



Memorial golf tournament
COMMUNITY ♦ 3A



Tribalwide Indian Day celebrations
EDUCATION ♦ 3B-6B



Seminole standouts on OHS volleyball
SPORTS ♦ 1C

The Seminole Tribune

Voice of the Unconquered

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Ian slams SWFL, but mostly spares reservations

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

Although deadly Hurricane Ian decimated parts of Southwest Florida, it spared the Seminole Tribe's reservations from major damage.

The consensus from tribal officials was the tribe dodged a big bullet.

After Ian roared through western Cuba as a Category 3 hurricane Sept. 27, it gathered additional strength in the warm, open waters of the Gulf of Mexico. At one point, many forecasts projected a landfall near Tampa Bay, which put it in the path of the nearly 100 tribal member homes in the area, the tribe's Tampa casino and the Lakeland Reservation. But Ian and its forecasts shifted south. It made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane Sept. 28 on Cayo Costa, a small barrier island that was once home to the Calusa Native Americans and their shell mounds.

Fort Myers and Fort Myers Beach — about 20 miles southeast of Cayo Costa — bore the brunt of Ian's fury, which unleashed maximum sustained winds initially estimated at about 150 mph and a massive storm surge. The destruction was widespread.

Two days after the storm departed, the death toll in the state from Ian was in the dozens.

♦ See IAN on page 6A

Brighton dedicates new homes at ribbon cutting

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — The Seminole Tribe held a ribbon cutting ceremony Sept. 2 on the Brighton Reservation to usher in a new residential development consisting of dozens of new homes.

When fully completed, the Flowing Well project will consist of 30 single-family homes on one-acre lots and 40 rental homes on quarter-acre lots. At the time of the ribbon cutting, about 15 homes were still available for purchase and some tribal members received keys to their new homes. Tribal Community Development (TCD) has more phases of homebuilding in the pipeline as well.

Construction of the homes and the infrastructure took place throughout the pandemic, which came with staffing and supply challenges, according to Derek Koger, the executive director of TCD. Koger said Tribal Council set a goal for TCD about two and a half years ago to build 400 homes on different reservations within five years.

"Today we're at 330 homes tribalwide in a little under three years," Koger said at the ribbon-cutting event.

In the past several years, new homes have been built on the Brighton, Hollywood, Big Cypress, Immokalee and Lakeland reservations with more to come.

"As you can see we've done a lot, not just here in Brighton. This is a small step in the many steps of a journey that we still have to accomplish," Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. said, calling the new homes a milestone for the tribe.



Members of four families join tribal leadership and tribal employees at the Flowing Well residential development's ribbon cutting ceremony Sept. 2 on the Brighton Reservation. The families received keys to their new homes at the event.

Chairman Osceola said that when he was elected in 2017, the need for tribal housing was "just overwhelming." He said there were tribal members from every reservation waiting for homes.

"Today there are 4,351 tribal members with us and at some point they will want to come home," Chairman Osceola said. "When they see what we're building today, they'll probably want to come home and stay. That's

what I'm looking forward to — that they all come home and raise their families with us, amongst us, because we're all family."

♦ See FLOWING WELL on page 4A

Film festival showcases Indigenous culture, history, life

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

SARASOTA — Documentaries by Native American filmmakers were screened at the Sarasota Native American Film Festival Sept. 9-10. The mission of the festival was to showcase work by Indigenous directors and writers who share their experience of being Native American.

About 300 people attended the festival, which was held at New College of Florida's Mildred Sainer Pavilion. The festival was produced by Seminole tribal member Everett Osceola, the Sarasota Film Festival and the Boxser Diversity Initiative. This was the third festival; the previous ones were held online.

More than 40 Native American tribes were represented at the festival, which gave attendees an inside look at the diversity of the Native nations.

"It's important that Native Americans tell their stories," Osceola said. "People need

to hear it from the horse's mouth. We all have struggles, but even among the rain you will have sunshine. The film festival shows that we are people like anyone else and we have a rich and beautiful culture."

Osceola grew up loving films; the "Wizard of Oz" was a favorite. He cofounded Native Reel Cinema Festival in 2014 to give Indigenous people a platform to show their work and tell their stories.

"My mother wouldn't let me off the reservation, so I escaped through films," said Osceola, who grew up on the Hollywood Reservation. "My dream was to see our language on the screen."

During the festival, Seminole artist Wilson Bowers created a painting in the lobby. The painting, an interpretation of the crawdad patchwork design, was later donated to the Boxser Diversity Initiative.

More than a dozen films were screened, including a few short films which highlighted various aspects of Seminole history such as Black Seminoles, John Horse, Egmont Key and the importance of tribal sovereignty.

Other showings included four films from the Sundance Short Film Tour, two by award winning Diné filmmaker Shaandiin Tome and feature length documentaries on the history of the MoDoc Nation and missing and murdered Indigenous women.

"The main reason we do this is there are very few Native Americans living in this area and very few of us know anything about them," said Sarasota resident Dan Boxser, founder of the Boxser Diversity Initiative. "We have learned so much about the Seminoles."

After the screenings, Osceola, Bowers and Tome held question and answer periods with the audience. One audience member said she never knew the story about Egmont Key before seeing the film, which told the story of Polly Parker, a Seminole hero whose escape from U.S. soldiers during forced relocation in the 1800s, and her ensuing 300-plus mile walk through woods and swamps to the Lake Okeechobee area, helped define the unconquered Seminoles.

♦ See FILM on page 6A



Beverly Bidney

From left, Everett Osceola, Charles Williams and Uzi Baram participate in a question and answer period after screening a film about the Black Seminoles at the Sarasota Native American Film Festival that was held Sept. 9-10.

Cheyenne Kippenberger receives outstanding Floridian award

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

Cheyenne Kippenberger has proven to be a leader as Miss Florida Seminole, Miss Indian World and as a motivational speaker.

On Aug. 20, the Junior Chamber International (JCI) awarded her the "Cactus" Jack Sewell Memorial Award for "Outstanding Young Floridian." According to the JCI, the award is typically given to an individual with extraordinary talent and initiative who has made important contributions to the general welfare of the community, state or nation.

Kippenberger was nominated for the honor by Jules Meyer, of PR Pageant Coaches, who helped her prepare for the Miss Florida Seminole pageant. The JCI selection committee selected Kippenberger for the award.

As Miss Indian World, Kippenberger used her platform to advocate for Indigenous people and works to overturn the negative stereotypes and stigmatizations of mental health issues in tribal communities.

JCI, also known as the Jaycees, consists of young people from age 18 to 40 who are dedicated to creating positive change in communities around the world. The organization helps them develop their skills, knowledge and understanding to make



Courtesy photo

Cheyenne Kippenberger receives an award from the Junior Chamber International.

informed decisions and become leaders in their communities.



Courtesy photo

Cheyenne Kippenberger, left, with her grandmother Lawanna Osceola and father Joe Kippenberger at the awards ceremony.

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Visit the Tribune's website for news throughout the month at seminoletribune.org

Editorial

How we expunged a racist, sexist slur from hundreds of public lands

• **Deb Haaland**

A sign in 2020 marked the 1960 Winter Olympics at a California ski resort. The resort, whose name included a derogatory term for Native American women, was changed to Palisades Tahoe in 2021.

America's public lands belong to all of us, and we have a responsibility to ensure that these lands are accessible and welcoming to everyone. However, over the course of our history, many such lands were named using a hateful and derogatory term for Indigenous women. It's a word that carries with it a history of brutality, misogyny and dehumanization.

This month, we succeeded in removing it from the names of nearly 650 federal land units.

The word is squaw — a term so offensive that I have never used it except in issuing the order to make the name change, and beyond this sentence I will not repeat it here or anywhere. It was stolen from the word for "woman" in one specific Indigenous language, I believe Algonquian. The word was then perverted — as so many Indigenous words and customs were — turning it into a broad racial slur, a caricature that removed individual identity and dignity from all women of Native American heritage.

This is not a casual insult. From the outset, Europeans who set the first foot on this continent sought to take over the land, to colonize it and to remove the Native Americans they viewed as a hindrance to amassing land and power. In pursuit of this mission, the rape and sexual assault of Indigenous women were used as weapons. And instead of calling them women, the men

would use that word.

The insidious result was to deny the humanity of generations of Native wives, daughters and mothers, as if using cheap slang would make the victims somehow deserving of assault — even to this day.

The damage inherent in this word cannot be overstated.

"Almost every young woman growing up on a reservation going into a non-reservation school has heard that term, has been called that," Bobbi Webster, from the Oneida Nation, told a Wisconsin news channel. "It was mean, and it was spiteful, and it was very hurtful." When Native Americans hear it, we feel the suffering of our ancestors and the traumas of the past. It has no place in our national vocabulary.

And so, last November, I issued Secretary's Order 3404, which declared this word to be a derogatory term and created a task force to identify its use in names of geographic features on federal lands and find replacements, with implementation to be carried out by the federal Board on Geographic Names (BGN). The Interior Department moved quickly through an open and transparent process, including a public comment period to receive recommendations for new names, the evaluation of different recommendations for the same features from tribal and other sources and the reconciling of diverse opinions. This month, the BGN voted on final replacements for 643 offensive names, effective immediately.

While the decision affects land units under the BGN's jurisdiction, many states and communities have made or are working on similar changes. I have been particularly proud to follow the efforts of a group of fifth- and sixth-grade Native girls trying to change the racist, sexist name of a creek in their

Alaska village to "Seven Sisters."

Yes, this is just one word. But words matter.

The historical persecution of Indigenous women has continued in modern times as they suffer disproportionate rates of assault, abduction and murder. And far too often, cases of missing and murdered Indigenous persons, men and women alike, have gone unsolved. The search for justice for these crimes has been underfunded for decades, leaving many — including me — to believe that these crimes are somehow tragically seen as less worthy of investigation.

Changing geographic names is a step my department was able to take — a significant step — in affirming the value of Indigenous women. Furthermore, it demonstrates my commitment to ensuring that our public lands and waters are accessible and welcoming. These should be places to celebrate the outdoors and our shared cultural heritage, not perpetuate legacies of oppression.

On a broader scale, it is a step toward the Biden-Harris administration's goal of building an inclusive America — a place where communities demonstrate inherent respect and value for every person who lives in this beautiful country that we call home. It will take much more time to fully address the legacy of injustice in our nation, but we have a responsibility to right those wrongs now. We must do so whenever we have the opportunity.

Deb Haaland, the first Native American to serve as a Cabinet secretary, is the secretary of the Interior Department. This op-ed appeared in the Washington Post.

FEMA releases first 'National Tribal Strategy'

BY STAFF REPORT

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) published its "2022-2026 FEMA National Tribal Strategy," on Aug. 18. It is a first for the organization and reflects a culmination of tribal perspectives shared with the agency over several years.

FEMA said the strategy reflects the voices of 135 representatives within 78 tribal nations, "who contributed critical feedback during tribal consultation in 2022 to help us become the FEMA that tribal nations need and deserve."

FEMA coordinates the federal government's role in preparing for and preventing domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made.

"That is why, as emergency managers, we must be proactive and deliberate in our support to tribal nations as they build climate-resilient and prepared communities," FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell writes in the document's opening page. "We will only be successful when our programs are fully accessible to tribal communities. We must strive toward delivery of assistance that meets their unique needs."



The cover of FEMA's "National Tribal Strategy" features images of Native Americans.

The strategy's overall goal is to improve FEMA's relationship with tribal governments and improve its emergency and disaster responsiveness throughout Indian Country.

The document includes information that was requested by tribal nations through outreach sessions led by FEMA's national tribal affairs adviser Denise "Bambi" Kraus (Tlingit). Requests included tribal-specific technical assistance and tailored resources to support tribal emergency management programs.

The strategy calls for a national study on tribal emergency management capacity and capabilities, which would assist FEMA in developing a comprehensive guide for tribes. The strategy also calls for an annual meeting of national and regional tribal liaisons as well as an expansion of training opportunities.

"F E M A understands that sovereign tribal nations have unique needs, capabilities and roles in emergency management," the document reads. "Inherent to the aspirations of the new National Tribal Strategy is a focus on improved engagement, partnership and service between FEMA and the 574 federally recognized tribal nations it serves."

To read the document, go to [fema.gov](https://www.fema.gov).

James Smith Cree Nation tragedy reveals critical need for First Nations-led policing

• **André Bear**

The tragedy in the James Smith Cree Nation has opened our eyes to the utter lack of safety provided to First Nations people on-reserve.

A man with a knife was able to murder 10 people and severely harm 18, including innocent children, before fleeing the police for three days.

This doesn't make any sense. How could this ever be possible with the advances and investments in law enforcement that we see today?

If you want an answer to that question, just ask someone who lives on the reserve and has waited hours for the RCMP to respond to an emergency call.

Many people living in rural areas, Indigenous or not, can relate to these long wait times. This is why the RCMP will sometimes have agreements with local people to respond to crisis calls until officers arrive.

Lydia "Gloria" Burns was one of these people. She was an addictions counsellor who responded to one of the calls on James Smith. Her life was taken, along with other members of her family.

Gloria was known as a kind and loving woman who put the needs of others before herself. She proved that when she responded to that call.

We cannot deny that her death and many others might have been prevented if law enforcement was readily available to the James Smith Cree Nation.

A monumental announcement

In 2020, the prime minister announced he was going to declare policing an essential service for First Nations in Canada. He promised legislation that included statutory

funding for First Nations to develop their own policing services.

This announcement was monumental. It meant that for the first time tribal policing on the reserve would become a reality for First Nations. This could ensure our people's safety with appropriate response times.

Take the Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation, located 100 kilometres west of Meadow Lake, Sask. They do not have cellular service and their police response time is roughly one to two hours. In recent meetings with the federal government, their chief and council even went as far as to say that when their people called the RCMP for help, they never came at all.

The Ministikwan chief and council proceeded to tell government officials that gangs and drug dealers are running the community without any fear of law enforcement.

After the meeting, I was involved in submitting a proposal requesting \$250,000 to build a cabin to be used as an RCMP detachment to put the community at ease.

This proposal was denied.

There are countless First Nations like Ministikwan Lake out there, with elders afraid to leave their homes and feeling like the rest of the world has forgotten about them.

First Nations deserve to feel safe on-reserve

After the horrific events in the James Smith Cree Nation, I hope we can prove to First Nations people in Canada that they deserve to feel safe, even when they live on-reserve.

This is possible if the prime minister makes good on his promise to provide statutory funding for First Nations to establish tribal police.

This doesn't mean we need to mimic the broken legal system that continues to

over-incarcerate our people. It doesn't mean we need to continue brutalizing people of colour, and perpetuating the same racism that infects the RCMP.

This is an opportunity for First Nations to do something different.

It doesn't need to be an entirely new system. Instead, we can revitalize something older than Canada itself.

Our warrior societies enforced high standards

First Nations once had warrior societies that enforced Indigenous legal principles and protected our people from harm. Our warrior societies enforced a very high standard of respect. We were not plagued by poverty, addictions and incarceration the way we are today.

Even though these issues are complicated, it is clear that without law enforcement or some form of a warrior society, crime is going to fester.

Now is the time to truly consider what it means to "serve and protect," inspired by the heroic acts of first responders like Lydia "Gloria" Burns, and how she fought to defend her people on the James Smith Cree Nation.

André Bear is a Nêhiyaw (Plains-Cree) writer and advocate of inherent & treaty rights. This year he graduated with his Juris Doctor of Law with a focus on Indigenous nation building theory. At 21 years old, André was appointed as an advisor to the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations Canada for the implementation of TRC Call to Action 66. André most recently served on the Indigenous Bar Association Board of Directors and the Canadian Juries Commission.

This op-ed was published by CBC.

Florida lake with Native slur renamed

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

A lake in Florida's Marion County has been renamed as one of 650 geographic sites across the U.S. that were put on a U.S. Department of Interior list due to the use of the word "squaw," which is considered an offensive ethnic, racial and sexist slur, particularly toward Native American women.

Squaw Pond, a remote eight-acre lake located in the Ocala National Forest in the north-central area of the state, has been renamed Bumblebee Pond. It was the only Florida site identified on the list. The landmarks and sites are located on federal lands and waterways.

The Interior Department announced the completion of its renaming project Sept. 8. Secretary Deb Haaland's (Laguna Pueblo) office directed a task force to submit new names to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names for approval — a federal body that standardizes U.S. place names. She ordered the National Park Service to go through a similar process.

"I feel a deep obligation to use my platform to ensure that our public lands and waters are accessible and welcoming," Haaland said in a statement. "That starts with removing racist and derogatory names that have graced federal locations for far too long."

Google, which relies on third-party data and operates Google Maps, has said the federal name changes would be reflected on its maps.

Forty states had at least one site or landmark on the list that contained the slur. California and Idaho had the most — 86 and 84, respectively. Some places on the list are



The U.S. Department of Interior, led by Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), has completed its initiative to rename hundreds of geographic sites across the country.

better known than Florida's. For example, Squaw Mountain is an 8,000-foot peak near Provo, Utah, that is commonly known as Squaw Peak and is popular with hikers. It has been renamed Kyhv Peak.

The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers recently published a report that said the renaming effort was not about "canceling history."

