are on their way out of the conference. Charlotte and FAU will join the American Athletic Conference in 2023. For football, the switch means the 49ers will be in the same conference as South Florida as well as FAU. Central Florida is in the conference, but will be leaving to join the Big 12 next year.

Charlotte is coming off a 5-7 season in which it lost five of its final six games.

The 49ers were picked by Athlon Sports to finish seventh this season in the 11-team conference.

#### 2022 Charlotte 49ers football schedule

**8/27** at Florida Atlantic 7 p.m. 9/2 home vs William & Mary 7 p.m. 9/10 home vs Maryland 3:30 p.m. 9/17 at Georgia State 7 p.m. 9/24 at South Carolina TBA 10/1 home vs Texas El Paso 6 p.m.

**10/15** at Ala.-Birmingham 3:30 p.m. 10/22 home vs Florida Intl. 3:30 p.m. 10/29 at Rice 2 p.m. 11/5 home vs Western Kentucky 12 p.m.

11/12 at Middle Tenn. 3:30 p.m. 11/19 home vs Louisiana Tech 3:30 p.m.



University of North Carolina at Charlotte freshman Roger "Fresh" Walters

#### **High school** football set to kickoff

2022 Moore Haven High School football schedule

All games start at 7 p.m. except where

8/18 home vs Berean Christian (classic) 8/26 at Atlantic (Port Orange) 9/2 at Evangelical Christian (Fort Myers) 7:30 p.m.

9/9 home vs Keswick Christian 9/16 at Appling County (Baxley, Ga.) 9/22 home vs IMG Academy Blue 9/30 home vs SW Florida Christian 10/6 at Glades Day (Belle Glade) 10/21 home vs Marco Island Academy 10/28 home vs Ridge Comm. 7:30 p.m.

#### 2022 Okeechobee High School football schedule

All games start at 7 p.m. except where

8/19 home vs Jupiter 6:30 p.m. (classic) 8/26 home vs DeSoto 9/2 at Central (Fort Pierce)

9/9 at Frostproof 7:30 p.m. 9/16 home vs Archbishop McCarthy 9/30 home vs Westwood 10/7 at Immokalee

10/14 home vs Port St. Lucie 10/21 at Lake Placid 7:30 p.m. 10/28 at Sebring 7:30 p.m.

11/4 home vs Ambassadors Christian

N2Deep breaks from a huddle at NABI.

#### Dolphins player's foundation brings kids to Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki for day of culture

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — A group of about 50 kids spent the day at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on June 30 and left filled with knowledge about the Seminole Tribe's culture, food and art, thanks to the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation.

The foundation was started by Miami Dolphin defensive tackle Zach Sieler, who wanted to give kids the opportunity to get to know what the interior of Florida is all about. Sieler has been with the team since 2019 after he was released from the Baltimore Ravens.

"Our goal is to help kids learn and see parts of Florida they didn't know about," Sieler said. "When most people think of Florida, they think about beaches, Disney and Miami. This is an amazing part of the state and I want to help kids experience the natural Florida and the rich culture of the Seminole Tribe."

The Dolphins have partnerships with various foundations and organizations through their Football UNITES program, with the goal to improve relationships between groups, promote understanding and experience cultures.

The goal of the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation is to educate and expose youth of all abilities to the traditions of the Seminole Tribe and to foster cultural awareness and appreciation of the outdoors.

This was the foundation's first outing to the Big Cypress Reservation. The kids came from the Big Brothers and Big Sisters



**Beverly Bidney** 

Carol Cypress talks to a group from the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation as they peruse her beaded jewelry during a visit to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on June 30.



Summer Work Experience Program intern Chandler DeMayo shares information during a tour of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum with Miami Dolphins defensive tackle Zach Sieler, whose foundation brought about 50 kids to the museum.

of Miami Dade and Broward counties, Generational Cure and the Urban League of Broward County.

During the tour, museum educator Cypress Billie and Summer Work Experience Program intern Chandler DeMayo explained the displays in the museum and the Seminole way of life.

