Honor ing: Tribe celebrates anniversary

BY LEAH COHEN

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe of Florida has officially reached diamond anniversary status. A nation was born in 1957, and now 60 years later, the Tribe remembers what it has overcome and looks forward to what’s next.

On Aug. 21, hundreds of Tribal members and friends gathered to celebrate Seminole sovereignty. The Tribal Council and Board, Mass and Junior Miss Florida Seminole and elected officials from neighboring municipalities joined the festivities under a giant white tent near the Council Oak on the Homestead Property.

The event featured catered food, live music from Paul Bunyan, Ted Nelson and Spencer Battiest, traditional songs from the Brighton elders group of Emma Fish, Malachi Johns, Onnie Osceola, Jimmy Smith and Alaka Seacat, a poetry reading from Muscogee, Juniper Jr. and a Seminole Wars reenactment.

"Celebrating 60 years is a thrill. Recognized tribe is nothing but a small feat in what will come in the near future," said Chairman Marcellus W. Osceola Jr. "There’s nothing that anyone can say, about how proud we are to be Seminole Tribe members and be a part of where we are today. We’re a huge family, a loving family, a caring family."

Sharing in the festivities were officials from neighboring towns, including City of Miami, Dania Beach, Davie, Hollywood and Pembroke Pines, and the Broward County Commissioner County Council.

"I think bringing everyone together is so important," said the Mayor Judy Tallulah, a retired social studies teacher who said that Native American history was a large part of her curriculum.

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This year’s transition to the first day of school is also part of the ceremony.

"I think this is the most fun I’ve had in a while," said Doc. "How many times do you get to perform in New York? The crowd didn’t get to perform in New York? The crowd didn’t. They listened for a while, "Doc said. "How many times do you get to perform in New York?" Doc added, "Doc added,"That’s the ultimate, It reassures us that we’re a part of something more something the Tribe has done for the past few years."

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and early 20th century Seminole clothing
and the great fortune of being present at the grand
coreau and tribal museum. I had the
share your joy in celebrating 20 years as a
founding director, Richard West. We all
As a Native, I am one from
a group of people who have been oppressed,
and ethnically cleansed from these
lands because we were categorized as “other” by the Christian Empire known as the United
States of America, I am deeply concerned by
the actions of the Christian Empire known as the United
States of America, I am deeply concerned by
the actions of the
and ladies and
The Seminole Tribune
Mark Charles
Indian Country Today
What’s next? Schoolhouse Rock, funding
inequality and making school law

**Mark Trahant, National Museum of the American Indian**

Senate Republicans campaigned
against “Obamacare” for seven
years. Yet there was one small victory.
And now those victories are in danger.

The problem is simple. Many (not all) Republicans believe that they
help people — the Affordable Care Act,
care. Yet they also believe that those
others also believe that those
get through exchanges
expanded Medicaid, no-cost insurance that
is available to Billy Cypess, David Blacklaw, and Deneen Gantteau at the
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.

First, yes, these programs are allowed to exist. Second, yes,
they have, in fact, expanded Medicaid, many poor adults remain
eligible. Finally, yes, this is a
couple of years ago.

Nebraska, Florida, and Maine, have rejected
expansion provides an opportunity to
drive for the next 20 years. It is
the difference.

That's the difference. This is
already been valuable,
and will continue to be
valuable.

The Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid
expansion provided an opportunity to
for low-income people to have
health insurance. This opportunity
is now lost, but what we
are seeing is that this
is not just about
healthcare, but also
about scaling up.

So a Kaiser report notes a
medical condition.
In that state, the
people have to
be treated.

To the people who
are not
permitted to
see a doctor because
they are uninsured,
that's the point.

And, of course, there
was some
talk about
“Obamacare”
and Medicaid.

Money is a
thing, but
healthcare
is a
thing.

And for those
who believe
that health
inequality is
something
worth
investing in,
that's the
point.

Finally, we
must not
forget
the
people
who
are
left
behind.

We cannot do anything about universal
insurance. A factor in the
plan and another reason for the
bill’s failure is the absolute
cost of getting
the law
right.