"Rather it is an opportunity to provide a more honest accounting of America's past and a gesture toward healing historic wounds," the report said. The list of new names can be found on the U.S. Geological Survey website with a map of locations.

Makah tribal member named to BIA post

FROM PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON — The Bureau of Indian Affairs announced Sept. 21 that Richard "Glen" Melville, an enrolled member of Makah Tribe of Washington, will lead the Office of Justice Services as a deputy bureau director starting this month. Melville joined the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1997 and served a 29-year career with the bureau and Tribal law enforcement programs before retiring in 2021 as the deputy associate director for the Office of Justice Services. He has since returned from retirement to lead OJS's public safety programs.

"Glen is an experienced and dependable

leader stepping into a role that is critical to law enforcement services and support to operations across the Department," said Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. "I congratulate him on his new role with BIA and I look forward to having him become a part of Interior's law enforcement family, including serving as a key representative on the White House Council on Native American Affairs Committee on Public Safety and Justice Committee."

Melville began his career as a police officer with the Makah Tribe in Washington in 1995. He advanced through numerous leadership law enforcement positions with the National Park Service and Homeland Security.

Fate of Maine tribes has hung in the balance for far too long

• **Portland (Maine) Press Herald**

In the absence of a political one-eighty, hope for a historic restoration of rights held by Maine's four tribal

nations is about to be dashed again.

Members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseets and the Presque Isle-based Mi'kmaq Nation couldn't be faulted for feeling heartened back in July when a bill to expand their rights, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Jared Golden, passed the House.

We now know that the bill, which is designed to allow Maine's tribes to take advantage of all future federal Indian laws, is unlikely to gain enough support in the Senate to be adopted.

◆ See MAINE on page 4A

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Community



Family, friends honor life of Justin Campos

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

AVE MARIA — Family and friends paid tribute to the life of Justin Campos at the eighth annual Justin Campos Memorial Golf Tournament on Sept. 24. Forty-four golfers, which comprised 11 teams, played in the tournament at Panther Run Golf Club in Ave Maria, a few miles from the Immokalee Reservation where Campos lived. It was organized by Campos' father Jimmy Wayne Holdiness.

"Everybody has had deaths in their lives," Holdiness said. "When you lose a kid, happy places are few and far between. The

golf course was always our happy place."

Campos, who was Holdiness's first born child, was killed in prison in 2013 at age 28.

"He got into some trouble, but he was a good boy," Holdiness said. "We used to play golf together from Miami to Pebble Beach. I loved him more than anything, more than anybody."

The tournament is always a family endeavor. Holdiness's step-daughter Priscilla Caseres, who was a lifelong friend of Campos, and his wife Brenda Holdiness help out every year. For this year's tournament, Brenda Holdiness woke up at 4 a.m. to make 200 breakfast tacos for the golfers.

Participants in the tournament included tribal members and some of Campos's



Beverly Bidney
From left, Kayden Grimaldo, Ozzie Garza and Ryan Cusumano watch as Roy Garza sinks a putt.



Courtesy photo

Justin Campos, at age 15, hits a tee shot during a golf trip in St. Augustine with his father.



Beverly Bidney

From left, Brenda Holdiness, Jimmy Wayne Holdiness, Junior Lozano, Paula Bowers Sanchez, Tony Sanchez and Richard Reyna, at the Justin Campos Memorial Golf Tournament on Sept. 24 in Ave Maria.

friends from his days at Immokalee High School. Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. has supported the memorial tournament since before he became chairman. He and Holdiness worked and played ball together in their youth.

"I support the tournament in memory of a tribal member," Chairman Osceola said. "It's his family's wish to keep his memory alive."

Winners were announced at a post-tournament luncheon. The first place winner was the foursome of Chairman Osceola, Bill Osceola, Fred Schreffler and Ben Schreffler with a score of 18-under par. The foursome of Holdiness, Chris Jensen, Raul Nunez Jr. and Daniel Anez finished runner-up at 17-under par.



Beverly Bidney

From left, Mitch Osceola and Kevin Osceola watch as Chance Bishop sends his ball on the green during the Justin Campos Memorial Golf Tournament on Sept. 24.



Beverly Bidney

Jimmy Wayne Holdiness's family enjoys the golf tournament. From left are granddaughter Milana Herrera, stepdaughter Priscilla Caseres, granddaughter Jasleen Chavez, and wife Brenda Holdiness.



Beverly Bidney

Tony Sanchez hits a good shot onto the green which elicits cheers from his golf partners Richard Reyna and Paula Bowers Sanchez.

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We are excited to announce the Grand Opening of the Immokalee Trading Post on Saturday, October 29th, 2022. Come join us to celebrate the Grand Opening and visit the new store!



◆ **FLOWING WELL**
From page 1A

Brighton Councilman Larry Howard and Brighton Board Rep. Helene Buster noted that the residential development, located on Flowing Well Road just northwest of the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School (PECS), used to be an area of orange groves and before that, woods.

"I've been around here all my life and there's a lot of transformation going on here," Rep. Buster said. "It's a good change for our people. We need to be grateful for what we have here. For us, the older ones, when we needed a home, we had chickees."

Councilman Howard recognized the tribe's elected officials including former Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr., who was at the event, for their efforts to make the project a reality. Bowers was in office, for example, when initial plans were made to purchase the property.

"Today we can provide what our tribal members need to come back to our reservations, to stay and raise their kids to understand their culture within our own community," Rep. Howard said.

Big Cypress Board Rep. Mariann Billie reminisced about weekends on the Brighton Reservation when she was growing up.

"Good luck with your homes. I can't



Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School principal Tracy Downing (middle, back) and Michele Thomas (right, back) are joined by members of the PECS student council during the Pledge of Allegiance. From left to right are Ciani Smith, Hayden Nunez and Kreed Snow.

wait to see you turning your keys and walking in and moving in," she said.

The new homes are the latest in a slew of new development on the reservation. A new hotel and casino is in the works, as well as a new Brighton Trading Post. In addition,

ground was broken in May on new buildings that will house the PECS immersion program, including a separate complex that will host a new Boys & Girls Club, library and community cultural center.



From left to right, Brighton Board Rep. Helene Buster, Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, Susannah Servere, President Mitchell Cypress and members of the Baker family react when the ribbon is cut.



The new homes feature different size and layout options.



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard addresses those who came to the ribbon cutting ceremony.



An aerial view of the Flowing Well homes.

Fifth 'renewable energy conference' set for February

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

The Seminole Tribe's fifth "Renewable Energy and Sustainability Conference" is scheduled to take place Feb. 7 to Feb. 9, 2023, at the Native Learning Center in Hollywood.

Last year's conference took place in a virtual format only due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This year organizers will host an in-person conference with a virtual option.

"We are happy to welcome back Lizana Pierce and Thomas Jones with the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs to open the conference," NLC executive director Georgette Palmer Smith (Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma/Choctaw), said.

Pierce is a deployment supervisor and Jones (Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma) is a deployment specialist in their department.

The annual conference focuses on the changing landscapes for tribal energy development and sustainability. It gives attendees a chance to explore a range of renewable energy and sustainability

opportunities that are available for their respective communities.

In addition to keynote speakers, there are presentations from members of Native American tribes and First Nations, as well as those representing tribal organizations and private industry.

The conference attracts attendees from across Indian Country — whether tribal members or those working for tribes — who share up-to-date information and best practices on sustainability, energy security and energy sovereignty issues.

The conference dovetails with the 50th annual Seminole Tribal Fair & Pow Wow, which was cancelled last year. This year the Pow Wow is scheduled to take place Feb. 10 to Feb. 12, 2023, at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood. There is no cost to attend the conference. To register, click here. The NLC is located at 6363 Taft Street in Hollywood. It is supported by an Indian Housing Block Grant, which is awarded by the Office of Native American Programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). More information is at nativelearningcenter.com.



Attendees gathered at the Native Learning Center for the 2020 conference just before the Covid-19 pandemic. This year the conference is expected to return to an in-person format

Deb Haaland's STAC meets for first time

STAFF REPORT

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◆ See STAC on page 5A

◆ **MAINE**
From page 2A

Supported by the U.S. Department of the Interior and endorsed by both the National Indian Child Welfare Association and the National Congress of American Indians, the bill was hailed in testimony last spring by Chief Kirk Francis of the Penobscot Nation as "intended to provide the Wabanaki Nations with clarity moving forward."

That prospect is without a champion in the Senate.

Sen. Angus King opposes it, favoring negotiations between the tribes and the state of Maine and arguing that Congress shouldn't be wading in on the terms of a land claims settlement made binding 42 years ago next month. "In order to modify the agreement, there should be another agreement," King said last week.

Sen. Susan Collins' position is that she has not yet taken one, last week calling the matter "extremely complicated" and adding that it warranted "thorough evaluation with testimony from experts," the type unlikely to be achievable before the Senate is expected to adjourn Sept. 30.

As part of the Settlement Acts of 1980, the state demanded that no federal Indian law would apply to Maine tribes unless specifically included by Congress.

Dozens of laws that would have been highly beneficial to tribal communities in Maine — on everything from disaster relief, to violence against women, to tribal casinos — have had no applicability because of the agreement. It's a unique arrangement that sets Maine tribes apart from 570 federally recognized tribes across America. Rep. Golden's stalled bill, widely supported and strongly supported by the people it pertains to most, seeks to bring everything in line.

The anticipated death of this bill at Senate level follows the death of landmark legislation to recognize Wabanaki tribal sovereignty — and undo the restriction of the Settlement Acts — in the Maine Senate earlier this year.

This shot at securing self-governance for Maine's tribes met its end in a similar fashion. Gov. Mills, whose record on tribal rights has otherwise been robust and impressive, argued instead for time and space to negotiate.

Mills expressed concern about unintended consequences of the bill, citing tribes' acquisition of new lands anywhere in the state and the removal of roughly 300,000 acres of tribal trust land from state or local regulation.

Tribal representatives declared themselves encouraged by the level of support borne out in the state process — expectations were understandably low, going in — but discouraged by the outcome. Some seemed unconvinced that the alternative (ongoing dialogue leading to negotiation for a new deal) was as active as the governor intimated.

"I am concerned that those discussions are not happening often enough and are not resulting in any meaningful progress towards compromise," Chief Francis of the Penobscot Nation told Maine Public in July.

In April, while opposing the state-level sovereignty package, Mills even suggested that better progress could be made on the Golden effort. Now, due to the same style of reasoning, the latter seems doomed to join the former.

The unfairness of the 1980 agreement generated fresh distrust between the tribes and the state. It would be strange if, in the face of the repeated passing up of opportunities to right the agreement's wrongs, a new layer of distrust was not hardening now.

"The Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act was passed in a different era when we had no choice but to sign a deal that our communities did not understand," Elizabeth "Maggie" Dana, chief of the Passamaquoddy Tribe's reservation at Pleasant Point (or Sipayik) explained last week. "There is no good reason why our Nations should not have access to laws passed by Congress to improve public health and safety in tribal communities."

The shirking of reform in the name of eventual negotiation is becoming harder and harder to take seriously. This disrespectful approach corrodes state-tribal relations. It militates against the very compromise those who choose to defer action claim to be focused on. What's being referred to as prudence has a price.

This editorial is from the Portland (Maine) Press Herald. It was posted online Sept. 18.

Boys & Girls Club celebrates Indian Day



Balloons, facepainting, games, photos and popcorn were among the festivities as the Hollywood Boys & Girls Club celebrated Indian Day on Sept. 19.



Calvin Tiger (4)

Partnership seeks to combat counterfeit Native Art

STAFF REPORT

A new partnership has been formed to fight against fraud in the Native American art market.

Imprint, a blockchain-based art security registry, and the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts (SWAIA) unveiled a plan to supply 800 Native American artists with permanently certified digital titles for their artwork.

An announcement was made during the 100th-annual Santa Fe Indian Market held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, from Aug. 17 to Aug. 21.

Imprint provides artists and galleries with permanent digital titles that allow artwork to be officially registered, creating a “digital certificate of authenticity” that is stored on a secure blockchain database. Blockchain is a decentralized public digital ledger that is used to record transactions.

According to a release by Imprint, when an art piece is sold, the Imprint title and certificate are transferred to the buyer with transaction information – such as date, location, and valuation – which is created and stored instantaneously, “creating a secure and infinite provenance that can be traced back to the creation of the piece and its initial sale.”

“We are honored to work with SWAIA to provide a next-generation solution to tackle an age-old issue of fraud and exploitation committed against Native American culture,” Ruth-Ann Thorn, cofounder of Imprint, said in a statement.

Thorn is the founder and CEO of Exclusive Collections Galleries, a trio of fine art galleries that showcases Native American artists. She is a member of the Rincon Band of Luiseño/Payómkawichum Indians of Southern California, where she serves as chair of the Rincon economic development board.

“By giving artists and their representatives a simple, easy-to-use digital tool, we hope to eliminate counterfeit work purporting to be from Native American artists, which will make their authentic work that much more valuable,” Thorn said.

The release said about \$1 billion in Native American art is sold each year and an estimated 80% of it comes from the sale of counterfeit goods – paintings, sculpture, jewelry, ceramics and textiles.

The nonprofit SWAIA supports Native American artists and produces and promotes the Santa Fe Indian Market – one of the largest Indian art events in the world. More is at swaia.org. Imprint, founded in 2021, bills itself as the first “secure global art registry to prevent art fraud.” More is at imprintregistry.com.

◆ STAC From page 4A

The conference dovetails with the 50th annual Seminole Tribal Fair & Pow Wow, which was cancelled last year. This year the Pow Wow is scheduled to take place Feb. 10 to Feb. 12, 2023, at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood. There is no cost to attend the conference. To register, click here. The NLC is located at 6363 Taft Street in Hollywood. It is supported by an Indian Housing Block Grant, which is awarded by the Office of Native American Programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). More information is at nativelearningcenter.com.

Electric off-road vehicles gain traction

BY CALVIN TIGER
Reporter/Intern

Electrification isn't just for the automotive market; it is also gaining more exposure and popularity with off-road electric all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) and dirt bikes. Vehicles like these have been popular for a long time, especially with motorsports and in rural areas with agriculture and ranching, such as the Big Cypress and Brighton reservations. The electric ATV and UTV market is expected to have a compound annual growth rate of more than 20% and reach \$4.7 billion in revenue by 2031, according to a study from BIS Research, a California global market intelligence and advisory firm.

Manufacturers such as Honda, Polaris and Volcon, to name a few, are heavily marketing themselves for the future of electric vehicle (EV) technology. The recently released Polaris Ranger XP Kinetic was such a big hit with customers that it sold out when it was launched last year. According to Polaris, the Ranger XP Kinetic offers twice the amount of torque when compared to other utility side-by-side models sold today. It is fitted with a 110-horsepower electric motor matched with an all-wheel drive system that can tow up to 2,500 pounds and can also haul 1,250 pounds in its own cargo box. It has 14 inches of ground clearance with a robust 10 inches of suspension travel and comes standard with 29-inch off-road tires.

Volcon Epowersports offers an electric UTV called the Volcon Stag. The Stag is equipped with a 42 kilowatt-hour (kWh) battery that produces 125 horsepower and 265 pound-foot of torque. There is also an overboost mode that increases the horsepower limit to 140. The Stag also comes



The Polaris XP Ranger Kinetic, an electric off-road vehicle.

with four-wheel drive on demand that has a towing capacity up to 2,000 pounds and can be fitted with four people. The Volcon Stag has an estimated range of 100 miles and can fully charge in less than six hours using a level two charger.

Besides UTVs and ATVs, Volcon offers two electric dirt bike models for adults and kids. The adult model is the Volcon Grunt that comes with a 2.0 kWh battery that has a top speed of 40 mph and has an estimated range of 75 miles. The model for kids is the Volcon Runt, which utilizes the same frame and off-road oversized tires as the

Grunt. Honda offers an electric dirt bike for kids called the CRF-E2 model. The off-road CRF model comes with a 48-volt battery that is equated to the same output of a 50cc (cubic capacity) combustion engine. The CRF model has a standard charge time of four hours.

The benefits of electrical ATVs, UTVs and dirt bikes are much like EVs in general. It is much quieter compared to a conventional combustion engine. There is far less moving parts which makes general maintenance easier versus a combustion engine, and, of

course, there is no need to fuel it. Being able to charge your own electric ATV, UTV or dirt bike at home can also be convenient compared to going to a station for fuel.

Tribal member Calvin Tiger is in the Education Department's Emerging Leaders Program. He specializes in writing about the automotive industry and anything vehicle related. Contact him at calvintiger@seminoletribe.com or (954) 966-6300, ext. 10739.

RICHARD CASTILLO
954.522.3500

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

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Hard Rock Casino in Illinois breaks ground

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

Hard Rock International broke ground Sept. 28 on the Hard Rock Casino Rockford in Illinois, about a year after opening a temporary casino.

Hard Rock executives, city leaders and Cheap Trick guitarist Rick Nielsen attended the event. The activity comes after the Illinois Gaming Board gave the go ahead in

early September for utility and foundation work to begin on the project.

“Just last week Hard Rock approved a more than \$3 dollar increase in the minimum wage for all of their non-tipped employees,” Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara told local TV news station WIFR. “It shows that they’re not only a wonderful community partner, [but] they’re really working to be one of the best employees in town.”