"From the time you are young, you are on your mother's hip learning things," DeMayo told the group. "We learn by watching, asking and doing."

DeMayo explained the evolution of traditional Seminole clothing and the

meaning of some patchwork designs. He said the long shirt worn by men is good for the heat since it is so lightweight.

"Corn dance lasts for four days," Billie said as they toured the life-sized display of Seminoles dancing and playing stickball. "We dance all night until the morning sun. During the day we play stickball.'

At the ceremonial grounds, the group listened to museum director Gordon "Ollie" Wareham play traditional flute and tell the story of the box turtle and the rabbit.

"This is my aunt Carol Cypress's favorite story," Wareham said. "The rabbit is our bad guy, he's a trickster. Our stories have morals that teach our kids.

It was the first time many of the kids saw an alligator wrestling show. Some kids were amazed, others were sure not to get too close to the pen. Afterward, wrestler Pharoah Gayles answered the kids' questions. Most were predictable questions about the animal, its teeth and how dangerous it is.

Ryan Vassor, 11, noticed something interesting about the alligator's back. He told Gayles the gator's back looked like it had solar panels that gave it energy. Gayles replied that the bumps on the gator's back do absorb the heat like a solar panel to conserve

"I saw a gator once when I was fishing," said Chase Cooper, 10, after the show. "I don't know at all why he wanted to wrestle

Darwyn Allen, STEM ready education manager of the Urban League of Broward County, brought a group of teens to the museum tour and they had a lot to say about what they learned about the tribe.

"I got to know about Native Americans and their clans," said Nevaeh Marston, 14. "I learned how the clans work and that the guy goes to the woman's clan."

"They learned to survive without outside contact," added Shelsey Desormeau, 14. "Their culture is really amazing."

"I'm honored to have our students experience this type of cultural immersion,"

Allen said. "If you understand the importance of culture, you understand your purpose. There are a lot more commonalities among peoples than differences.'

Sieler hopes this is just the first of many more visits to Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki. During the off-season, he lives in Lake Placid and would like kids to get to know that area as well.

The Sieler Safe Haven Foundation wasn't the only foundation to visit Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki that week. The previous day, June 29, a group from the Jason Taylor Foundation's Omari Hardwick bluapple Poetry Network rode a swamp buggy at Billie Swamp Safari, toured the museum and had a traditional lunch at the ceremonial grounds. A poetry workshop led by Elgin Jumper and Krystle

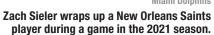
Bowers was held after lunch.

"I think we all benefitted in contributing a verse to the overall poetry of the day. And I, for one, am exceedingly grateful for having been invited to participate," Jumper said.

The Jason Taylor Foundation's

mission is to support and create programs that facilitate the personal growth and empowerment of South Florida's children in need by focusing on improved health care, education and quality of life.

Miami Dolphins





Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum educator Cypress Billie explains the scenes depicting stickball and corn dance to the kids on a tour with the Sieler Safe Haven Foundation.





**Beverly Bidney** 

## Two Seminole teams win NAYO titles

**STAFF REPORT** 

Two Seminole teams made sure they

didn't leave Alabama empty handed.

The Seminole AMP 12U softball team and the FL Boyz 8U baseball team each won championships at the annual NAYO tournament held July 21-23 in Atmore, Alabama. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians hosted the tournament.

In softball, Seminole AMP dominated the 12U division with a perfect 4-0 record. The division featured eight teams. Seminole AMP was coached by Lois Billie, Danny Bonilla and Daniel Nunez Sr.

In baseball, FL Boyz proved to be the best out of six teams in the 8U division. The undefeated champions were coached by Marshall Tommie, Tommie Jackson, Eddy Gonzalez and Nunez.

Other Seminole teams in the tournament included the Seminole Heat (10U boys), Brighton Seminoles (12U boys), Seminole Elite (15U boys), Seminole Dolls (8U girls) and Seminole Warriors (18U girls).