Healthcare delivery and free
and

Third-party collections now account for
about 80 billion dollars of the
HHS budget.
The Congress does appropriate
46 billion dollars.

That said, we think that
the
concept of
universal health care for
Indian Country is
necessary.

It doesn’t mean
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Eyes point to the sky as Big Cypress embraces solar eclipse

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in Big Cypress hosted an eclipse viewing celebration that coincided with the 100th anniversary. More than 100 spectators, some from as near as the reservation and others from as far as the Caribbean Sea, witnessed the eclipse in a lifetime event while enjoying appropriately named snacks such as Moon Pie, Sunny Delight, and other sold-out mementos.

Jake Osceola demonstrated the Seminole legend of shooting arrows into the sky to release the sun. “Different families have different details, but it’s a consistent story of a creature that wants to swallow the sun,” Osceola explained to the crowd. “Our legend believes it is a creature that wants to swallow the sun.” Osceola shot four modern versions of Seminole arrows at the toad. People shoot arrows into the sky to scare it away. If I’m true with my shot, we scare it away. We may be other stories from other clans that are all slightly different. Even in the same family there can be different versions.”

The ancient Navajo tradition pointed to the sun’s power as being weakened during an eclipse which could bring calamity to the tribe. To avoid that, they would stop all activities and go inside where they didn’t eat, drink or do anything else to stop the eclipse from the sun and moon. Some Navajo still observe similar traditions and Navajo Nation schools have appropriately named snacks such as Moon Pie, Sunny Delight, and other sold-out mementos.

Devin Meyers principle Dorothy Cain gives Abbiegale Green a brief look at the eclipse. Bottom left, Jake Osceola shows a “shooting” arrow at the eclipse to release the sun from the legendary toad. Middle, Charli Frye takes a photo of the eclipse. Bottom right, HDPO employee Bradley Hulker shows an enlarged view of the eclipses in operations, including the family from Germany.
Congress established the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) 2 years later, after years of meetings and establishing a fundamental political system. The Seminole Tribe of Florida became a federally recognized tribe and obtained its official sovereignty Aug. 21, 1957. S.H. Tommie, head of the 60th Tribal Council, elaborated, adding that tribal elders led the Seminoles to the success the Tribe sees today. They expressed their gratitude for the Tribe’s everlasting participation.

“Many moons ago, our elders made decisions that impacted our tribe and we are living the dream they fought for so long ago,” she said. “There is much to say of the changes that have occurred over the last 60 years, but before that, there are people here who saw those changes forehand.”

While the occasion proved to be a walk-down memory lane for many tribal members, for others, it was a learning experience.

After observing a timeline that was prominently displayed on wall, Florida Seminole Randie Osceola said the Tribe is a history opened here. “250 years ago was when we were in the Seminole Wars. We were treated like animals,” she said. “It is as if we were 250 years ago. We have come together as ancestors.”

—Madolora Billie, originally from Big Cypress, took four of her children to the celebration. She wanted to show her children how far the Tribe has come and allow them to experience history for themselves.

“To younger generations need to know what’s going on and how we got to this point,” she explained. ‘We’ve come a long way... Even when I was little, we didn’t have big events like this. I want my kids to know how things have changed.”

Some significant changes the Tribe has made include: creating the first Seminole newspaper called “Seminole Sounds” in 1964, opening the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki School in 1968; Rocky Bayou becoming the first restaurant to serve as a place of war in 1971; fighting the state of Florida and taking them to federal court, resulting in a federal court order of 1973, which led to Indian gaming on reservations. In 1979, opening the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, the Seminoles have made significant strides in education and cultural preservation to include multi-purpose venues in 1997, opening the Seminole Casino Hollywood, Immokalee and Tampa in 2003, opening the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in 1997, and acquiring the Band Rock International foundation in 2018.

 Speakers also noted past achievements were not all that the Seminoles have accomplished in the past, present and future. Many current projects, including re-opening the Seminole Hollywood Hotel and Casino, renovating the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, and creating new galleries within the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, are expected to make a positive impact on the Tribe.