Hard Rock Rockford is a \$310 million project at the city’s former Clock Tower

Resort and Conference Center site, about seven miles from downtown Rockford.

“Our [temporary casino] in Rockford has been fantastic, but I know the entire Rockford community is just as excited as we are for the main show,” Jon Lucas, COO of Hard Rock International, said in a news release. “From the very start, Rockford’s energy has surpassed expectations and it’s no secret they are really ready to rock.”

Officials said the temporary casino – a \$65 million investment itself – has generated

more than \$25 million in revenue since it opened in November 2021.

Hard Rock Rockford is expected to feature 64,000 square feet of gaming space with 1,500 slots, 55 tables and a sports book, a variety of dining options and a 1,600-seat Hard Rock Live entertainment venue. Officials said the project should create about 1,000 temporary and permanent jobs.

Officials didn’t immediately provide a timeline for opening, but have previously said it would take 18-to-24 months to

complete. Plans also call for the addition of a hotel.

Meanwhile, about two hours away, Hard Rock opened the Hard Rock Casino Northern Indiana in May 2021. The \$300 million casino is located in Gary, home to the iconic music group the Jackson 5. The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of Hard Rock International. More is at hardrockcasinorockford.com.



Hard Rock

An updated rendering of the Hard Rock Casino Rockford in Illinois.



Image via Twitter

Hard Rock executives and local officials, including Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara (fourth from right) and Cheap Trick guitarist Rick Nielsen (in black cap), took to the stage Sept. 28 for the Hard Rock Casino Rockford groundbreaking ceremony.

FILM From page 1A

“Polly Parker was my great-great-great-grandma,” Osceola said. “We were never given the luxury of telling our own history, which is why it’s important that we preserve Egmont Key and its history. We are still here surviving, speaking our language and living our culture.”

“History is hidden in plain sight,” said New College of Florida professor of anthropology Uzi Baram. “The Seminole Wars tried to erase that history. We have to put in the effort to know the history, document it and convey it.”

The film about sovereignty, produced by Seminole Media Productions, outlined the

history of the tribe. The tribe fought the U.S. Army during the Seminole Wars and are still fighting for sovereignty. Osceola said the tribe was the first to use sovereignty when they fought for the right to have high stakes bingo, which led to Indian gaming.

“We were the first to start Indian gaming,” Osceola said. “Whenever we do things, our sovereignty is a constant target. We fight with pens and computers now. We are trying to protect the land we all live on.”

Tome’s feature film “Long Line of Ladies” premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Earlier this year it won best documentary short at the South by Southwest Film Festival and became eligible for an Oscar nomination. Tome said a nomination would be a huge step for Indigenous films.

“We can use the medium to create

respect for Indigenous people,” Tome said. “I want to make a life worth living instead of just pumping out films. The world is understanding that Native people still exist in the modern day and we have a culture that drives us.”

Getting Indigenous films seen can be a challenge, which is where film festivals come in. Filmmakers use the film festival circuit to network, spread the word about their films and hopefully find a distributor interested in their films.

“It’s a tedious business, but I love what I do,” Osceola said. “I do love helping people. We want to show more films at Native Reel are still looking for films.”

IAN From page 1A

The heart of Ian avoided direct contact with the reservations, going far enough south of Tampa and Lakeland and just enough north of Brighton that no major damage or flooding occurred in those areas before it exited the state as a tropical storm near Melbourne.

Before the storm’s arrival and throughout its duration in the state, Will Latchford, the tribe’s executive director of Public Safety, kept the tribal community updated with twice daily online meetings.

The tribe’s emergency operations center, with representatives from several departments, operated 24/7 before, during and after the storm. Emergency hotlines were available for the tribal community and automated phone messages with updates about the storm were sent out. Sandbagging stations were set up on all reservations. The tribe’s 45-foot long mobile command vehicle arrived at the Florida Seminole Veterans building in Brighton to provide assistance if needed.

Although there was no direct hit, Ian made an impact in the tribal communities, including:

- Tribal government departments closed for four days. They are scheduled to reopen Oct. 3.
- The Ahfachkee School in Big Cypress and Pemyetv Emahakv Charter School in Brighton closed for four days. They are set to reopen Oct. 3.

• The tribe’s casinos in Brighton, Immokalee and Tampa closed (Tampa’s casino remained open to its hotel guests). They have since reopened.

• Brighton’s Trading Post and Big Cypress’s fueling station closed and have since reopened.

• Power and phone outages occurred in Brighton, Big Cypress, Immokalee and Naples.

• Brighton experienced high winds and minor structural damage, including to the roofs of the Windmill Cafe and carpools. Some trees were knocked over on the reservation.

The highest recorded wind gusts by county in a preliminary report from the National Weather Service included 140 mph in Lee (Cape Coral), 112 in Collier (Pelican Bay), 110 in Hendry (LaBelle), 78 in Polk County (Lakeland), 75 in Hillsborough (Tampa) and 75 in Okeechobee (Okeechobee).

Also, a tornado related to the storm occurred close to the Hollywood Reservation. According to the NWS, the tornado touched down Sept. 27 at 7:51 p.m. in the 4800 block of Jefferson Street in Hollywood and moved northwest across the Florida Turnpike near Stirling Road, uprooting trees near Broward College in Davie. It featured an estimated peak wind of 70 mph, according to NWS.

According to a news release from the White House, federal aid for Ian-related impacts has been made available to the tribe through a declaration declared by President Joe Biden.



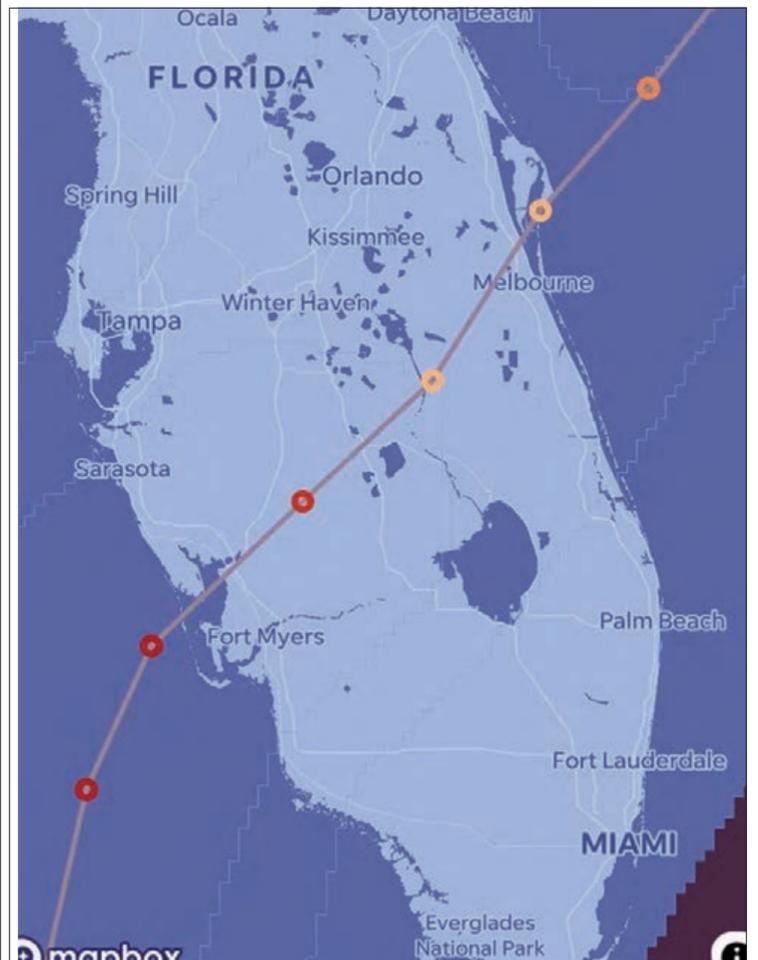
Beverly Bidney

Wilson Bowers explains his painting, still in progress, to an attendee at the Sarasota Native American Film Festival.



Beverly Bidney

From left, Wilson Bowers, Shaandiin Tome and Everett Osceola onstage with the poster for the Sarasota Native American Film Festival.

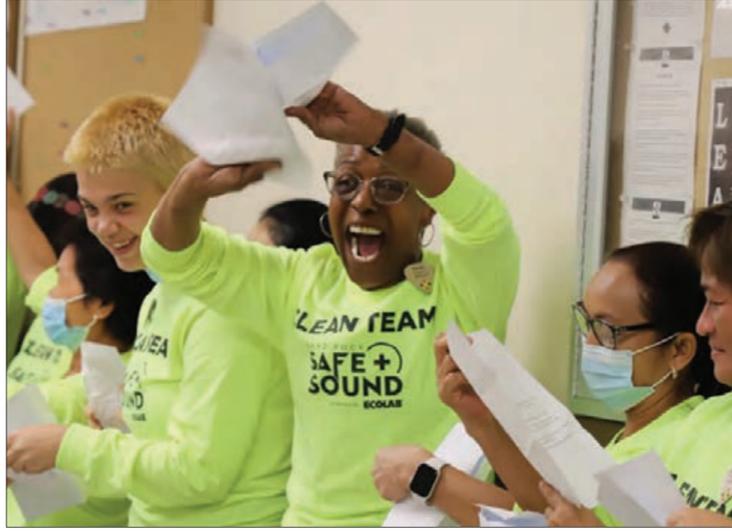


Mapbox

Ian entered Florida on Sept. 28 as a powerful category 4 hurricane and exited as a tropical storm.



Workers at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa celebrate Sept. 12 after learning of their pay increases.



Seminole Hard Rock Tampa (2)

Hard Rock, Seminole Gaming workers to get \$100M pay boost

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

About half of Hard Rock International's (HRI) 20,000 U.S. employees and thousands more Seminole Gaming employees in Florida are set to receive wage increases in October. It's part of a \$100 million investment announced Sept. 12 to help workers cope with the rising cost of living.

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of HRI and Seminole Gaming.

The pay increases apply to non-tipped U.S. employees and new hires at hotel,

casino and cafe locations nationwide within 95 job classifications, including cooks, housekeepers, security, public space and call center personnel and others.

For some employees, it represents a starting wage increase of more than 60 percent, the release said. The new starting wages (with some exceptions) range between \$18 and \$21 an hour — significantly higher than the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour and higher than any state's minimum wage.

An entry-level employee in Florida, for example, would receive between \$8 and \$11

per hour above the state's current \$10 per hour minimum wage, the release said. The hourly rate increase for full time employees equates to more than \$16,000 per year above the state's minimum wage.

HRI said the investment is part of an effort to "honor and appreciate its workforce," which recently included paying employees bonuses during the pandemic and offering expanded benefits. It also places HRI and Seminole Gaming as two of the most competitive entities in the gaming and hospitality industry for pay.

"My career has encompassed over four

decades and I have never been involved in such a historic event," Jim Allen, HRI chairman and CEO of Seminole Gaming, said in the release. "The support the Seminole Tribe of Florida has given me to enhance the standard of living for so many people is a dream come true. We have changed people's lives and I'm proud to be a part of it."

HRI operates venues in 70 countries with 265 locations, while Seminole Gaming operates six casino locations in Florida — including its flagship location, the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood.

AGA to recognize 2022 Gaming Hall Of Fame class

STAFF REPORT

The American Gaming Association (AGA) is scheduled to recognize its gaming hall of fame class of 2022 at the Global Gaming Expo (G2E) in Las Vegas this October.

Three gaming leaders were chosen for their contributions to the industry. They are Gavin Isaacs, former president and CEO of Scientific Games Corp. and current chairman of Games Global; Virginia McDowell, former president and CEO of Isle of Capri Casinos, current non-executive director of Entain plc, and cofounder of Global Gaming Women; and Michael Rumbolz, former CEO of Everi Holdings Inc. and current executive chairman of Everi Holdings Inc. Rumbolz has also been a member of the board of managers of Seminole Hard Rock International LLC since 2008.



Michael Rumbolz

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

"The gaming hall of fame is comprised of individuals that have pushed the industry forward through innovation, leadership and excellence. This year's inductees are well-deserving additions to its ranks," AGA chairman, Hard Rock International chairman, and Seminole Gaming CEO Jim Allen, said in a news release Aug. 16. "I look forward to celebrating their contributions alongside the entire gaming industry at G2E 2022."

This will be the 33rd hall of fame induction the AGA has held since 1989.

Last year, the AGA added the Seminole Tribe's Jim Shore to its gaming hall of fame class of 2021 at an invitation-only event at the Venetian Resort on the Las Vegas Strip with about 150 people. Shore is the Tribal Council's general counsel.

Seminole Tribe gains key support on sports betting

STAFF REPORT

Four prominent Native American organizations have recently lent their support to the Seminole Tribe as it continues to push for its online sports betting venture in Florida.

The National Indian Gaming Association, United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund, the Arizona Indiana Gaming Association and the California Indian Gaming Association filed amicus briefs in late August supporting the tribe's appeal to the U.S. District Court of Appeals — D.C. Circuit — to reinstate a 2021 gambling compact. Amicus briefs allow entities that have a stake in litigation to provide information to the court on particular issues they believe are important to a case.

The 2021 compact brought sports betting to Florida for the month of November before a federal judge voided it. It also allowed the tribe to offer craps and roulette in its Florida casinos.

The U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Department of Justice and the state of Florida have previously called for reinstatement of the compact.

Federal Judge Dabney L. Friedrich voided the compact, which had been ratified by the Florida Legislature, when two parimutuel outlets successfully argued that granting the tribe the right to offer gambling off tribal lands was beyond the scope of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

The Department of Interior, after green lighting the compact, asserted that tribes should be given leeway in exploiting new gambling opportunities and that the 1988 IGRA law could not have foreseen the use of

online and mobile wagering.

The four Native groups said in their briefs that Friedrich's decision "threatens to exclude Native American operators from an exploding national sports betting economy," according to a report in gamingtoday.com.

The tribe itself has asserted that not all elements of a particular gambling activity must be confined to tribal land to comply with IGRA. Under a so-called hub-and-spoke sports betting model the tribe employed last November, the servers facilitating statewide mobile bets were housed on tribal property in South Florida.

According to the gamingtoday.com report, the state of Florida also contends it "has a substantial interest in reinstating the compact, either in whole or in part," because it would produce revenue of approximately \$2.5 billion for the state in the first five years and create thousands of jobs for Floridians.

Because the compact was vacated, tribal gaming in Florida reverted to the terms of a 2010 deal with the state, and the tribe stopped making installments on \$500 million in yearly revenue sharing.

"The gaming industry in the United States is moving inexorably online, particularly with respect to sports betting. The District Court's interpretation of IGRA effectively erects a wall around tribal lands and prevents tribes from keeping pace with online advancements in the gaming industry," the tribe said in a portion of its brief, according to gamingtoday.com.

The tribe's brief also states that the inclusion of online sports betting in the 2021 compact was "clearly authorized by IGRA's jurisdiction allocation provisions."

More is at gamingtoday.com.

Seminole Casino Coconut Creek recognized for 'community impact'

STAFF REPORT

The Coral Springs Coconut Creek Regional Chamber of Commerce has recognized the Seminole Casino Coconut Creek as its "community impact business of the year." The chamber made the announcement Sept. 22 in a news release.

The honor is reserved for a chamber member that "demonstrates an overall spirit of giving through contributions of time, leadership and resources through volunteer, philanthropic and financial engagement."

"We are extremely excited to be selected for this award," Seminole Casino Coconut Creek president Larry Buck said in the release. "Since day one, [the casino] has prided itself on being engaged with our community across the board."

The casino is to be recognized at the chamber's annual gala at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Coral Springs Hotel & Convention Center on Oct. 20.

"Seminole Casino Coconut Creek is a true business leader and makes meaningful impacts on our community in so many ways," Cindy Brief, president and CEO of the chamber, said in the release. They truly make our community a better place."

Brief noted the casino's philanthropic support through contributions to local schools, nonprofits and other organizations, as well as hosting food drives and volunteering for local events.

The release said the casino has supported more than 90 charities so far in 2022, totaling more than \$450,000 in donations, including cash and in-kind donations.

Recently, the casino raised more

than \$35,000 for Irreverent Warriors, a military veterans organization. In October, the casino will partner with other Seminole Gaming and Hard Rock International properties for the annual Pinktober campaign to help raise awareness about breast cancer. The campaign benefits the American Cancer Society.

"Clearly, the pandemic put charities under more pressure than ever before," Buck added. "To that end, we are happy to help in any way that we can. It's all about giving back."

The Seminole Tribe is the parent entity of Seminole Gaming and Hard Rock International. Seminole Gaming operates six casinos in Florida. The Seminole Casino Coconut Creek is located at 5550 NW 40th Street in Coconut Creek. More is at seminolecoconutcreekcasino.com.



Image via Facebook

The Seminole Casino Coconut Creek at night.

Tampa concert to benefit hospital

FROM PRESS RELEASE

TAMPA — Hard Rock Event Center in Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa will host the US 103.5 Country Jam on Dec. 7 at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at or Ticketmaster.com. A portion of the ticket sales will be donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Multi-platinum RCA Records global entertainer Chris Young and American rapper/singer Jelly Roll will be among the performers.