Poarch Creek won three championships, all in baseball. The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians won one baseball title and two in softball. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians won two championships, both in softball.

#### **NAYO** winners - baseball

18U

1st - Poarch Creek (PCI) 2nd - SE Diamondbacks (MBCI)

1st - Poarch Creek (PCI) 2nd - MBCI Heat (MBCI) 3rd - Red Storm (MBCI)

12U 1st - Poarch Creek (PCI) 2nd - Diamond Kings (MBCI) 3rd - Braves (MBCI)

1st - Indian Outlaws (MBCI) 2nd - Just Let It Hit You (EBCI) 3rd - Braves (MBCI)

1st - FL Boyz (STOF) 2nd - Dinger Nation (MBCI) 3rd - Poarch Creek (PCI)

#### NAYO winners - softball

1st - Lady Tomahawaks (BH) (MBCI) 2nd - Benchwarmers MBCI) 3rd - EBCI (EBCI)

3rd - EBCI (EBCI)
15U

1st - Mavericks (EBCI) 2nd - Bat-itude (MBCI) 3rd - Lady Warriors (MBCI) 12U

1st - Seminole AMP (STOF) 2nd - MTS Diamond Elite (EBC) 3rd - Prospects (MBCI)

10U 1st - MTS Diamond Elite (EBCI) 2nd - Lady Thomahawks (MBCI)

2nd - Lady Thomanawks (MBCI)
3rd - Poarch Creek (PCI)
8U

1st - MBCI Tribe (MBCI) 2nd - Chahta Alla Alhiha (MBCI) 3rd - MTS Diamond Elite (EBCI)



Peggy Nunez

Daliyah Nunez carries two of her teammates and friends - Dyani Kayda in the middle and Melaine Bonilla on top - as the trio gladly shows their championship rings.



The Seminole AMP team celebrates July 23 after winning the 12U championship at NAYO in Alabama. The players are, from left, back row: Keiona Baker, Paiton Billie, Ila Trueblood, Paizley Billie, Dyani Kayda and Daliyah Nunez. Front row, from left, are Hannah Platt, Riley Yzagurrie, Amalia Estrada, Melaine Bonilla, Kulipa Julian and Jalene Smith. The coaches are, from left to right, Danny Bonilla, Daniel Nunez Sr. and Lois Billie.



Courtesy photo

The 8U champions are, in alphabetical order, Elikah Collins, Bryant Hunsinger, Ollie Jones, Charles Julian, Ryker Miller, Maddox Newkirk, Daniel Nunez III, Tyse Osceola, Nakoa Smiley, Cody Tommie, Maddox Tommie, Huston Willis and Jeremiah Willis. The coaches are Eddy Gonzalez, Tommie Jackson, Daniel Nunez Sr. and Marshall Tommie.





Brittany Macias

The hands of champions as the Seminole AMP team shows the prizes it won for being the No. 1 team in 12U softball.

## **♦ NABI** From page 1C

Similar to the Native Soldiers' girls, the N2Deep boys team was unbeatable for the first few days. N2Deep won its first seven games, including a win against the Native Soldiers' boys.

N2Deep was among the final eight teams left, but its deep run ended with consecutive losses.

The team was coached by Charlie Frye, who was assisted by Courtney Osceola. Some of the local players on the roster included Nakai Alex, Julez Billie, Chanon Frye and Xavier Osceola.



 ${\bf N2Deep's\ Chanon\ Frye\ launches\ a\ long\ jump\ shot\ in\ a\ semfinal\ game\ at\ NABI.}$ 



N2Deep's Nakai Alex drives to the hoop while avoiding a defender.





Native Soldiers head coach Skyla Osceola talks to her team during a game at the Native American Basketball Invitational in July. Her father and assistant coach Marl Osceola is next to her. Hundreds of games were held throughout the Phoenix area.



N2Deep head coach Charlie Frye watches his team from the bench during a game at NABI.





Mark Jones

N2Deep assistant coach Courtney Osceola talks to her team during a game at NABI.