While these accomplishments past, current and future – were highly praised and many in attendance agreed to attend these accomplishments, many desired to come together, effectively communicate and create an impenetrable community bond. Councilman Tiger and Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr., stressed that it’s important for the Tribe to preserve its culture. “We must not forget who we are and where we came from,” he explained to the audience. “There’s something called culture out there and we all talk about it. Let us still hang onto it come what may.”

A long with honoring the Tribe with a historic marker, THPO also added the site to the Tribal Register of Historic Places. The Tribal Oak in the Big Cypress was added to the list, which allow the Tribe to protect cultural and historical lands, as well as review and regulate federal projects that take place on tribal lands.

The Council Oak in Hollywood also is on the list. W. Mencha said the Tribal Oak and Council Oak were important to the Seminoles during the creation of the Seminole Tribe of Florida in 1957. She said it carries the Tribal name as a reminder of the Tribe’s location. While the Council Oak represents the entire Tribe, the Tribal Oak is a local symbol for the Big Cypress Reservation.

“They are both symbols of how the Tribe used to avoid termination and were set on a path that has led them to where they see today,” she explained. While the two sites of the trees are full of memories and appreciation for older generations, tribal members hope younger generations will look to them as symbols of community, strength and hope. “I’ve lived long enough to see the Tribe change and see the way we’re going. We’ve worked so hard,” Carol Cypress said. “But it’s important for us to keep going and show our history to the younger generations.”

—Randie Osceola agreed with Cypress. She said, “The Tribe has been protected that it is up to her and her community to learn from the history shared. She said learning and growing is as simple as reading books and asking the elders about their experiences.”

“It’s important for younger generations to see how we’ve grown as a tribe and as an alliance,” she said. “It’s good to always come back to your roots and learn from them.”

Tribe leaders and community members gather around the new marker for the Tribal Oak.

“Tribal leaders and community members gather around the new marker for the Tribal Oak.”

Seminole Andrew Sills Jr. and Seminole-warrior James Molton lead the during a Seminole Wars reenactment at the Tribe’s 60th anniversary celebration Aug. 21 on the Hollywood Reservation.

“Seminole Andrew Sills Jr. and Seminole-warrior James Molton lead the during a Seminole Wars reenactment at the Tribe’s 60th anniversary celebration Aug. 21 on the Hollywood Reservation.”
Spencer and Doc Battiest win MTV Video Music Award with Taboo

By BEVERLY BIDNEY

Staff Reporter

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Taboo of the Black Eyed Peas, Seminole, performs with his cousin Spencer Battiest and a few other Native American artists dubbed the Magnificent Seven at an MTV Video Music Award on Aug. 27 for "Standing up and Standing Proud." Spencer Battiest performs with his band al fresco at New York City's Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Spencer's cousin, Battle Ground is also one of the Magnificent Seven and they did a lot of research when they gathered in Los Angeles by Beverly Bidney

Spencer and Zack "Doc" Battiest show off their Native pride with Taboo from the Black Eyed Peas.

Spencer and Doc Battiest win MTV Video Music Award with Taboo

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY

(Editors note: The MTV Video Music Awards ceremony was held Aug. 27 at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. More extensive coverage about Spencer and Zack Battiest at this VMA will be provided in the Sept. 29 Tribune and The Tribune's social media.

Taboo of the Black Eyed Peas, Seminole, performs with his cousin Spencer Battiest and a few other Native American artists dubbed the Magnificent Seven at the MTV Video Music Award on Aug. 27 for "Standing up and Standing Proud." Battiest's cousin Bobbi Osceola, who shared her story about Spencer, who was on their radar for a long time.

"A lot of indigenous artists trying to make it in the mainstream came together with no ego, just to support those but there's protesting on the front line," Spencer said days before the awards ceremony. "It's giving opportunity to continue to voice struggles of indigenous people and stand up for what's right for all nations and tribes."

Women in the category were announced at the VMA ceremony in Los Angeles by Susan Bro, the mother of slain protestor Heather Heyer, who was killed during an anti-fascism and neo-Nazi protest in Charlottesville, Virginia on Aug. 12.