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Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki hopes to partner with Naples museum for long-term exhibit

BY TARA BACKHOUSE
Collections Manager

BIG CYPRESS — The Holocaust Museum & Janet G. and Harvey D. Cohen Education Center’s praiseworthy mission is to teach the lessons of the Holocaust to inspire action against bigotry, hatred and violence.

This is by no means a small and insignificant mission. There are still many stories and many people to educate about the Holocaust of WWII. But the museum in Naples doesn’t stop there. They want to make sure that people know that this was not the only story of genocide and mass murder. Similar atrocities have continued to occur across the globe since that war, as they did during the centuries before that mid-20th century world conflict. That is why they are planning a permanent exhibit update about the 10 stages of genocide, as laid out by Dr. Gregory Stanton of Genocide Watch. They want their visitors and communities to recognize and understand the stages and signs of genocide so they can help fight against it in all its forms.

There are more details about the stages

of genocide on the website that has inspired this exhibit: genocidewatch.com/tenstages.

It’s important to explain that these stages do not always happen in order. They can take place simultaneously, and all are long and sometimes subtle processes. Not everyone sees them happening, and history often tries to erase them. This is what has happened to Indigenous people in the Americas ever since colonial forces invaded and took control of the lands in the 15th to 19th centuries. Therefore the museum looked to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum to help tell the Seminole story as part of their new exhibit.

One way we could do this is to focus on the Seminole Wars, and the tactics of the U.S. government in the 18th and 19th centuries. For the past year the museum has been working on a project with historic newspapers that tell this story. Funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, this project will result in new descriptions for over 500 of the historic newspapers in our online collections. You can check out one of them at <https://semtribe.pastperfectonline.com/archive/>. Enter catalog number 1998.9.13 in the search box. This 1815



The front cover of the Niles Weekly Register, a newspaper published in Baltimore on Sept. 16, 1815.

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

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



Beginning in 2001 from an exhibit created by students from Golden Gate Middle School, the Holocaust Museum & Cohen Education Center in Naples reaches 15,000 students and welcomes 5,000 visitors annually.

newspaper contains an article that classifies a group of Indigenous people as “hostile” even though the article admits that not all of them are. They are classified as hostile just because it is convenient for the U.S. government, who had been interfering with an Indigenous civil war and was attempting to use the outcome for its own colonial purposes. This classification provided the U.S. Army with a reason to organize an invasion into Spanish Florida. This action led to the start of the Seminole War, where thousands of similarly classified people would be exterminated by the U.S. Army even when just defending their homes and families. The dehumanization and classification which exemplifies stages 1 and

4 of the 10 stages of genocide of Indigenous people as hostile and uncivilized was carried out in order to make this war seem justified.

This one newspaper is just the beginning of a long story that exposes the stages of genocide in the treatment of Seminole Indians and their allies. At the end of the project you’ll be able to find all the newspaper descriptions at <https://semtribe.pastperfectonline.com/>.

In the meantime, you can stop by the museum to hear about the project and share your thoughts on our collaboration with the Holocaust Museum & Cohen Education Center. You can also give us a call 863-902-1113 or email us at museum@semtribe.com to share your thoughts.

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Service FY21 Program.



Seminole art exhibit debuts Nov. 6 in Fort Lauderdale

FROM PRESS RELEASE

FORT LAUDERDALE — History Fort Lauderdale will partner with the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum to present “Chono Thlee: Sparking A New Era in Seminole Art” at the New River Inn History Museum from Nov. 6 through Jan. 10. The exhibit, launching during Native

American Heritage Month, highlights new contemporary works by Indigenous artists that analyze elemental relationships for the future based on community foundations of trust, truth, dignity and integrity. The exhibit opens to the public Nov. 6 at 1 p.m. with music, storytelling and an artist meet and greet. A VIP art talk will be held Dec. 3 at 9:30 a.m. with complimentary admission being extended to Art Basel First Choice or

Preview cardholders. “History Fort Lauderdale is proud to celebrate its ninth annual contemporary art exhibition of works by artists from the Seminole Tribe of Florida,” said Patricia Zeiler, executive director of History Fort Lauderdale. “Settled by our Native American ancestors, the City of Fort Lauderdale continues to be a home to the rich stories and influential culture their children hold dear.

We are grateful to the Seminole Tribe of Florida for its continued support of History Fort Lauderdale during Native American Heritage Month and beyond.”

Curated by Tara Chadwick, “Chono Thlee: Sparking A New Era in Seminole Art” will showcase a variety of contemporary and traditional media including oils, acrylics, fiber, glass, metals, mixed media and digital art from 13 multigenerational Seminole

artists: Tia Blais-Billie, Durante Blais-Billie, Nick DiCarlo, Jacob Osceola, Leroy Osceola, Daniel Tommie, Samuel Tommie, Shonayeh Tommie, Gordon Wareham, Krystle Young, Brian Zepeda, Corinne Zepeda and the late Jimmy Osceola.

The museum is located at 219 SW 2nd Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call (954) 463-4431 or go to historyfortlauderdale.org.

Online program to focus on Native youth in classrooms

FROM PRESS RELEASE

In recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ Day 2022, the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian will host “Transformative Teaching” on Oct. 10 at 1 p.m.

The online program will highlight Native youth who are incorporating Indigenous voices into elementary through

high school education and promoting inclusive conversations in U.S. classrooms. Leilani Sabzalian (Alutiiq) will moderate the discussion between panelists Kourtney Kawano (Kanaka ‘Ōiwi [Native Hawaiian]), Charitie Ropati (Village of Kongiganak, Alaska) and Amy Spotted Wolf (Tohono O’odham/Hidatsa).

The program is free, but advance registration is required. A direct link will

be emailed to registrants 24 to 48 hours in advance. A recording will be available on demand following the premier.

The program is part of the Youth in Action: Conversations about Our Future series, which features young Native activists and changemakers from across the Western Hemisphere who are working toward equity and social justice for Indigenous peoples. Register at <https://bit.ly/3R6qjTh>.

Montana tribe successful with fox reintroduction program

FROM PRESS RELEASE

On Sept. 28, the Fort Belknap Indian Community in Montana commemorated three years of its swift fox recovery program with the release of three swift foxes on tribal lands, bringing the total to 103 recovered back to these prairie grasslands. Based on post-release monitoring efforts, the native species is reproducing in the wild, which is a critical measure of success for a self-sustaining population.

“After being absent for more than 50 years, the swift fox has returned to the grasslands of Fort Belknap and our people could not be prouder,” said Harold “Jiggs” Main, director of the Fort Belknap Fish and Wildlife Department.

Over the last four years, the Nakoda (Assiniboine) and Aaniiih (Gros Ventre) Tribes of Fort Belknap have worked in collaboration with the Smithsonian’s National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute, Aaniiih Nakoda College, Defenders of Wildlife, American Prairie, World Wildlife Fund and Wilder Institute/Calgary Zoo on this five-year reintroduction effort.

Twenty-eight foxes were trapped in Wyoming. In addition to the three released during the special ceremony held by the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the remaining 25 were scheduled to be released later in the week.

“This is an important educational opportunity for our students. They not only learn new field methods, but they are actively working with our Fish and Wildlife Department and the Smithsonian to return the swift fox to our homelands,” said Daniel



Roshan Patel, Smithsonian’s National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute

Swift foxes in the Fort Belknap Indian Community.

Kinsey of Aaniiih Nakoda College. “There are several research projects tied to this program that will advance our understanding of swift fox ecology and reintroductions in general. We documented four dens with up to six kits, which indicates there is ample habitat for the foxes to reproduce within the reintroduction site,” said Hila Shamon, research ecologist at the Smithsonian’s National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute. The swift fox is the latest extirpated species to return to Fort Belknap, joining other iconic prairie species successfully reintroduced to Indigenous lands under the leadership of the Fort Belknap Fish and Wildlife Department. Historically, swift foxes lived across much of North America’s Great Plains.

“The vast grasslands on Fort Belknap provide a home to a variety of avian and terrestrial wildlife while providing economic benefits to the Tribes through livestock grazing, recreation and other land uses. With support from numerous partners, Bureau of Indian Affairs and the local government, the Aaniiih and Nakoda people have been bringing Indigenous wildlife back to these native grasslands for over three decades,” said Tim Vosburgh, wildlife biologist with Fort Belknap Fish and Wildlife Department. Swift fox numbers declined precipitously in the late 1800s, mainly due to poisoning intended for coyotes and wolves and the loss of grassland habitat. During this same time, they were also eliminated from the northern portion of their range.

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New book details Jim Thorpe's 'Struggle Against the Odds'

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

A new biography of arguably America's greatest all-around athlete – Jim Thorpe – was released in August.

"Path Lit by Lightning" was written by David Maraniss, who has also penned biographies on former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton, Major League Baseball player Roberto Clemente and hall of fame professional football coach Vince Lombardi.

The book was released just weeks after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) reinstated Thorpe (Sac and Fox Tribe) as the sole champion in his events at the 1912 Summer Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden, 110 years ago.

Thorpe won gold medals in the decathlon and pentathlon at Stockholm – the first Native American to do so – only to have them stripped away because of a controversial rule violation due to his previous participation in minor league baseball. The IOC would later name him a co-champion in the events, but supporters always pushed for the record to show he was the sole winner.

The recent IOC decision was vindication for Thorpe's family and scores of supporters who have advocated for the medals to be reinstated for decades.

Thorpe, who died in 1953 at 64, rose to world fame as a profound talent who excelled at any sport he competed in. He was an All-American football player at the then-Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania and was the star of the first class of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He also played Major League Baseball for the then-New York Giants.

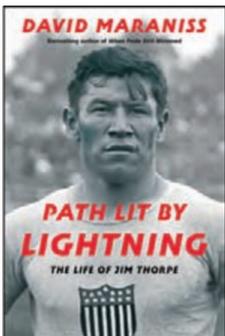
"Even in a golden age of sports celebrities, he was one of a kind," publisher Simon & Schuster said in a recent statement about the book. "But despite his colossal skills, Thorpe's life was a struggle against the odds."

At the Carlisle Indian School he came face-to-face with the racist assimilationist philosophy of "Kill the Indian, Save the Man" and his later life was troubled by alcohol, broken marriages and financial distress.

The book recounts how Thorpe traveled from state to state to accept bit parts in Hollywood productions, but that even the film of his own life, 1951s "Jim Thorpe: All American," failed to improve his fortunes.

"Maraniss provides new insights into Jim Thorpe, a man who was not only 'the world's greatest athlete,' but a cultural icon complicated by the dynamics of race and celebrity," Patty Loew, (Bad River Ojibwe), Northwestern University professor and director of the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research, said in a book review.

"Path Lit by Lightning" is available now where books are sold.



Simon & Schuster

"Path Lit by Lightning" was published this year by Simon & Schuster.

Health

HHS adds \$500K toward opioid crises

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe's Health and Human Services Department (HHS) was recently awarded a \$500,000 grant to address the harms caused by misuse of opioids. The funds are part of the tribal opioid response (TOR) grants administered by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The TOR program assists tribal communities by increasing access to U.S. Food and Drug Administration-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder, and to support prevention,

treatment and recovery efforts. The program also provides support for stimulant misuse and use disorders, including for cocaine and methamphetamine.

HHS executive director Dr. Vandhana Kiswani-Barley said the award is the latest in a line of TOR funding that the tribe regularly receives through its Center for Behavioral Health (CBH). However, she said the award is usually \$400,000, making this year's funding \$100,000 higher than normal.

"It's \$500,000 over a two-year period. It's used to fight opioid abuse and is for opioid response – to provide Narcan distribution," Kiswani-Barley said. "Opioid abuse has significantly increased everywhere; it's not

unique to the tribe."

Narcan is a medicine that typically comes in a nasal spray or injectable form that is used to treat a known or suspected opioid overdose emergency. Common types of opioids are oxycodone (OxyContin), hydrocodone (Vicodin), morphine, methadone and fentanyl.

Kiswani-Barley said tribal members with opioid issues are sometimes seen through a tribal clinic, but are more commonly seen through CBH – whether it's due to prescription misuse or recreational use.

Meanwhile, the tribe's Covid-19 numbers continue to rise and fall, but

Kiswani-Barley said HHS has a "good handle on it." She said, however, that as tribal members have begun to return to more normal routines of doctor and clinic visits, HHS has seen an increase in new diabetics, people with hypertension and obesity.

In addition, Kiswani-Barley said that flu season has arrived and the tribe will offer the vaccine to those six months and older. Elders who are 65 and older will receive a higher dose.

For more information, call the HHS hotline at (833) 786-3458.

Q & A: Cheyenne Kippenberger talks mental health

BY DAMON SCOTT
Staff Reporter

Native Americans have one of the highest suicide rates of any group in the U.S. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) list suicide as the second-leading cause of death for Native people between the ages of 10 and 34. (Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death.)

The Seminole Tribe's Cheyenne Kippenberger, who made mental health issues an anchor of her platform as Miss Indian World, was a guest on Native America Calling's national radio show Sept. 6 as part of National Suicide Prevention Week, which was observed from Sept. 4 to Sept. 10.

Kippenberger is the communications coordinator for the Center for Native American Youth (CNAY) at the Aspen Institute. She spoke with host Shawn Spruce about mental health and Native youth. The following is a part of her conversation with Spruce. It has been edited for length and clarity.

How are young people helping other young people in crises?

If you look at the strength our communities hold, a lot of times it's really driven by young people in our communities across Indian Country. Some of the efforts that are being made in regards to suicide prevention – creating resources, creating support systems – they are youth led and we see that firsthand at CNAY.

What was the motivation for starting CNAY? How long has it been in existence?

We are super excited that we just celebrated 10 years last year. We were founded by Sen. (Byron) Dorgan, who is a former senator of North Dakota. It was started with suicide prevention in mind. He had seen that there was a need for resources and support within communities. He had a very close relationship with MHA in North Dakota (Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation), and with leftover campaign money he started CNAY.

Tell us about some of the programs that work to address mental health issues among young Native people.

If you look at CNAY, we have "Champions for Change," and we host an annual art competition called "Creative Natives," which encourages people to submit art pieces. We come into communities and create programs that are more specified for those community needs. We also offer trainings – but most of all, our goal, our mission, is to enhance and empower young people and to build them up in a way that not only makes them ready to take on their lives professionally, educationally, and socially within Indian Country, but also off of their communities – and be able to have confidence as traditional people navigating a modern world.

Do your programs include spirituality when working with Native youth struggling with mental health?

Absolutely. When we think of prevention, what are the main tools we can utilize to address these concerns and issues? We take into account that we are culturally driven people, we are communally driven people, and the vast resources that we can provide in the community is culture – creating a support system that is founded and driven by the very teachings that we are taught as Native people.

Within those spaces our young people can thrive. Not only do they feel safe but also they feel protected and they feel valued. In other spaces that aren't Native led, we constantly have to validate our identity. We constantly have to validate our very existence, because if you look at what mainstream media portrays us as, it's extinct people most times. We treat everybody that we have the honor of working with like family. Working with young people is something that should be held in very high regard.

What are Native youth saying about their unique mental health needs?

We have an awesome survey that we were a part of – the "Indigenous Futures Project" – you can access those results on our website at cnay.org. There was a portion that covered mental health and our young people were sharing their concerns. It was probably the first time these perspectives were put at the forefront of such research.

It was shared that suicide prevention is something that is a really big concern. Mental health resources – taking into consideration



Courtesy photo

Cheyenne Kippenberger

cultural competency, historical competency in professional care – were something that was needed in tribal communities. Are these communities rural? Are they urban? Is there a lack of financial support? Is there a lack of mental health professionals that aren't able to make it to those communities? The survey was great in being able to take a deeper dive into that and understanding Native youth needs that should be prioritized.

Are you seeing meaningful progress?

As someone not only on the team with CNAY, but also having served in the capacity of a youth ambassador, I can say firsthand the impact that it has had on my life – the emotional, spiritual support that was provided from the center was monumental. You see it firsthand with the youth that we get to work with. For there to be change in our communities, there need to be spaces for young people's voices to be heard and valued. Our young people are our future. They're our future council members, our future doctors, our future teachers and educators.

Editor's note: "988" has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (now known as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) and is now active across the U.S. When people call, text, or chat "988," they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the network.

'Pinktober' theme throughout October at Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood

FROM PRESS RELEASE

HOLLYWOOD — As part of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood's "Pinktober" efforts, various food and beverage outlets will feature limited edition pink menu items with a portion of all sales going to breast cancer research. The "Pinktober" cocktail, Bouquet of Rosé, will be offered at all four fine dining restaurants (Abiaka, Cipresso, Council Oak Steaks & Seafood and Kuro), L Bar and Oculus Bar. At Council Oak, the cheesecake will be pink and served with seasonal garnish. Kuro will offer pink doughnuts with a pink fruit sauce, while Cipresso will showcase a pink clam shell pasta with lobster and herbed ricotta cheese and also pink cheesecake. Constant Grind will offer raspberry champagne fizz bonbons, ruby peach cupcakes and two specialty gelato flavors. Rise Kitchen & Deli will offer pink cheesecake with berry compote and pink pancakes.