NABI college scholarship awardees were recognized during the NABI championship games. Alonzo Adams (Pacific University) and Bailey Nez (Lawrence University) each received \$10,000.

A taped message from Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola played during the broadcasts of the NABI semifinals and finals. The Seminole Tribe has been a longtime major sponsor of NABI.

## Okeechobee Belles 15U all-stars win state title

BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor

Just when it looked like the state championship was slipping from its grasp, the Okeechobee Belles U15 all-stars softball team decided it wasn't going to be over until they said so.

Okeechobee roared back to win the Florida title by defeating West Pasco on July 11 in Bristol, Florida.

The all-stars, whose roster features several Seminoles, won their first three games to reach the championship as the winner's bracket winner. Everything was running smoothly for Okeechobee; maybe too smoothly.

"It seemed like they needed adversity to get over the hump," said Okeechobee coach Danny Bonilla.

Adversity found them in a big way. Okeechobee, needing one win to capture the state title, suffered an 11-1 loss to West Pasco, which came out of the loser's bracket and needed to win twice.

The loss was wake-up call. An injury that knocked out a starting player was

another reason for concern.

In the winner-take-all game, Okeechobee built an early 5-3 lead but then fell behind 9-5.

"Lot of stress. Pacing, trying to be calm," is how Bonilla described his feelings as he tried to right the ship.

Bonilla's team put to rest any doubts by roaring back with two overwhelming innings in which they batted around twice and outscored West Pasco 14-0 the rest of the way. Bonilla said his team was determined to win the state title.

"I think they were angry because they lost that first game," Bonilla said.

The final score, 19-9, seemed like a comfortable margin, but there was still spontaneous joy from the champions.

"They looked like little kids opening their first Christmas present," Bonilla said about his team's reaction after the final out.

Pitchers Truley Osceola and Melaine Bonilla, the coach's daughter, combined for the victory. Kashyra Urbina came through with some key hits and was among the offensive standouts.

Bonilla's wife Melanie and Skyla Jones

are assistant coaches on the team. After some players competed at NAYO in Alabama, the team regrouped and headed to Louisiana for the Dixie World Series from July 29-Aug. 4.

#### Okeechobee Belles 15U All-Stars State Champions

Melaine Bonilla Amalia Estrada Carlee Osceola Truley Osceola Kashyra Urbina Adeline Garcia Ayana Fonseca Serenity Billie Merlaysia Billie Kiara Snell Emily Rucks Jaelyn Lineberry



Courtesy photo

The Okeechobee Belles 15U all-stars celebrate after winning the state championship in Bristol, Florida.

## F-1 race drives economic impact

#### FROM PRESS RELEASE

South Florida Motorsports (SFM) has released the findings of the first Economic Impact Report for the Formula 1 Crypto. com Miami Grand Prix which reveals the local economy was boosted by nearly \$350 million. Compiled by leading economic consultants Applied Analysis, the report details the specific fiscal benefits to the South Florida and Greater Miami regions, including Miami Gardens.

"We were proud to deliver on the commitment Stephen Ross made to impact the local economy and the people throughout our community; especially right here in Miami Gardens," said Richard Cregan, CEO of the Crypto.com Miami Grand Prix. "Our team worked selflessly to create a campus and experience that was unique to the international culture of Miami. We look forward to growing the event and the positive impact it will continue to make here for years to come."

In the first week of May, the venue hosted the first-ever Formula 1 Crypto.com

Miami Grand Prix held around a new 19-turn circuit known as the Miami International Autodrome, built around Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens. The race, which is one of 23 races worldwide comprising the 2022 Formula 1 Championship and will take place at the Miami International Autodrome for at least the next nine years. The weekend attracted over 243,000 spectators across the three days and culminated with a thrilling race as Red Bull's Max Verstappen beat the Ferrari of Charles Leclerc.

Celebrities from the worlds of film and pop mingled with sports stars in luxury VIP hospitality areas, such as Hard Rock Beach Club and MSC Cruises Yacht Club while international DJs performed to the entire campus and Miami restaurants served up local cuisine.