"I want people to know that Heather never marched alone," Bro told the audience. "She was always joined by people from every race and every background in this country."

"In that spirit, MTV has decided to honor all six nominees for Best Fight Against the System. Through their diversity, there is a video show there are many ways to take action and many heartfelt messages in the fight for social good."

The artists were hand picked by Taboo, who produced the song in September 2016. The song's lyrics moved the U.S. and recorded their parts remotely, but Taboo brought them together in New York to perform as a group for the first time on March 17, during the "I can't think of anything else, it's a shameless example of corporate interests being put ahead of human rights and our environment."

The Best Fight Against the System category includes the rap "We've been fighting for our freedom since the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa María." The VMA ceremony was held Aug. 27 as this month's Battle Ground is also one of the original founders of the Tribe.

"Storytelling is part of our culture, " Taboo said in a statement. "The Dakota Access Pipeline is a shameless example of corporate interests being put ahead of human rights and our environment."

"It wasn't about advancing our careers," Spencer said. "The thing that we did together was amazing."

"It was a great opportunity whether or not we win an award. We just wanted to stand together."

Taboo begins the song with a verse that includes the line "We've been fighting for our freedom since the Niña and the Pinta and the Santa María.

Every artist sang or rapped a verse of the song, each with a similar theme. Spencer sang, "To all my Native People, to all my Tribal people, keep your head up, Stand up, Stand up, as Doc rapped "woken up and said we won't be quiet, we're ready for the battle and we all are figuring it out."

The musicians gathered in Los Angeles to record the studio scenes of the video, but the Battiest brothers were performing in San Francisco at the time and recorded their part with Taboo later. Out of the video was filmed at the DAPL site in North Dakota and highlights Sioux culture and dance along with the water protectors on the scene.

"I am part Sioux, but this issue is deeper than my Native American heritage," Taboo said in a statement. "The Dakota Access Pipeline is a shameless example of corporate interests being put ahead of human rights and our environment."

"I want people to know that Heather never marched alone," Bro said at the VMA ceremony in Los Angeles by Beverly Bidney

Spencer and Zack "Doc" Battiest perform "The Storm" for the crowd at the NMAI in Washington, D.C. Spencer is holding a traditional shaker made for him by medicine man Bobby Henry, which he brings to every performance. Spencer and Zack "Doc" Battiest perform "The Storm" for the crowd at the NMAI in Washington, D.C. Spencer is holding a traditional shaker made for him by medicine man Bobby Henry, which he brings to every performance.

Spencer and Doc Battiest perform "The Storm" for the crowd at the NMAI in Washington, D.C.

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The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum rolled out the red carpet to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

Left, President Mitchell Cypress and Miss Florida Seminole Randee Osceola look at a photo of the museum’s original groundbreaking. Right, Ewa Bandura listens to speakers discuss the significance of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.
Jimmy Osceola wins statewide Native art competition

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

An oil painting created by artist Jimmy Osceola depicting Seminoles at Lake Okeechobee won the Natural Resources Conservation Service poster contest in August. The theme of the competition was “Water is the Essential Element.” Osceola — among the Native people’s leaders and in the community — often paints natural elements, especially the lake he calls “Big Water.” Osceola’s painting, titled “Big Water,” will be printed on posters and distributed to the United States Department of Agriculture’s NRCS offices throughout Indian Country and the Pacific Islands for American Indian Heritage Month in November.

“Being a tribal member and Native American is the most inspiring thing to me,” said Osceola, of Plantation. “When I was painting it, I wasn’t thinking about winning. I just thought that as a Seminole of Florida, showing this lake would be good for heritage month. I think water is an important subject.” Osceola’s painting scene from memory, having spent countless hours at the lake over the years. Per contest rules, he incorporated cultural elements into the piece, including a dugout canoe, chickee, traditional clothing and an alligator lurking near the shore.

A self-taught artist who discovered his passion for painting about 20 years ago, Osceola is inspired by other tribal artists. His artwork provides a window to the past and portrays traditional camps, warriors and stomp dancers. Osceola’s pride and respect for the land and the Tribe are reflected in the paintings.