Other initiatives during the month include a luxurious pinked-out Bora Bora cabana, an overwater villa experience overlooking the Guitar Hotel poolscape. Each rental is equipped with personal plunge pools, a private bathroom and butler service. Proceeds from the rental will benefit the cause.

A social wall will be set up in front of the Guitar Hotel lobby where guests can upload their pictures and show their support on social media by tagging @HardRockHolly and #PINKTOBER.

The Guitar Hotel façade will be lit with a "Pinktober" theme every night during October.

Navajo woman sworn in as IHS director

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Roselyn Tso, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, was sworn in as director of the Indian Health Service on Sept. 27.

In March, Tso was nominated by President Joe Biden to serve as IHS director. She was confirmed by the Senate.

Tso began her career with IHS in 1984. Most recently she served as the director of the IHS Navajo Area since 2019. She

oversaw the federal, tribal, and urban Indian health care system for more than 244,000 American Indians and Alaska Natives in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah.

She has a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Marylhurst

University in Portland, Oregon, and a master's degree in organizational management from the University of Phoenix in Portland.

Domestic violence is not traditional.



Contact your local Indian health care provider, call 1-800-318-2596, or visit www.healthcare.gov/sep-list/#domesticabuse to learn about special enrollment periods available for survivors of domestic abuse/violence or spousal abandonment.



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SEMINOLE SCENES



Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood

STARR-FILLED NIGHT: Beatles drummer Ringo Starr, 82, performs at Hard Rock Live in Hollywood on Sept. 17. His concert came four months after fellow Beatle Paul McCartney performed at Hard Rock Live.



FSU Photography Services

TRIBE IN TALLY: Naples Council Liaison Brian Zepeda speaks to an audience Sept. 1 at the Blue Tavern in Tallahassee. He presented songs and stories about the Seminole Tribe's history and traditions in the "Seminole Legends and Songs" program hosted by Florida State University's Center for Music of the Americas.



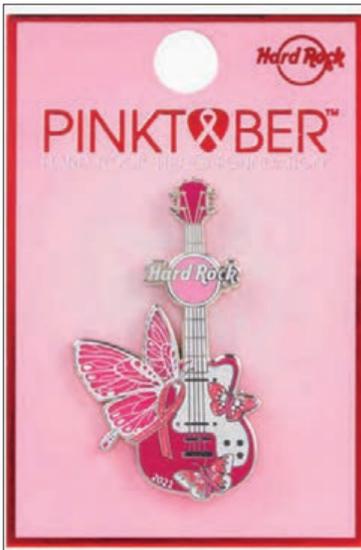
Beverly Bidney

BASKETBALL BUDDIES: During a break in action, Virginia Osceola, left, and Shirley Clay enjoy a lighter moment on the bleachers at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium in Big Cypress. They played in the legends division at the 13th annual Tigertail Brothers Memorial Tournament.



Kevin Johnson

CLASS DISMISSED: In preparation for Hurricane Ian, Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School closed school and cancelled volleyball matches.



Hard Rock Shop

PIN FOR A CAUSE: A 2022 "Pinktober" pin is available through Hard Rock's Rock Shop. Hard Rock International's "Pinktober" campaign supports breast cancer awareness and research, with proceeds benefitting American Cancer Society.



Kevin Johnson

CALM BEFORE THE STORM: A horse sips water in the grass on the Brighton Reservation on Sept. 26, two days before the arrival of Hurricane Ian.

20 Years Ago

ALL TRIBAL TEAM: On Sept. 4, 2002, an all-Seminole youth flag football team played its first game at the Pasadena Lakes football field in Pembroke Pines. The Seminole team was known as the Green Bay Packers and wore uniforms and helmets similar to the famous NFL team. Sponsored by Hollywood Recreation and coached by Kenny Descheene, the Packers consisted of 15 tribal members ages 5 to 7.



NATIONAL NATIVE NEWS

Ancestral land returned to Mechoopda Tribe

On Sept. 23, the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria and Chico State Enterprises (CSE) completed a landmark agreement that returns the 93 acres of land known as the Butte Creek Ecological Preserve (BCEP) in northern California back to the Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria. Enabled by recently passed legislation sponsored by James Gallagher (R-Yuba City), the agreement is the first of its kind in California.

At the preserve, Chico State and tribal leaders were joined by local conservation nonprofit leaders and representatives of Butte Creek canyon community groups to celebrate the historic transfer.

"Today, I'm honored the State of California returned a parcel of culturally and ecologically important land back to its rightful caretakers," said Gallagher. "The Mechoopda Indian Tribe is the most qualified steward of the Butte Creek Ecological Preserves to manage the land and its wildlife and plants as it recovers from the 2018 Camp Fire."

Under the terms of the zero-dollar, land-transfer agreement that was approved by the California Wildlife Conservation Board, no buildings or structures can be built on the property and it will continue to be utilized for conservation and educational purposes. Through a Memorandum of Understanding between CSE and the Mechoopda, Chico State faculty and staff will have the ability to access the property to conduct research and field trips for K-12 students throughout the North State will continue.

"Words cannot begin to describe the importance of Butte Creek and Butte Creek canyon to our people," said Dennis Ramirez, chairman of the Mechoopda Tribe. "It is with great honor that we become stewards of these sacred Indigenous lands once again. We look forward to getting to work and accelerating the property's recovery process so that it can once again host visitors and educational field trips."

BCEP is a 93-acre site along the middle section of Butte Creek. The property contains more than a mile of creek frontage, as well as habitat for many species of special status, including the western pond turtle and yellow-legged frog. Butte Creek is critical salmon habitat and spawning grounds for the largest population of Central Valley spring run Chinook, a state and federal threatened evolutionarily significant unit.

The Mechoopda Indian Tribe's respect and knowledge for the land are rooted in cultural and traditional practices that require sustainable, equitable development and proper management of natural and cultural resources. The tribe is currently developing an updated land management plan for BCEP consistent with the Wildlife Conservation Board grant agreement. It also plans to immediately begin addressing the dead trees and other fuels on the property to mitigate wildfire risk and promote ecosystem health.

- Chico State Today (Chico, Calif.)

U.S. Congress reaches a milestone in Indigenous representation

Rep. Mary Peltola's election to the U.S. House of Representatives made history in several ways.

With her recent swearing-in, it became official for the first time in more than 230 years: A Native American, an Alaska Native and a Native Hawaiian are all members of the House — fully representing the United States' Indigenous people for the first time, according to Rep. Kaiiali'i Kahele of Hawaii. Now, there are six Indigenous Americans who are representatives in the House.

Kahele shared this history-making moment on social media with a photograph of him, Peltola, and Rep. Sharice Davids of Kansas (a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation).

Peltola, the first Alaska Native and woman elected to the House for Alaska, is taking over for Rep. Don Young, who died in March.

"It's a historic moment," Lani Teves, an associate professor at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa said.

Indigenous peoples in the United States have been disenfranchised on many levels throughout history, Teves told NPR.

"Having different Indigenous communities represented shows the growing power of Native people across the United States and across the world," she said.

Bringing more Indigenous representation to Congress has been slow-going over the years. Just four years ago, Davids and now-Interior Secretary Deb Haaland became the first two Native American women elected to Congress. Kahele is just the second Native Hawaiian to represent his home state.

Down the road, this representation can have a big impact on the political power of Indigenous communities in the U.S., Teves said.

"People need representation and young people need to see people that look like themselves, that come from their communities," she said.

Beyond that, she noted, having members who come from Indigenous communities can mean issues important to those communities — like climate change and violence against Native women — get more play in Congress.

"I think it represents just a growing movement of Indigenous resurgence and awareness of injustices and a desire to, not just make right on the past, but have our voices heard," she said.

However, this level of representation may be short-lived. Peltola still needs to win re-election in November, and Kahele will wrap up his final term in Congress in 2023.

- NPR

Two tribes buy land adjacent to Wounded Knee

SIoux FALLS, S.D. — It's a move to protect sacred land.

Two American Indian tribes in South Dakota have joined forces to purchase 40 acres around the Wounded Knee National Historic Landmark, the site of one of the deadliest massacres in U.S. history.

The Oglala Sioux and the Cheyenne River Sioux said the purchase of the land on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation was an act of cooperation to ensure the area was preserved as a sacred site.

More than 200 Native Americans — including children and elderly people — were killed at Wounded Knee in 1890.

- KELO.com (Sioux Falls, S.D.)

California tribe receives land grant as reparation

OAKLAND, Calif. — Oakland is the first city in California to use city-owned property as reparations for European settlers stealing Native American territories.

City leaders and an Indigenous nonprofit announced the five-acre land grant to the East Bay Ohlone Tribe on Sept. 5.

Under the proposed "cultural conservation easement," Oakland would retain ownership of the designated area, but the Sogorea Te' Land Trust would have nearly full control over the use of the land, for cultural, environmental, and educational uses, in perpetuity, according to Oaklandside.

"This is just the beginning, this is just the beginning," said Oakland Councilman Sheng Thao. "I truly believe that it was your ancestor who led your daughters to this beautiful site... This perfect site that overlooks the city of Oakland."

The tribal chairperson and co-founder of the land trust, Corrina Gould, said the trust hopes to open a cultural resource center at the site in the future.

According to Oaklandside, the plan to return the Joaquin Miller site has been in the works since 2018, when Mayor Libby Schaaf first met with Gould after watching the documentary "Beyond Recognition."

Schaaf wanted to know if there was anything Oakland could do.

The Indigenous community members searched for a culturally significant spot and chose Sequoia Point off Skyline Boulevard.

- KTVU (Oakland, Calif.)

Public Interest Law Centre says current regulations vulnerable to Supreme Court constitutional challenge

Some First Nations leaders in Manitoba say the provincial government is failing to prioritize Indigenous people's constitutional right to harvest moose for consumption — leaving the province vulnerable to a constitutional challenge in Canada's highest court.

Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak, which advocates for First Nations in northern Manitoba, says the provincial government must stop issuing licences to non-Indigenous hunters without first ensuring that First Nations people have harvested enough moose for food and ceremonial purposes.

Citing concerns about declining moose populations, the province has limited hunting on the land where First Nations peoples have traditionally harvested moose.

But in 2021, the government changed its hunting regulations to allow a lottery draw for moose hunting licences in some game hunting areas in the Duck Mountain and Porcupine Mountain areas. Up to five licences were available in each area through the draw.

In April of this year, the province announced further changes to its hunting regulations, converting nine more game hunting areas — most of which are in MKO territory — into licence-draw areas.

In a letter to provincial officials earlier this month, MKO called for the moose licence lottery to be cancelled within its region, and for any licences issued to non-Indigenous hunters in those areas to be cancelled.

"They're really cracking down on the regulations of our own people doing the hunting, yet they're permitting other non-Indigenous people to go hunting," said Pimicikamak Cree Nation Chief David Monias, whose community in northern Manitoba is one of the affected areas.

In an email to CBC on Sept. 20, a spokesperson for the province confirmed a draw was instituted this year in nine game hunting areas, mainly in the northwestern regions around Flin Flon, Thompson and The Pas, in order to collect harvesting information from licensed hunters.

The spokesperson said more and better information is needed to protect the long-term sustainability of moose populations, which are under pressure from a growing number of biological threats, including disease and predation.

Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak argues that the needs of First Nations communities must be met before licences are granted to non-Indigenous hunters.

"When we signed treaties, that's what was promised to us. We just want to live off the land," said Nelson Genaille, chief of Sapotaweyak Cree Nation, which is one of MKO's members.

- CBC

Cherokee Nation's case for Congressional delegate to get House committee hearing

A House committee plans to consider the question of whether the Cherokee Nation, an Oklahoma-based Native American tribe with more than 400,000 members, should be granted representation in Congress under an 1835 treaty.

The hearing marks progress for the tribe, which has been seeking the delegate's seating since 2019. Still, the issue is far from settled legally, and many thorny issues would need to be resolved.

"The House Rules Committee plans to hold a hearing on this matter soon," a senior Democratic aide told HuffPost on Friday.

The delegate's status, if seated, would likely resemble that of several non-voting officials who currently represent U.S. jurisdictions such as Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and, most famously, the District of Columbia. Depending on which party holds power in the House, the delegates have sometimes been granted the right to vote in committee, but generally have not been allowed to vote on the House floor.

The Cherokees were one of several Native tribes forced from the Southeastern United States in the 1820s and 1830s as the nation expanded. Under a treaty signed in New Echota, Georgia, the Cherokees, after fighting with U.S. military forces and under pressure from American settlers, agreed to move west to the territory that would become Oklahoma, in exchange for cash and other considerations.

That forced removal west, in which a quarter of the Cherokees perished, became known as the "Trail of Tears."

The 1835 treaty includes language that says the Cherokees "shall be entitled to a delegate in the House of Representatives of the United States whenever Congress shall make provision for the same."

In August 2019, Chuck Hoskin Jr., the principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, announced the tribe was beginning the process to have a delegate sent to Congress. Hoskin named tribal member Kim Teehee, the senior adviser for Native American affairs in the Obama White House, as his and the tribal council's choice.

But the pandemic delayed things, and movement on the issue appeared to stall. Earlier this week, though, the Cherokees released a video calling for Teehee to be seated by the end of the year.

"The Treaty of New Echota has no expiration date," Hoskin said in the video. "The obligation to seat a Cherokee Nation delegate is as binding today as it was in 1835."

Part of the delay in figuring out whether to seat the delegate was due to the need to research the legal ramifications. A second senior Democratic aide told HuffPost: "Last year, the Committee on House Administration tasked the Congressional Research Service to produce a report on the legal and procedural issues related to seating a Cherokee Nation Delegate in the House. That report was completed at the end of July this year."

The CRS report noted there could be legal issues to a delegate's seating, including whether it would violate the principle of "one person, one vote" by giving Cherokee citizens extra representation in addition to that provided by their elected U.S. House member. But whether that question could even be decided by a court was unclear, the CRS said.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-Okla.), the ranking Republican on the rules committee and a member of the Chickasaw Nation — and therefore one of only a handful of Native Americans in Congress — told HuffPost a lot of questions would need to be answered first, including about the House's constitutional right to determine its own members.

Still, he said he is friends with Teehee, the proposed delegate, and he thinks the Cherokee Nation has a case to make.

"I've looked at the treaty. I think they have a legitimate case," he said. "By and large, look, I believe in treaty rights being enforced, but the final arbiter of whether or not we seat somebody will be the House of Representatives."

- Huffington Post

Sacheen Littlefeather accepts apology from Oscars over Godfather protest

The actress and activist Sacheen Littlefeather has accepted an apology from the Oscars almost 50 years after she was booed off stage.

In 1973 she took to the stage in a traditional buckskin dress to turn down an Oscar on behalf of Marlon Brando and then made a speech about the film industry's mistreatment of Native Americans.

A minute into her speech she was booed off the stage and for decades was boycotted by the film industry.

However, earlier this year the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences apologized to Littlefeather in a letter and on Sept. 18 at an event in her honor in Los Angeles the 75-year-old was applauded as she took to the stage.

"Well, I made it. It took 50 years," she said at the event, entitled "An evening with Sacheen Littlefeather" and which featured Native American performances.

In 1973 Littlefeather had been asked to go to the Oscars by her friend Marlon Brando who had won the Best Actor award for playing Vito Corleone in The Godfather.

She said that when she started to speak the audience booed and some mocked her with the chopping sound of a tomahawk and the whoops of "Indians."

"Big John Wayne was ready to attack

me. He had to be held back by six security guards," she said.

At the weekend's event the Academy's letter of apology was read out: "As you stood on the Oscars stage in 1973 to not accept the Oscar on behalf of Marlon Brando, in recognition of the misrepresentation and mistreatment of Native American people by the film industry, you made a powerful statement that continues to remind us of the necessity of respect and the importance of human dignity," it said.

She responded, "I am accepting this apology not only for me alone, but an acknowledgement not only for me, but all of our [Native American] nation. Our nation needs to hear this apology."

- Sky News

Descendants call for immediate return of human remains in Harvard museum collections, criticize university report

Harvard agreed to return the remains of 19 likely enslaved individuals to their descendants in a report published [in September.] But some descendants of enslaved individuals and Native American scholars voiced concerns about a lack of specificity on repatriation timelines.

Tamara K. Lanier — the plaintiff of a high profile lawsuit alleging the University illegally possesses daguerreotypes of two of her enslaved ancestors, Renty and Delia — condemned Harvard for "saying all the right things" while failing to return the photographs to her.

"They have to recognize that now they are under an obligation to do the right thing and can no longer cover up their past indiscretions, how they have in the past flouted the law," Lanier said.

Lanier questioned Harvard's motivations in promising to ethically steward and repatriate human remains in its collections in light of her own court battle with the University.

A Harvard spokesperson declined to comment on the pending litigation.

Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, Harvard is required to return the human remains and associated cultural items removed from Native American lands to their descendants. Since 2020, a separate NAGPRA committee housed within the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography has overseen the returns of Native American human remains.

Last week's report urged Harvard to accelerate the return of approximately 6,500 Native American human remains at Harvard. Some Native American scholars and advocates called for the immediate return of Native American human remains and voiced concerns about the language used to describe Native American ancestors.