The report highlights the overall economic impact of the race which has rivalled, if not exceeded, other events held in the South Florida market area. The operational and net visitor spending impacts are likely to recur in future years and have the potential to expand as the event matures. When operational activities and net

visitor spending are aggregated, the overall economic impact reaches \$349 million annually and supports more than \$100 million in salaries and wages for over 3,000 local workers.

#### Visitors and Viewership

Visitor spending in the Greater Miami region during race week reached over \$150 million. The average visitor to Miami for the race spent a total of \$1,940 while in the city, which was nearly double the typical non-Formula 1 visitor. In addition, 84% of visitors traveled to Miami primarily for the event and 66% of attendees were out-of-town visitors. The tourist influx data revealed the country with the largest number of visitors was Canada, closely followed by the United Kingdom, Mexico, Colombia, and Argentina.

The race drew 23 million U.S. viewers spread across the weekend. The Saturday qualifying audience was 7.6 million rising to 15.4 million for Sunday's race. In addition, viewership increased 27% compared to the 2021 U.S. Grand Prix in Austin, Texas,

across the weekend.

In the U.S., race day viewership grew by 106% compared to the 2021 U.S. Grand Prix with 2.2 million viewers, while on the F1 Web/App there were 140 million views (up 39% on the 2021 US race) and 118.6 million page views (up 50%) and 288,483 new followers. During the weekend F1 surpassed 19 million followers on Instagram, increasing its followers by 1.4 million since the start of the year.

#### **Construction Jobs and Empowerment**

Initial planning on the newest venue in Formula 1 started in the spring of 2019, while the first moment of ground-breaking on the campus was in April 2021. A total of \$50 million in salaries and wages were earned by 867 local employees during the construction phase of the project alone. The report concludes that the total economic impact of the track construction reached approximately \$143 million when the indirect (vendor purchases) and induced (employee spending) impacts are considered.

#### **Commitment to Miami Gardens**

The F1 in Schools program administered through the Miami Gardens Parks and Recreation Department and Seeking Education Empowers Knowledge (S.E.E.K) brought STEM education directly to Miami Gardens students. In addition, 12 students from Miami Gardens received event internships and 1,500 tickets were distributed to local residents. There was also a commitment to sustainability across the campus with the elimination of 99.4% of single use plastics at Hard Rock Stadium. Aluminum water bottles, free water stations with reusable cups and plastic free serving vessels, plus three biodigesters to eliminate food waste, were in addition to other recycling facilities around the circuit.





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## Ready to run



Courtesy pho

A group gathers for a run at the Immokalee gym June 30 as part of the reservation's Fourth of July events.

## **UArizona to provide tuition-free education for Native American undergraduates in Arizona**

BY UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA NEWS

Undergraduate students from the state's 22 federally recognized Native American tribes will no longer have to pay tuition and mandatory fees at the University of Arizona main campus in Tucson.

Beginning in the fall, new and continuing full-time, degree-seeking, instate undergraduates will be eligible for the Arizona Native Scholars Grant, the first program of its kind in Arizona. The program will be administered by UArizona Enrollment Management.

"Serving Arizona's Native American tribes and tribal students is a crucial part of the University of Arizona's land-grant mission, and the Arizona Native Scholars Grant program is another important step among many to do that," said University of Arizona President Robert C. Robbins. "I am so proud that that this university has found a way to help hundreds of students more easily access and complete a college education, and I look forward to finding ways to take these efforts even further."

To be eligible, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, and provide tribal identification. Native American tribes' federal legal status allows universities to administer scholarships and grants to tribal members.

More than 400 students enrolled at UArizona last year meet the criteria for the new program.

Serving Arizona's Native American tribes and students is a key part of the university's strategic plan, and is central to

the plan's Arizona Advantage pillar, which highlights the university's role as a landgrant institution. Tucson is home to the Tohono O'odham Nation and Pascua Yaqui Tribe

"The University of Arizona is committed to recognizing and acknowledging the history endured by Native American communities," said Kasey Urquídez, UArizona vice president of enrollment management and dean of undergraduate admissions. "We are committed to promoting access and success for Indigenous students. This program is part of our continual commitment to serve our Indigenous Wildcats."

Students from Diné College, a public tribal land-grant college in Tsaile, Arizona, visited the UArizona campus in May. The visit included stops at the Richard F. Caris Mirror Lab, the new Student Success District and Biosphere 2.Chris Richards/University of Arizona

The new grant is part of a host of university programs and partnerships with Native American communities and students, particularly those in Arizona. In the fall, a survey by the National Science Foundation showed that UArizona is the top doctorategranting institution for American Indian or Alaska Native students.

The university's Indigenous Resilience Center, established in September in the Arizona Institute for Resilient Environments and Societies, works directly with tribal nations to address environmental challenges in ways that respect Native and Indigenous sovereignty and knowledge.

Several programs in the College of Education, including the Indigenous Teacher

Education Program and Native SOAR, offer training and support for K-12 teachers in Arizona, especially those who serve Indigenous communities.

During the 2020-21 academic year, the James E. Rogers College of Law was among the top three U.S. law schools with the highest number of Native American students pursuing a Juris Doctor, according to the latest data from the American Bar Association. The college is home to the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program, which is renowned for its scholarship on American Indian and Indigenous peoples law, policy and human rights.

"These initiatives aren't checkmarks; they represent the University of Arizona's commitment and continued drive to be the leading institution serving Native Americans," said Levi Esquerra, UArizona senior vice president for Native American advancement and tribal engagement. "This is a very exciting time, and we're going to continue our work with tribes to make great things happen."

In the future, Urquídez said, the program may expand to graduate students, University of Arizona Online students and students at other UArizona campuses. The university will also look to potential donor support to help fund the program.

More details about the Arizona Native Scholars Grant, including how to apply, will be available on the Scholarships and Financial Aid website, along with information about other programs that serve Indigenous students.



Courtesy photo

A ribbon cutting marks the dedication of a UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter at the Sac and Fox Nation

# Oklahoma tribe receives permanent helicopter display

FROM U.S. ARMY

A decommissioned UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter has a new home at the Sac and Fox Nation Veterans Memorial in Stroud, Oklahoma.

Brig. Gen. Doug Lowrey, commander of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command, dedicated the aircraft July 9 during a ceremony on the Sac and Fox Nation Reservation. Lowrey, an Oklahoma native and descendant of the Cherokee tribe, is the only Native American general officer serving on active duty in the Army.

"This Black Hawk is where it belongs – alongside the Sac and Fox Nation," Lowrey said. "Like its namesake, this Black Hawk achieved lofty status through exploits leading warriors into battle. This helicopter served with distinction and flew Soldiers into and out of harm's way. This Black Hawk is a credit to the name, and it belongs right here."

The UH-60 helicopter, named "Black Hawk" after a war chief and leader of the Sauk (present day Sac) tribe in the Midwest, is the Army's primary frontline, mediumlift, utility helicopter supporting assault, air cavalry and aeromedical evacuation units.

During the decommissioning process, the Sac and Fox Nation asked that the helicopter have "Wêtâthêwaki" painted on the door – the Sauk word for warrior.

"This Black Hawk has brought our Soldiers home from battle and now is in its final resting place," Rickey Cline Sr., a veteran and member of the Sac and Fox Nation, said during the ceremony. "I'm

proud to say I'm Sac and Fox, and we have a bright future ahead of us. I'm so proud to say this Black Hawk has landed and is home."

The Program Executive Office for Aviation's Utility Helicopters Project Office, along with the Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, assisted coordination and logistics for the aircraft, which was donated by the Army for purposes of the permanent display. The Chicago Blackhawks National Hockey League team funded the demilitarization, transportation and construction of the aircraft's pedestal. Restoration work was performed by SESI in Huntsville.