University of Cincinnati Associate Professor Kenneth B. Tankersley wrote that the University has not published "timelines when all Native American remains, funerary objects, and items of cultural patrimony will be repatriated."

Harvard should "cease all research on the collections and repatriate all of the Native American and African American human remains," Tankersley wrote.

Anthony Trujillo, a Harvard Ph.D. candidate in American Studies and member of the Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, also said the University should prioritize returning the human remains within its collections immediately.

In October 2021, the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography announced an interim policy that bars any research, including analytical sampling, on Native American human remains or associated funerary objects "without permission from authorized Tribal representatives."

The moratorium applies to both culturally affiliated artifacts — referring to the 30 percent of the Peabody's collection of Native American ancestral remains that have been connected to at least one tribe — and those deemed culturally unidentifiable.

The report on human remains also recommends a research and teaching moratorium on any human remains referred to the newly created Human Remains Returns Committee, a group charged with repatriating the human remains of the 19 individuals who were likely enslaved and overseeing the return of other human remains.

Colleen Medicine, program director of the Association on American Indian Affairs and member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, also said she felt the report has a "very cold" tone and does not include the language Native Americans use.

"We always capitalize the 'A' in Ancestors," Medicine said. "We were taught that when you do use that capital, it lets our ancestors know that we're still thinking of them in that sacred way."

Kiani Ku'uleimomi Akina '25, a Native Hawaiian student, also wished the report had included an acknowledgment of stolen Indigenous land, given how Harvard is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts Tribe.

Still, Trujillo said he was grateful that the report criticized Harvard's practices in obtaining and caring for the remains.

But he added that he hoped for more specificity in the report regarding next steps. As Harvard works to implement its new policies and return human remains, Trujillo said he wants the University to provide regular progress reports on an annual, if not biannual, basis.

Jaidyn J. Probst '23, co-president of Natives at Harvard College and member of the Lower Sioux Indian Community, also said she would like to see concrete

evidence of returns and dialogues between the University and tribes.

While the vast majority of human remains are housed at the Peabody Museum, Trujillo and Probst both said repatriation is a University-wide issue.

"At the end of the day, it's an institutional problem," Probst said.

In a message to affiliates earlier this month, University President Lawrence S. Bacow described the report as a "clear roadmap for our community as we seek to fulfill our obligations to those individuals whose remains are held by the University."

But the implementation of the report's 13 recommendations — as well as the administration of Harvard's Legacy of Slavery initiative and its \$100 million commitment — will largely be left to Bacow's successor when he leaves the role in June.

Trujillo said he hopes the repatriation of the human remains is "front and center" in the presidential search.

- The Harvard Crimson (Mass.)

Tribe explores pathway to tax-free casino distributions

Starting in March, members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians may have the chance to sign up for a program that will let them receive casino distributions without reporting them as income on federal taxes.

Because tribal code refers to the twice-yearly distributions as "per capita," they're automatically taxable, Secretary of Finance Cory Blankenship told Tribal Council during a Sept. 20 work session.

However, the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act of 2014 excludes "any Indian general welfare benefit" from the calculation of gross income as long as several requirements are satisfied. The benefits must be for the promotion of general welfare, not be lavish and extravagant or compensation for services, and available to any tribal members who meets the guidelines. Programs must be administered under specific guidelines and may not discriminate in favor of members of the tribe's governing body.

Like per capita, the new program, to be called GenWell, would provide tribal members with direct payments. The stated purpose of the payments would be for health and wellness-related expenditures — housing, education, transportation and medical costs, for example.

Combined with an ordinance change eliminating the term "per capita" from tribal law, this would bring the program into compliance with the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act. Tribal members would no longer have to pay federal taxes on their casino distributions or even report them on Tax Day.

"The idea is that we would adopt the general language as part of ordinance and Council by resolution would adopt the plan design," Blankenship said. "Any amendments that are needed in the future to the plan design can only be done by resolution of the council."

- Smoky Mountain News (Waynesville, N.C.)

NY bill would change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day

ALBANY, N.Y. — A proposal to yank the Columbus Day state holiday from the calendar and recast it as "Indigenous People's Day" is gaining traction at the statehouse after getting Democratic sponsors in both the Assembly and Senate.

"Indigenous People's Day reimagines Columbus Day and changes a celebration of colonialism into an opportunity to reveal historical truths about the genocide and oppression of indigenous people in the Americas, to organize against current injustices and to celebrate Indigenous resistance," argues legislation authored by Sen. Jessica Ramos, D-Queens, and Assemblywoman Marcela Mitaynes, D-Brooklyn.

The measure is already drawing frowns from Italian-American lawmakers.

Christopher Columbus, an explorer who stumbled into the Americas in 1492 while trying to find a new route to India and China, is feted by many Italians for opening up transatlantic journeys.

Contacted by CNHI, Assemblyman Angelo Morinello, R-Niagara Falls, said Columbus Day should be left intact. He suggested there could be consideration for a separate day to honor Indigenous people.

"Let's not forget we can't judge from today's standards," Morinello said. "We must consider the time in history. Additionally, we Italians celebrate the bravery of sailing to the unknown and the exploration spirit to determine if the world was flat or round."

At least 12 states and more than 130 cities have ditched Columbus Day in recent years amid culture wars forcing a re-examination of the deeds of historical figures and their ties to colonialism or slavery.

Brendan White, a spokesman for the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe in northern New York, said the St. Regis leadership would approve of the proposal to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

Columbus Day remains a federal holiday. But last year President Joe Biden issued a proclamation commemorating the day as Indigenous Peoples Day to recognize "the invaluable contributions and resilience of Indigenous peoples" and remind the federal government of its treaty obligations to tribal nations.

New York has eight federally recognized Indian tribes.

- CNHI

SOUTH FLORIDA'S ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION



OCT 1
MAXWELL WITH FANTASIA



OCT 7
BEN PLATT



OCT 8
SMASHING PUMPKINS + JANE'S ADDICTION



OCT 13
10TH ANNUAL LA MUSA AWARDS



OCT 14
FREESTYLE FREE FOR ALL



OCT 15
CHRIS STAPLETON



OCT 19 & 20
PITBULL



OCT 22
HAVASI



OCT 25
GRETA VAN FLEET



OCT 28
BANDA MS: GRACIAS A TI! TOUR



OCT 30
DEMI LOVATO



NOV 2
STARS AND STRINGS



GET TICKETS!
TICKETMASTER.COM
MYHRL.COM • HARDROCKHOLLY.COM



HOLLYWOOD, FL

Education



Hollywood Preschool celebrates Indian Day

STAFF REPORT

HOLLYWOOD — Youngsters from the Hollywood Preschool celebrated Indian Day on Sept. 20 in the Classic Gym on the Hollywood Reservation.

The Hollywood Education Department and Hollywood Community Culture Center staff organized several activities for the preschoolers – including corn pounding, pan tossing, hatchet throwing, archery, beading and patchwork created out of construction paper.

After everyone had a chance to take part in the activities, the preschoolers gathered in age groups to show off their clothes for the judges who chose a king and queen in each age category.

The kids and their families were then treated to lunch.



Hollywood Preschool students sit and wait for the Indian Day festivities to begin inside the Classic Gym.

Damon Scott

◆ See PRESCHOOL on page 2B

Native American, Indigenous community takes shape at UConn

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
UConn Today

STORRS, Conn. — When Kat Milligan-McClellan arrived at the University of Connecticut in fall 2020, she looked around at the rolling hills, the autumn leaves, and the 18th-century buildings, and immediately knew: Something was missing.

“There were as many as four monuments to Nathan Hale in my town,” says the assistant professor of molecular and cell biology and member of the Inupiaq people. “But there was nothing about Native Americans – no markers, no monuments, no acknowledgments. Nothing.”

And UConn was no different.

“We were struck by the level of Indigenous erasure on campus,” says Sandy Grande, professor of political science, director of the new Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative and a Quechua national. “You’re hard-pressed to find anything on campus that speaks to the continued presence of Indigenous peoples.”

Yet, what Grande and Milligan-McClellan did find was a committed group of students hard at work building a UConn Native American community: inviting and hosting prominent Native American speakers, creating Native American student organizations and academic communities, and supporting a mentoring program for Indigenous youth.

“Student involvement has driven UConn’s efforts to reclaim an Indigenous presence on campus,” says Grande. “And together in intergenerational partnership, we now have potential to do so much more.”

In 2021, only 40 of the more than 32,000 UConn students identified as Native American or Indigenous. Grande and her colleagues know of only six Native American faculty.

It wasn’t surprising, then, that in her speech at the 2022 Commencement Ceremonies, student speaker Sage Phillips ’22 (CLAS), a member of the Penobscot Nation, said that when she was applying to colleges, “it was clear rather quickly that UConn did not meet my list of conditions.”

“I did not see a strong Native and Indigenous Studies Department, nor a large community of support for Indigenous students,” she said in her speech.

It was her father who counseled her to embrace the opportunity to build an Indigenous community at an institution that needed one.

Leading a small but dedicated group of Native American students, Phillips came to UConn in 2018 and founded the UConn Native American and Indigenous Students Association (NAISA), in partnership with UConn’s Native American Cultural Programs (NACP). Fellow student Zoe Blevins ’22 (CLAS), a human rights major, founded the UConn Indigenous Nations Cultural and Educational Exchange mentorship program (UCINCEE), which pairs Indigenous youth with undergraduate students from NAISA or NACP with the goal of fostering relations between Indigenous cultures and UConn.

The students also rejuvenated the UConn chapter of the Society for Advancing Native Americans and Chicanos in Sciences (SACNAS) and hosted prominent Native American speakers on campus.

◆ See UCONN on page 6C

Ahfachkee ‘Spirit Week’ includes traditional Seminole stories



Van Samuels, an educator from the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, talks to Ahfachkee students during the school’s “Spirit Week.”

Beverly Bidney

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — The Ahfachkee School celebrated “Spirit Week” from Sept. 19-22 with a host of activities, including Native fashion day, “Our Past is Our Future” memory sharing, storytelling and a traditional game of stickball.

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum educator Van Samuels told traditional Seminole stories to students under the large chickee in the school’s culture camp. He described Seminole camps of old, including those in the middle of the Everglades surrounded by water, but with a fire always burning in the center of camp.

“The fire was called the lifeline of the camp,” Samuels said. “There were no such thing as video games, so in the evenings the children would gather around the fire and a storyteller would tell stories before bedtime.”

The story Samuels told was like those told around the fire. It was about a little frog who was sleeping soundly when a rabbit, known as the trickster, tried to wake him up. The frog wanted to sleep, so he made some sounds that scared the trickster away and the little frog went back to sleep.

“Stories have meanings and messages,” Samuels said. “The reason this story is told is to let kids know you are never too small to make a difference in the world.”

Before Samuels told a group of second graders the story, he introduced “Willie,” a Seminole doll and the museum’s mascot. Some kids thought the doll was so cute that they posed for photos with it after storytelling time.



Ahfachkee students pose with the Seminole doll “Willie.”

Beverly Bidney

Interior Department to launch 'Indigenous food hubs'

STAFF REPORT

The Department of the Interior announced Sept. 27 that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) would create "Indigenous food hubs" for BIE-operated schools and BIA-operated detention centers.

According to a news release, the goal is to help source Indigenous foods, provide culturally based healthy nutrition education

and boost training for healthy and culturally appropriate food preparation.

Florida has two BIE funded schools – the Seminole Tribe's Ahfachkee School on the Big Cypress Reservation and the Miccosukee Indian School west of Miami.

The announcement was made as part of the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health, which took place Sept. 28 in Washington, D.C. The conference's goal was to help motivate the public and

private sectors to "comprehensively address the intersections of food, hunger, nutrition and health to end hunger and increase healthy eating and physical activity."

"Food is an integral cornerstone of Indigenous communities – it represents our connection to the earth and the customs that have been passed down through generations," Interior Secretary Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo), said in the release. "Yet Indigenous communities face historically high rates

of food insecurity and often lack access to affordable and healthy foods."

Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland (Ojibwe) said in the release that the initiative would provide healthier food to Indigenous communities and help to repair the damage to Indigenous food ways by "the harmful policies of the past, including colonization, relocation and assimilation of tribal communities."

Officials said that for the first time,

a nutritionist would be hired to support the BIE and BIA in developing culturally appropriate nutrition and training standards that draw from Indigenous knowledge. Special efforts would be made to identify and connect Native vendors and producers, as well as community-based systems such as tribal food sovereignty and health programs, the release said.

◆ PRESCHOOL
From page 1B



Natalia was crowned queen of the preschool graduate class.



Preparing for archery during the Hollywood Preschool Indian Day event are, from left to right, tribalwide preschool director Thommy Doud, Rowan, Charlie and Hollywood Community Culture Center assistant manager Michael Cantu.



Audry sits with teacher's aide Yuraima Perez during the festivities.



Eleanor takes her turn at beading while her mother Kurya helps.



Aurora creates patchwork with help from Francine Osceola, the Hollywood Community Culture Center manager.



Amber prepares to throw a pan during the pan toss activity



Eleanor gets a little help with the corn pounding activity by Madeline Osceola, while Evalysse (second in line) and Kaila wait their turn.

Indian Day



Reservations mark Indian Day with full menu of events

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

Camaraderie, contests and competition highlighted the Seminole Tribe's Indian Day celebrations in September. The reservations welcomed a return to the traditional line-up of events and face-to-face opportunities which had been mostly absent the past two years due to the pandemic.

Immokalee

Although rainstorms flooded most of the Immokalee Culture Camp in the days before the Indian Day culture day and arts and crafts judging Sept. 20, the luncheon and judging were moved indoors to the gym. The women of the Culture Department dodged puddles in the cooking chickee as they cooked a traditional Seminole meal consisting of fry bread, Spam and tomatoes, spaghetti, fried chicken and chicken and rice. The community showed up at the gym to judge the patchwork, beadwork, baskets and carvings.

Marissa Sanchez made the winning doll in the 18-36 year old category, Cheyenne McInturf made the winning basket in the 18-36 category, Lorraine Posada's basket won in the 37-54 category and Immokalee Council Liaison Raymond Garza Sr.'s carving of a canoe won in the 55 and over category.

Big Cypress

There wasn't a horse or steer to be seen at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena grounds Sept. 22. Instead tribal members competed in a plethora of traditional contests for the Big Cypress Indian Day celebration. Men and women threw skillets, peeled logs, raced barefooted, threw hatchets and shot arrows to show off their skills.

"We never had Indian Day back in my days, we were Indians every day and never had a celebration," said Virginia Tommie. "Now we have a big gathering with games and competitions."

The community came out to enjoy the company and the celebration.

"It's good to see adults and seniors do the Indian Day activities," said Big Cypress Board Rep. Nadine Bowers. "We get to see everyone [and] talk and catch up for the first time since 2019. I missed it."

"We are Indians every day, this is about being together," said Big Cypress Councilwoman Mariann Billie. "The meaning of the day is to be proud of who you are. Never think you don't know enough, we have our seniors to teach us. All Native Americans have been through a lot of hardship. It shows resiliency that we are still

here. We pass that pride down to our kids."

Brighton

The Brighton community gathered at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena and on the ballfields to celebrate Indian Day for the first time in two years. The weeklong event culminated Sept. 23 with traditional activities.

Brighton Councilman Larry Howard believes the most important part of Indian Day is being together and sharing stories about the past.

"We should just sit around and talk," Councilman Howard said. "I remember when we had a flatbed trailer and held contests. The prizes back then were like sofkee and things like that. We want to keep those things remembered; the young kids won't know about them unless their parents tell them."

The competitions and activities all stem from how Seminoles lived in the Everglades. Men always gathered the poles for chickees, women got the fans (thatch) for the roofs. The archery and skillet throw contests all evoke the past.

"Back in the day, we didn't have anything," Rose Tiger said. "We lived in the Everglades, I don't know how we got through that. This is good, I like to be able to see people I haven't seen in a long time. We're having a good time together."

In July 2020, Marilyn Doney caught Covid-19, spent 18 days on a ventilator and two months in the hospital. Since then, she has been healing and getting stronger. So strong that she participated in the thatch run and proudly finished the race.

Onnie Osceola, an Elder, and Councilman Howard spent some time together talking about Seminole families throughout the generations.

"That's where we come from," Osceola said.

"Here's an Elder educating a youngin, she's educating me," said Councilman Howard, who recently celebrated his 51st birthday. "She has so much knowledge. That's the big thing about Indian Day."

Brighton's Indian Day was held while Tropical Storm Ian was churning in the Caribbean south of Cuba. Hurricane Ian would hit Florida five days later. Osceola told a story about how to stop a storm from coming by planting an axe or knife in the ground with the sharpened blade facing the storm. According to the story, which was told to her when she was young and also told to Councilman Howard by former Chairman James E. Billie, the sharp blade will cause the storm to go to the left or right of it and save the village from harm.



Beverly Bidney

Abby Tigertail, left, and Ahnie Jumper gain some speed in the canoe race during the Big Cypress Reservation's Indian Day celebration Sept. 22.



Kevin Johnson

After flipping a large log from one end to the other five times, Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola carries it while sprinting to the finish line during the Seminole Challenge event at the Indian Day celebration Sept. 22 on the Hollywood Reservation.