Kathy Willerton, readiness and fleet manager for Black Hawk helicopters in the Utility Helicopters Project Office, along with Eddie Grimsley, UHPO's readiness and fleet management aircraft divesture chief, coordinated and supported the entire process for PEO Aviation.

"It's wonderful the Army donated a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter to the Sac and Fox Nation, recognizing the linage to the modern day Black Hawk tribe," said Willerton, who represented PEO Aviation at the dedication. "It really felt amazing to meet and see the tremendous pride in the many participants as the Black Hawk was dedicated at their Veterans Memorial."

This is the first Army helicopter transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs in U.S. history. Native Americans have the highest record of military service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups, with more than 9,000 Native American or Alaska Natives serving our nation today.



Eddie Grimsley
"Wôtâthôwa

"Wêtâthêwaki," the Sauk word for warrior, is seen painted on the door of a UH-60A Black Hawk helicopter that was donated to the Sax and Fox Nation in Stroud, Oklahoma.

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TRADING POST

UPCOMING

CONSTRUCTION

**RIGHT OF WAY** 

**IMMOKALEE** 

TRADING F

Machinery mobilization will begin on Wednesday,
July 20th

Construction will begin on Thursday, July 21st

AUGUST 19<sup>TH</sup>

The right of way construction is about to begin connecting Immokalee Road with the proposed Trading Post entrances and exits. The construction might compromise the daily traffic operation on Immokalee Road and could slow down the traffic during business hours. During this period, the surrounding roads might experience some reduced lanes or temporary closures during the construction.



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068822	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068838	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068852	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068880	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068893	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068895	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
068912	N/A	SNAPPER PORTABLE GENERATOR	G56000 - 5600W	N/A	Poor	\$139.00
177239	2004	FORD SEDAN	TAURUS SE (FWD)	50,956	Poor	\$525.00
044008	N/A	JOHN DEERE UTV	GATOR HPX 4X4	N/A	Poor	\$553.00
011000	N/A	JOHN DEERE UTV	GATOR HPX 4X4	N/A	Poor	\$615.00
030059	N/A	JOHN DEERE UTV	GATOR HPX 4X4	N/A	Poor	\$628.00
022193	2007	TRIPLE CROWN UTILITY TRAILER	TANDEM AXLE 6 X 18	N/A	Poor	\$687.00
680608	2006	DODGE MINI VAN	GRAND CARAVAN SE (FWD)	98,248	Poor	\$962.00
227456	2006	CHEVORLET MINI VAN	UPLANDER LT (AWD)	66,260	Poor	\$1,189.00
B57636	2003	FORD PICKUP TRUCK	F150 XL SUPERCAB (4WD)	117,435	Poor	\$2,290.00
A04213	2014	FORD SUV	EXPLORER XLT (FWD)	142,247	Poor	\$4,999.00
B35260	2007	FORD PICKUP TRUCK	F350 XL SUPER DUTY REG CAB (4WD) DIESEL	100,481	Poor	\$9,007.00
C30716	2013	FORD SUV	EXPLORER XLT (FWD)	45,581	Poor	\$9,287.00
507426	1999	FONTAINE TRAILER	603-2M	N/A	Poor	\$9,906.00
473894	1999	PETERBILT TRACTOR TRAILER	377 (6X4) DIESEL	294,610	Poor	\$9,929.00
A67814	2012	FORD PASSENGER VAN	E350 XL (RWD)	47,787	Fair	\$12,460.00
C72094	2015	FORD PICKUP TRUCK	F250 XLT SD CREW CAB (4WD)	224,945	Fair	\$13,284.00
W43030	2006	FREIGHTLINER GRAPPLE TRUCK	M2 106 (4X2) DIESEL	80,020	Fair	\$20,566.00

ote - Previously advertised items are not reflected on this advertisement, only new listings. For more information contact Fixed Assets Dept. 954-967-3640, 954

Tribal Members Only website: http://semtribe.com/FixedAssets. (Registration required