♦ See INDIAN DAY on page 4B

ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH

October 2022



USmint.gov



THPO



THPO

Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Theodore Roosevelt all have one thing in common: they appear as the face of certain monetary notes and coins exclusive to the United States; some even appear on both forms of currency. Theodore Roosevelt has been the face of the dime since 1946, when it was unveiled on his birthday, after the discontinuation of the Mercury dime due to the former president's efforts to raise funds to find a cure for polio and his "March of Dimes" (MarchofDimes.org). The dimes from 1946-1964 have the same look and feel, and are made of 90% silver but with the Coinage Act of 1965, and the increase in the value of silver, coins transitioned to a copper-nickel ratio (75%-25%) over a pure copper core.

For the first two years of its existence, the new dime did not have a mark to indicate at which United States mint it had been manufactured (left, middle). If you have a dime, look just above the date in the bottom right corner on the face side. There should be a letter stamped indicating the mint location: "P" for Philadelphia, "D" for Denver, or "SF" for San Francisco (top left, red circle). This month's artifact features a 1966 Roosevelt dime; a dime that can come with many different combinations of errors, making it more valuable to the right coin collector.

One common error that is visible on this artifact, found on the Hollywood Reservation, involves a misplaced die (bottom, left). Coins are made using two dies to cast the images on either side of the metal (USMint.gov). In one printing run, the die was misaligned, which resulted in the appearance of the number "5" in the middle of Roosevelt's cheek. Other errors include missing letters in some of the phrases on the coin such as the "Y" in the word "LIBERTY" and "I" in the phrase "IN GOD WE TRUST" on the face of the coin (Atticcapital.com).

The website, Coins.TheFunTimesGuide.com, has a great explanation of what can happen to coins if the metal layers aren't applied correctly (clad coin) and you can comment and submit a photo of your own coins if you think they could be special!

Last month, we featured a canid tooth that we sent to the University of Georgia for radiocarbon testing. The results revealed that the tooth belonged to a canid that was alive around 1,210 years ago! If you're interested in learning more about how the University of Georgia processes animal bone for radiocarbon dating check out their YouTube video called "Radio Carbon Dating | UGA Experimental Archaeology" or type in this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_lbmEajLBS



SEMINOLE HISTORY STORIES - OCTOBER 2022

ADA TIGER, THE LONE CATTLEWOMAN



Twice a year in the 1920's, one lone Seminole woman would walk into the market at Indiantown, Florida, leading a herd of cattle. Accompanying her were two "cow-chaser" dogs, guiding the herd. In town she would sell some of the cattle, have the rest treated for ticks and fleas, and buy some essential goods. Then she would walk her herd the ten mile trip home to her camp out by Lake Okeechobee.

Ada Tiger (Snake Clan) maintained her cattle on her own, her only aid coming from the two dogs she had raised and trained. She had no fences or pens to keep them in. Instead she kept them well fed with corn grown by the family, and worked the area around the camp to ensure it was a place the cattle would want to stay in.

Ada had become a cattlemaster in unfortunate circumstances. Her cattle had been inherited from her three brothers, each of whom had succumbed to tuberculosis or pneumonia within five years between 1914 and 1919. She took on the job of managing the family's stock, and by the mid-twenties her herd was the largest owned by any Seminole.

In 1928, conditions forced Ada Tiger, now mother to a five year old girl, to leave Lake Okeechobee for the Dania (now Hollywood) Reservation. The cattle were sold to pay for the move. In Hollywood she took up making crafts and souvenirs for the tourist trade, and raised her two children: Betty Mae Tiger Jumper and Howard Tiger, both of whom would grow up to become leaders and elected chairs of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

If you're interested in more Seminole History, The STOF Tribal Historic Preservation Office are creating a new site with more stories, historic resources, and more to come soon!



Indian Day



BIG CYPRESS: Marlin Miller-Covarrubias concentrates as she competes in the skillet toss.

Beverly Bidney



TRAIL: Birdie Osceola-Bartlett, left, and Justin Billie compete in front of judges in the clothing contest.

Kevin Johnson



BRIGHTON: Carla Gopher is about to round the cone in the thatch race on the Brighton ballfield.

Beverly Bidney



HOLLYWOOD: Six-foot-six Duelle Gore competes in archery.

Kevin Johnson



BRIGHTON: Arms loaded down with three heavy cypress logs, Layton Thomas makes his way through the cypress run.

Beverly Bidney



BIG CYPRESS: From left, President Mitchell Cypress, Brian Billie and Ronnie Billie enjoy Indian Day.

Beverly Bidney



BRIGHTON: From left are Johnnie Jones, John Madrigal, Sandy Billie Jr. and Norman Johns.

Damon Scott



FORT PIERCE: Kristy Smith, Fort Pierce council special assistant, holds up an Indian Day t-shirt with an image of the Council Oak Tree on the back.

Damon Scott



IMMOKALEE: From left, Amy Yzaguirre, America Martinez, Juanita Martinez and Susan Davis share a laugh as they make fry bread in the Immokalee Culture cooking chickee.

Beverly Bidney

◆ INDIAN DAY From page 3B

“You have to believe it,” Osceola said. “Billy Bowlegs tried to turn a storm with a gun,” added Ada Pearce, who is related to Bowlegs. “I heard he shot the gun so people could run for safety.”

During the archery competition, a few chickens which were supposed to be part of the chicken chase event for young children, escaped their cage and were running nearby. Councilman Howard challenged everyone there to go after the fowl and he would reward those who caught one. Havoc ensued as the adults chased the chickens. All were finally caught, which gave Howard the idea for a new competition next year.

The day after all the reservations’

festivities ended, Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. reflected on the meaning of Indian Day while competing in a golf tournament.

“We’re Indians every day and every day we practice who we are,” said Chairman Osceola. “Our culture is strong so we never forget where we come from. It’s great to see everybody back in person. We lost a lot of time by being separated for our own safety.”

HOLLYWOOD

Hollywood’s Indian Day week was full of activities that ran Sept. 16-23. The busiest day was Sept. 22 with events from sunrise to sunset; starting with a 7 a.m. walk on the streets around the Howard Tiger Recreation Center and concluding with a 5 p.m. dinner at the airnasium. In between, participants

competed in field events such as hatchet throwing, log peeling, skillet tossing, archery and horseshoes.

Other highlights during the week included contests in arts and crafts, bread, clothing and language. The Culture Camp hosted the bread contest and breakfasts.

A canoe race was held on the pond across from the entrance to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood.

The week ended with an evening of dinner, music and fireworks at the rodeo arena. Brothers Spencer Battisti and Doc Native along with The Osceola Brothers and Paul Buster were scheduled to perform.

TRAIL

It’s not every day that someone can go

for a train ride, mountain climb and enjoy gourmet food in the Everglades. The Trail community Sept. 22 hosted all of those – and more – at its Indian Day, which was organized by Council Liaison Caryn Billie and office manager Mercy Perez.

Kids enjoyed taking a train ride from a vendor around Huggins Camp, which was full of activities, including a wall-climbing set up, a giant water slide, a dunk tank, a photo booth, face-painting, and a human balloon maker. Food trucks provided gourmet sandwiches, pizza and ice cream. A giant white tent was home to the clothing contest for youngsters and adults. The stage featured festive décor decked out with flowers and balloons in Seminole colors. The community also participated in contests, including bingo, skillet tossing and fry bread making.

FORT PIERCE

Residents of the Fort Pierce Reservation celebrated Indian Day on Sept. 22.

Fort Pierce liaison Crystal Sneed and Fort Pierce council special assistant Kristy Smith set up an area just south of the Chupco’s Landing Community Center for tribal members to congregate and enjoy activities.

Activities included corn hole, horseshoes, archery, pan tossing, hatchet throwing and cooking by fire under a chickee. Families were also treated to lunch and lucky raffle ticket holders were given prizes throughout the day.

Staff reporter Damon Scott and senior editor Kevin Johnson contributed to this story.

Indian Day



HOLLYWOOD: Talia Jones competes in horseshoes.

Kevin Johnson



BIG CYPRESS: Cherelee Hall gives it her all as she peels a log.

Beverly Bidney



BRIGHTON: Brighton Councilman Larry Howard carries logs on his shoulders as he competes in the cypress run.

Beverly Bidney



HOLLYWOOD: Kenny Tommie smiles after finishing the archery competition.

Kevin Johnson



TRAIL: Kenny Joe Davis gets ready to launch a long throw in the skillet toss.

Kevin Johnson



BRIGHTON: In the clothing contest, from left, are Rylee Smith, Myron Billie, Layton Thomas, Layne Thomas, Randy Shore and Malcom Jones.

Damon Scott



IMMOKALEE: Cecilia Garcia, left, and Susan Davis transfer a pot of spaghetti to a warming pan for the reservation's luncheon.

Beverly Bidney



BRIGHTON: Marilyn Doney, left, shows her determination as she competes in the thatch race.

Beverly Bidney



TRAIL: Juelz Billie chops up brisket at Huggins Camp.

Kevin Johnson

Indian Day



Kevin Johnson

HOLLYWOOD: Indian Day included the hatchet throw on the ballfields.



Damon Scott

FORT PIERCE: Antonio Timothy lines up his shot at the archery competition.



Kevin Johnson

TRAIL: "J.R. the Brisket Man" cooks on a large grill at the Huggins Camp.



Kevin Johnson

TRAIL: From left, Teegan Osceola-Bartlett, Reylian Osceola, Magnum Osceola in the clothing contest.



Calvin Tiger

HOLLYWOOD: Clothing contest participants line up on the gymnasium floor at the Howard Tiger Recreation Center.



Kevin Johnson

TRAIL: Birdie Osceola-Bartlett, left, and Makynna Ramirez enjoy Italian ice.



Damon Scott

FORT PIERCE: Patricia Wilcox enjoys lunch with her grandson Neko Osceola Jr.

Damon Scott

FORT PIERCE: From left are Knowledj Ervin, Jayveon Wyatt, Trenton Timothy and Jamarion Foxx.



Kevin Johnson

HOLLYWOOD: Grant Osceola, left, and Doc Native compete in a horseshoe match.



Calvin Tiger

HOLLYWOOD: Charlie Tiger, front, and Vince Billie head toward the finish line in the canoe race. It was held at the pond across from the entrance to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.



Beverly Bidney

IMMOKALEE: Council Liaison Raymond Garza Sr. holds his canoe wood sculpture, which won first place in the arts and crafts contest.



Damon Scott

BRIGHTON: In the clothing contest, from left, are Clarissa Urbina, Shyla Jones and Holly Fulford.



Beverly Bidney

BIG CYPRESS: Terinna Cypress, left, and Sydnee Cypress paddle past Seminole firefighters as they compete in the canoe race.

Sports



Seminoles starring for OHS volleyball

Tribe is well represented on varsity, JV

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

OKEECHOBEE — It didn't take long for Giselle Micco to make a good impression on the Okeechobee High School varsity volleyball team.

This season marks her first year on varsity and she's already stepped into the main setter's position and has served as a captain for some games.

"Giselle's sportsmanship is one of her greatest attributes. She is always putting the team before herself and understanding how to help and support her teammates on and off the court," said Okeechobee coach Jerry Veloz, whose team had a 10-4 record at the start of October.

As of mid-September [the most recent statistics], Micco, a senior, led the team in assists (186) and service aces (25) and was third in digs (58). She had two matches with more than 30 assists.

Micco is one of two Seminole on varsity; Nena Youngblood is the other. Youngblood, a junior who plays right side and middle hitter, is in her second season on varsity.

Similar to Micco, Veloz said Youngblood brings a lot of positive aspects to the team.

"Nena is an amazing athlete and student that encourages and understands her role in the program and the goals we are trying to accomplish as a team," he said.

Youngblood hadn't played a lot as of



Giselle Micco sets the ball during Okeechobee's varsity match against South Fork on Sept. 7.



Okeechobee's Tiyanni Anderson goes airborne for a kill against South Fork in a JV match.



Okeechobee JV players, including Tiyanni Anderson, third from right, celebrate their three-set win against South Fork.

mid-September; a year ago she notched 11 kills.

Before attending OHS, Micco and Youngblood played for Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School's volleyball team.

Veloz also praised the players' parents

for their support.

"Reina Micco and Brenda Youngblood are amazing individuals and parents that project true humbleness and kindness. They are a true positive asset to the OHS volleyball program and I cannot thank them enough for all they do," he said.



From left, Seminole on the Okeechobee High JV volleyball squad are Yani Smith, Alyssa Madrigal and Tiyanni Anderson. Kalani Karratti is the team's coach.



The tribe is represented on the OHS varsity volleyball team by Giselle Micco, left, and Nena Youngblood.

Powerful JV team

The talent from the tribe doesn't stop on the varsity level. Okeechobee's JV team features three Seminole: Tiyanni Anderson, Alyssa Madrigal and Yani Smith, all of whom have earned praise from JV coach Kalani Karratti.

This season Okeechobee had enough players to form a split JV squad. The team improved to 9-0 thanks to a three-set win against South Fork on Sept. 7. Anderson, a sophomore outside hitter, came up with key points late in the match that fired up her teammates and the hometown crowd.

"She's phenomenal. She's small in stature, but she can get up with the big girls. Her air time is unbelievable," Karratti said.

Madrigal, a freshman who plays right side and outside, has established herself as a reliable player early in her high school career.

"She is consistent. Her swing technique is on point. Her hitting percentage is really good, too," Karratti said.

Smith, who plays right side and middle hitter, is a force at the net.

"She can block, she can hit outside, her serves are phenomenal. She can hit from either side of the net. She can block in the middle," Karratti said.

The JV team reached October with a perfect 16-0 record, which bodes well not only for this season but also serves as a potential indicator for the varsity squad to remain strong in the coming years as the JV players move up.

Moore Haven volleyball players earn accolades

STAFF REPORT

Three Seminole were recently featured as "Athletes of the Week" at Moore Haven High School.

For the week of Sept. 5-9, Miley Jimmie from the varsity volleyball team was named an "Athlete of the Week."

The following week it was her teammate Summer Gopher who received the honor. Marley Jimmie, Miley's sister, was named the JV team's "Athlete of the Week."

The selections are made by coaches at the school.

Moore Haven varsity, which is coached by Mona Baker, headed into October with a 6-6 record. Its regular season is scheduled to conclude Oct. 14.



Moore Haven High School/Facebook
Summer Gopher



Moore Haven High School/Facebook
Miley Jimmie



Moore Haven High School/Facebook
Marley Jimmie

F1 racing returns to Hard Rock campus next May

STAFF REPORT

The Formula 1 Crypto.com Miami Grand Prix will be held May 7, 2023, at Miami International Autodrome on the Hard Rock Stadium campus in Miami Gardens.

The race made its debut earlier this year. Race officials said the event drew more than 243,000 spectators for the three-day event. Red Bull's Max Verstappen captured the checkered flag.

The track features 19 turns as it winds around Hard Rock Stadium.

For ticket information go to flmiami.gp.com.

Tigertail tournament resumes with support from Indian Country

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

Each year the annual Tigertail Brothers Memorial Tournament rekindles the fond basketball memories Minnie Tigertail has of her two sons.

This year was no different as 21 teams came to the Herman L. Osceola Memorial Gymnasium on the Big Cypress Reservation to play in the tournament's 13th edition, named in memory of Duane and Malcolm Tigertail.

"I like seeing people playing basketball, it takes me back to when my sons played ball," Minnie Tigertail said Sept. 8, the first night of the three-day tournament. "It's good to watch it and remember how they enjoyed playing. We get so excited for this tournament, we want them to enjoy it. Whoever wants to play is welcome, we never get tired of it."

The tournament resumed after being sidelined the past two years due to the pandemic. Indian Country showed its support as teams and players from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Oklahoma joined Seminole and other local teams to vie for the championships.

The men's division had by far the most teams with 13; the legends and women's divisions each had four.

DeForest Carter, one of the most successful athletes in the history of the

Seminole Tribe, starred for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University from 2011-15. He holds several school records, including most career assists and steals. His love of basketball as a youngster was fueled by watching his uncles Duane and Malcom play. Carter organized this year's tournament.

"There will be great competition here. I try to get the best people I know," Carter said on the first night. "People who play in a lot of tournaments say this is one of the best competitions. All of them have a shot to win. Some of them play in big national tournaments. The basketball world in Indian Country is so small, [but] there's a lot of talent out there. I met a lot of people at [the Native American Basketball Invitational] and maintained those relationships over the years. It's about respect and love of the game."

Results:

Legend 2 1st place (legends)
Legend 2nd place (legends)

Lady Ballers 1st place (women)
X Factor 2nd Place (women)

OMC 1st Place (men)
Plainzmen 2nd Place (men)

Staff reporter Beverly Bidney contributed to this story.



Beverly Bidney

Joseph Osceola takes a jump shot while guarded by Charlie Frye, right, and Preston Baker on Sept. 8, the first night of the 13th annual Tigertail Brothers Memorial Basketball Tournament in Big Cypress.



Beverly Bidney

Geraldine Osceola manages to keep the ball while being closely defended.



Beverly Bidney

Shirley Clay dribbles the ball while defended by Beverly Tiger in a legends division game.



Courtesy photo

Lady Ballers - 1st place women's division



Courtesy photo

OMC - 1st place men's division



Courtesy photo

Legend 2 - 1st place legends division



Courtesy photo

Legend - 2nd place legends division

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Taylor Johns carries the U.S. flag during the opening ceremony for the Extreme Seminole Showdown rodeo in September at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena in Brighton.



From left, Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, Brighton Board Rep. Helene Buster, Mackenzie Bowers from 5-Star Rodeo and Miss Florida USA Taylor Fulford participate in the opening ceremony of the first Extreme Seminole Showdown.

Pros come to Brighton for first Extreme Seminole Showdown

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

If Shane Proctor needed a good luck charm, the students at Pematyev Emahaky Charter School provided it.

The 2011 world champion bull rider was in Brighton for the debut of the Extreme Seminole Showdown on Sept. 17-18 at Fred Smith Rodeo Arena.

Proctor and the other riders received beaded items, including necklaces, made especially for them by PECS students.

Proctor won the bull riding portion of the program and earned more than \$3,000 in first place prize money.

He didn't forget the thoughtful gifts from the students.

"I want to give a special BIG Thank You to the young students at Pematyev Emahaky Charter School for making every contestant a beaded necklace for good luck. It must of worked," Proctor, who is from Washington State, posted on social media.

The Showdown, a PRCA event, drew professional riders from throughout the country and locally. Ernie Courson Jr., of Okeechobee, finished fourth behind Proctor.

"Felt good to be home and see so much family and friends. Blessed to have my whole family there with me today including my dad, grandpa and mother-in-law. Also had my Coach Justin Gopher on the chutes with me," Courson said on social media.

Gopher is a longtime rodeo standout from the Seminole Tribe, which was also represented by Norman "Squirm" Osceola who competed in bull riding.

Matthew Smith, of Alabama, won the bareback riding. Chase Brooks, of Montana, captured the saddle bronc riding and all-around cowboy.

"Was lucky enough to get the win in Okeechobee last weekend and come home with this shiny new guitar from Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino," Brooks said in a social media post. The champions each



Professional bull rider Ernie Courson Jr., from Okeechobee, has plenty of support behind him as he rides a bull at the Extreme Seminole Showdown in Brighton.



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, left, and Brighton Board Rep. Helene Buster take part in the presentation of a Seminole vest to PRCA judge Fritz Brewer at his final rodeo.



Seminole veteran Paul Bowers Sr. salutes during the opening ceremony.



Chute boss Marty Johns makes sure everything is all set for the Showdown.

received guitars from Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa, which was a main sponsor along with the Brighton Tribal Council's Office.

There was also a Seminole connection with the animals that the winners rode. Brooks was on "Girl Crush" and Proctor was on "Yogi Bear," both from 5 Star Rodeo, which is owned by tribal members Marty Johns and Paul Bowers Jr.

Bowers and his wife, Mackenzie, organized the Showdown.

"This event was to showcase the roughstock of the southeastern circuit along with giving the cowboys a chance to make some extra money before the 2022 PRCA season ends on September 30th. We added this event to bring an exclusive event in the off season to the Brighton community," Mackenzie Bowers said.

The opening ceremony included Bowers, Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, Brighton Board Rep. Helene

Buster and Miss Florida USA and Pematyev Emahaky Charter School teacher Taylor Fulford.

Extreme Seminole Showdown

Okeechobee, Fla., Sept. 17-18

All-around cowboy: Chase Brooks, \$3,328, saddle bronc riding.

Bareback riding: 1. Matthew Smith, 79 points on Silver Spurs Club's Sherlock, \$3,102; 2. Tom Webster, 78, \$2,378; 3. Mason Clements, 77.5, \$1,758; 4. (tie) Taylor Broussard and Wyatt Denny, 76, \$931 each; 6. Colt Kitaiif, 75, \$517; 7. Kade Sonnier, 73, \$414; no other qualified rides.

Saddle bronc riding: 1. Chase Brooks, 85 points on Five Star Rodeo's Girl Crush, \$3,328; 2. Ryder Sanford, 82, \$2,551; 3. Tanner Butner, 80, \$1,886; 4. Kole Ashbacher, 79, \$1,220; 5. Ross Griffin, 78, \$776; 6. Parker Kempfer, 77.5, \$555; 7. Kody Rinehart, 77, \$444; 8. Joe Faren, 74, \$333.

Bull riding: 1. Shane Proctor, 85 points on Five Star Rodeo's Yogi Bear, \$3,158; 2. Trevor Reiste, 82.5, \$2,421; 3. Lukasey Morris, 81.5, \$1,790; 4. Ernie Courson Jr., 79, \$1,158; no other qualified rides.

Total payoff: \$31,960. **Stock contractor:** Five Star Rodeo. **Sub-contractors:** JC Kitaiif ProRodeos, Silver Spurs Club and Big Water Pro Rodeo. **Rodeo secretary:** Jody Cox. **Officials:** Dusty Whidden, Fritz Brewer and Earl Blevins. **Timers:** Emilie White and Jody Cox. **Announcer:** Roger Mooney. **Bullfighters:** Mike Driver, Knox Dunn and Dalton Burnell. **Clown/barrelman:** Scot Allerdings. **Flankmen:** Colt Kitaiif, Seth Louthan, Paul Bowers Jr and George Kempfer. **Chute boss:** Marty Johns. **Pickup men:** Spook Whidden, Reed Durrance and Hunter Holley. **Music director:** Kye Todd. **Photographer:** Jessie Burns.



PECS (2)

After not having a team for the past two seasons due to the pandemic, Pemaaytv Emahakv Charter School returned to the volleyball court in August to start its 2022 season.

PECS volleyball hits the court

STAFF REPORT

No matter the sport, Pemaaytv Emahakv Charter School teams are usually among the top in the region. This year is no different as the volleyball team has had an impressive start.

"Right now we're just trying to stay strong in more ways than one. We've had a really good season so far and I think our only

difficulty will be keeping that momentum," said PECS varsity coach Elizabeth Tauchen.

This year's roster, including varsity and junior varsity, was announced in August with the roster consisting of Melaine Bonilla, Bailey Bowers, Amalia Estrada, Bobbi Johns-Osceola, Kulipa Julian, Jaliyah Kroepin, Daliyah Nunez, Joleyne Nunez, Tehya Nunez, Caysie Platt, Hannah Platt, Mattie Platt, Ciani Smith, Jalene Smith, Ila Trueblood, Harmany Urbina, Azariah

Washington and Delilah Young.

Hurricane Ian forced the cancellation of games during the last week of September. The remaining schedule is:

- Oct. 4 at Yearling 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 6: home vs Osceola at 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 11: at Moore Haven 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 12: home vs West Glades 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13: at Labelle 4:30 p.m.
- Oct. 15: playoff tournament at PECS.



Carriss Chilsom-Johns tops 100-yard mark

STAFF REPORT

Okeechobee High School football running back Carriss Chilsom-Johns started the season on the right note by rushing for 106 yards in the Brahms opener Aug. 26 against DeSoto County.

Chilsom-Johns, a former Pemaaytv Emahakv Charter School student, averaged more than eight yards on 13 carries in the 19-8 loss. He also made two tackles.

Chilsom-Johns is a 5-foot-10, 180-pound junior who is in his third season

on varsity. He also plays cornerback. He is a captain.

Through four games, Okeechobee had a 1-3 record with its lone victory via forfeit by Archbishop McCarthy-Southwest Ranches.

- Okeechobee's remaining schedule is:
- Oct. 7 at Immokalee 7 p.m.
 - Oct. 14 home vs Port St. Lucie 7 p.m.
 - Oct. 21 at Lake Placid 7 p.m.
 - Oct. 28 at Sebring 7 p.m.
 - Nov. 4 home vs Clewiston 7 p.m.

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Treaty 6 First Nations woman joins NHL team as collegiate scout

BY LAURA SCIARPELLETTI
CBC News

The Winnipeg Jets have hired their first First Nations woman from Treaty 6 territory in Saskatchewan.

Sydney Daniels, 27, is joining the National Hockey League team as a college scout, but the woman from the Mistawasis Nehiyawak First Nation has already enjoyed a long hockey career.

Daniels grew up in the United States for most of her life and attended Harvard University, where she was captain of the Harvard Crimson hockey team. When her playing career in the National Collegiate Athletic Association ended, she became an assistant coach with the team.

Now, she's thrilled to be closer to her First Nation as she settles in with the Jets.

"I'm still pinching myself every morning that I wake up," Daniels said during a press event Monday morning. "It has been kind of a whirlwind from the moment my last position ended to kind of being here in Winnipeg."

"There are these moments I think where I'll just kind of sit back and take a deep breath and kind of be present and be like, 'Whoa, I am working for a professional NHL hockey team and I'm trusted by the staff. I'm treated like one of them!'"

Daniels is one of three scouts the Jets hired on Wednesday.

"It's a wild shift going from, you know, my comfortable position at Harvard [to] making this change to be in the NHL surrounded by the best of the best. What has helped me through this whole process has been my family," Daniels said.

Daniels will do the bulk of the NCAA recruiting for the Jets, meaning she will continue to be primarily based in Boston "just because that's kind of where one of the biggest hubs is for college hockey. I already have recruiting trips planned out to Minnesota and Wisconsin and Columbus [Ohio] ... just to make sure I'm doing the best I can in having a pulse on it."

Saskatoon Tribal Council Chief Mark Arcand says because Daniels is a woman in a male-dominated organization, the tribal council is thrilled with her upward trajectory.

"We support and are extremely proud of Sydney as a proud member of Mistawasis and most importantly a First Nations woman," Arcand said. "She is truly a role model for our youth. Not just her skill and dedication to the sport, but her academic accomplishments have helped make her the person she is today."

Inspiring First Nations women

Daniels admits she knows she's a trailblazer of sorts, specifically as a woman in a high-level job in the world of hockey. She pointed to an NHL game she recently attended.

"If any little girl was there last night in Calgary, she was able to see me in the press box with all of these males ... completely surrounded by males," Daniels said.

"I hope that she could just see me and say, 'Cool, I want to be that one day.' And so if I could make just one impact on one Indigenous youth, that would be absolutely incredible for me."

Daniels acknowledges how important her heritage is to her, especially now that



Sydney Daniels
Harvard University

she's in the new NHL role. Her father, Scott Daniels, played six seasons in the NHL with Hartford, Philadelphia and New Jersey.

"I love hockey. I'm so passionate about hockey and the game and I've learned it from my father who learned it from my grandfather who was in residential school. So hockey and my Indigenous culture are so intertwined, so strongly braided within ... that it's hard to separate those two things," Daniels said.

"So just as much as I am passionate about hockey, I am also passionate about helping and empowering and providing opportunities for our Indigenous youth to grow and succeed."

UCONN From page 1B

By late 2019, Native and Indigenous programming had risen to an unprecedented level.

Then in 2020, Grande, Milligan-McClellan and Assistant Professor of Anthropology Nate Acebo came to UConn as part of a planned cluster hire to bring diverse scholars and perspectives to UConn.

The professors formed the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative (NAISI), which serves as an academic home for the NAIS minor and associated courses and programming to strengthen the Native American and Indigenous community at UConn and beyond.

Milligan-McClellan immediately recognized the sheer amount of effort and care the student community had devoted to their cause. She and her faculty colleagues cites the students as a reason they chose UConn.

"The students were the ones who really got us all together," says Milligan-McClellan. "It's amazing to have such a strong student community."

"Having dedicated the entirety of my undergraduate career to expanding our resources and community on campus, it felt as though we had done something right when Sandy, Kat, and the rest of the NAISI team came to UConn," Phillips says. "They saw our potential and trusted us and our efforts."

With the addition of Assistant Professor of History Hana Maruyama and Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership Chen Chen, UConn's first critical mass of scholars focused on the study of Indigeneity and settler colonialism was created.

A history erased

The culture and history of Native tribes in the Northeast is unique, says Grande. Northern peoples like the Mohegan, Pequot, and Nipmuc tribes have deeply overlapping histories. Prior to colonization, some tribes were once the same peoples, and those familial ties persist to this day.

What's more, a fascination with New England colonial history has contributed to the lack of Indigenous knowledge and culture, Grande says.

"New England has a history of Native erasure," says Grande, who grew up in Hartford. "Children do not learn Native histories. We need to change that."

In collaboration with Glenn Mitoma, then-Director of Dodd Human Rights Impact, Phillips has worked toward this change through the research project Land Grab Connecticut. Inspired by the national Land Grab U and produced through UConn's Greenhouse Studios, the project maps land data tied to Connecticut public universities, including UConn, to show how they are intertwined with colonialism, says Grande.

And that's just one step in the right direction. The NAISI faculty see UConn as uniquely positioned to become a center for Indigenous study and community in the Eastern U.S.

With colleagues at other northeastern universities such as Quinnipiac, Eastern Connecticut State University, Yale, Dartmouth, Columbia, and Brown, the faculty plan to build what they're calling the Quinnehtukqut River Collective — named for the Algonquin word giving rise to "Connecticut" — to raise the visibility and significance of Native peoples and culture in the Northeast.

UConn's central location and its history as a land-grant university makes it an ideal hub, Milligan-McClellan says.

"One of the tenets of being Inupiaq, and of being Native American, is community," she explains. "It was drilled in from a very early age: what you do, you do with and for your community."

'IndigaPalooza!'

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Dean Juli Wade and Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Kate Capshaw have worked hard to bring Grande and her colleagues to UConn, and have been supportive of NAISI from the start, Grande says.

"The College brought in five new Native studies faculty pretty much at once — that's just unheard-of," says Milligan-McClellan. "I thought, I want to be at the ground floor. I want to be able to shape the direction of this Indigenous community at UConn. That's what drew me here."

With support from UConn's President's Commitment to Community initiative, NAISI developed and presented a seminar series with panel discussions and external speakers throughout 2021-2022.

Nathan Chapa named hospitality VP at Seminole Hard Rock Tampa

FROM PRESS RELEASE

HOLLYWOOD — Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa announced Sept. 27 that it has named Nathan Chapa vice president of Hospitality.

Chapa will be responsible for all hotel operations departments, including the front desk, group sales, VIP/Butler Services, spa, housekeeping, public space, wardrobe, and recreation. Additionally, he will work with departments property wide to implement resort operations strategies and policies.

Chapa joined Hard Rock in 2018 as director of Hotel Operations, playing an integral part in the pre-opening and opening

of all hotel assets in the resort's expansion.

Previously, Chapa was the assistant general manager of the Sandpearl Resort in Clearwater Beach, and he held several roles at the Don CeSar Hotel in St. Pete Beach, including hotel manager — beach house suites, housekeeping manager, and assistant front office manager.

Chapa also spent several years in the Las Vegas market at the Venetian Palazzo Resort & Casino, Mandarin Oriental, and Red Rock Hotel & Casino.

In his free time, Chapa enjoys spending time with his family, watching San Francisco 49ers games, and trying to improve his golf game.



Nathan Chapa
Hard Rock

World Poker Tour returns to Seminole Hard Rock Hollywood

FROM PRESS RELEASE

HOLLYWOOD — Seminole Hard

Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood and the World Poker Tour (WPT) are gearing up for tournament poker action when the

Seminole Hard Rock "Rock 'N' Roll Poker Open" (RRPO) returns Nov. 16 to Nov. 30. This year's series features 44 primary events, kicking off with a \$400 Deep Stack NLH (Re-Entry) with a \$1 Million Guarantee and headlined by a \$3,500 WPT Rock 'N' Roll Championship boasting a \$2 Million Guaranteed prize pool. The final table for the championship will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 30 and will be live-streamed on WPT.com.

Other highlight events on the 2022 RRPO schedule include:

- \$600 Deep Stack Pot Limit Omaha (Re-Entry) \$200,000 Guaranteed, starts at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20
- \$200 Big Stack NLH (Re-Entry) \$200,000 Guaranteed, starts at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 21
- \$600 Deep Stack NLH (Re-Entry) \$200,000 Guaranteed, starts at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 27
- \$25,500 High Roller NLH (Re-Entry) \$1 Million Guaranteed, starts at noon on Monday, Nov. 28

Last year's RRPO produced record-setting numbers with a 31-event schedule that guaranteed more than \$5 million in prize money and generated more than \$13 million over the 15-day series.

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FOR SALE

LAST SIX OF VIN#	YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	MILEAGE/ HRS	CONDITION	STARTING BID PRICE
107118	N/A	LIFE FITNESS TREADMILL	TR9500HR	N/A	Poor	\$56.00
A84841	2007	FORD PICKUP TRUCK WITH CRANE	F550 XL SUPER DUTY REG CAB (4WD) DIESEL	144,560	Poor	\$11,718.00
680608	2006	DODGE MINI VAN	GRAND CARAVAN SE (FWD)	98,248	Poor	\$681.00
227456	2006	CHEVORLET MINI VAN	UPLANDER LT (AWD)	66,260	Poor	\$1,001.00
52360A	2005	HOMES OF MERIT MOBILE HOME TRAILER	COUNTRY MANOR - DOUBLE WIDE	N/A	Poor	\$5,090.00

Note - Previously advertised items are not reflected on this advertisement, only new listings. For more information contact Fixed Assets Dept.
954-967-3640, 954-966-6300 ext. 20034.

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