Eight paintings from five Native American artists living in Florida were submitted to the contest. Seminole students Precious Jimmies and Carly Billie from the Tampa area submitted pieces. The artwork was judged on creativity, originality, portrayal of heritage and culture of American Indians, the mission of the SRCS, “Agriculture’s role in providing the foundations of life,” and “Water is the Essential Element.”

Jimmy Osceola wins statewide Native art competition

BY LA CROHN
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — Climate science can be more than an academic subject; it is a means to the future for people in numerous ways. To shed some light on the subject, the Florida Public Archaeology Network, Ah-Tah-Ti-Tah Museum, and Florida International University’s Global Public Archaeology Network hosted the Tribal Climate Change Summit on Aug. 22 and 23, drawing across this world to learn about climate science.

The summit, held at the Seminole Tribe’s Native Learning Center on Hollywood, focused on the impact of sea level rise on Florida’s archaeological and cultural resources. Sponsors and speakers highlighted indigenous groups, climate science, historic and cultural site planning and the role cultural heritage plays within climate science.

The first day of the summit included presented papers and posters they wrote about various aspects of climate. There were 25 scientists and conservationists — some from nearby, others from as far as Scotland — presented their papers, posters and abstracts that focused on climate change’s impact on the world. The papers included species conservation, historical preservation, archaeological preservation, historic preservation, cultural history and cultural resources, Native American culture, historic preservation, preservation and protection, and more.

The second day of the summit consisted of a guided walk through Everglades National Park and a tour of the Ah-Tah-Ti-Tah Museum to learn about site and cultural preservation. Lauren Mckinny, a tribal archeologist with the Tribes Historic Preservation office, attended the event and said it’s important to see how the Seminole Tribe uses cultural resources and how climate affects people living in Florida and around the world.

For the Seminole, history is essential, which is why many of the discussions and presentations explained how to identify culturally significant areas and why their survival is crucial to the Tribe. For Mckinney, the presentation about how climate change has impacted cultural resources was particularly impactful. “The talks have been really interesting and showed the effects of climate change if we don’t do something about it,” she said.

Despite the huge archaeological and cultural losses already suffered, however, conservationists and archaeologists discussed how sea level rise is taking away Scotland’s coasts and much of the country’s cultural heritage with it. “The methods and our approaches (for addressing eroding coastlines in Scotland) are applicable to heritage everywhere,” she said, adding that transparency and active civilian involvement is what allows them to flourish in combating the coastal issue.

Joanne Hardy travelled from Scotland to present the impact climate change has on Scotland’s shore lines.

Regardless of where the issues are taking place throughout the world, conservationists made sure to get one crucial point across: The only way to preserve lands and their significance is to collaborate to protect lands, preserve history and push for a better future.

“While the majority of the summit tailored to climate change’s impact on Florida’s coast, coordinators made sure to demonstrate global implications,” Joanne Hardy, a coastal archaeologist from Scotland, said. “We discussed how sea level rise is taking away Scotland’s coasts and much of the country’s cultural heritage with it.”

The methods and our approaches (for addressing eroding coastlines in Scotland) are applicable to heritage everywhere, she said, adding that transparency and active civilian involvement is what allows them to flourish in combating the coastal issue. You will work with different conditions and I hope this is an eye-opening example of how another place in the world is responding to the issues and opportunities presented by climate change.

Regardless of where the issues are taking place throughout the world, as conservationists made sure to get one crucial point across: The only way to preserve lands and their significance is to collaborate to protect lands, preserve history and push for a better future.

Summit brings conservationists together to discuss climate change

Jr. Mims Florida Seminole Kalani Osceola meets with Summit coordinators Maloney Fenn, left, and Sara Ayers-Rigsby, right.
Lee Tiger has been invited to perform at the upcoming event “One People. Come Together” on Sept. 1 at Hollywood471. This album was inspired by Lee Tiger’s passion for music and humanity, and for sharing the world’s cultures in a way that is accessible for all. His music aims to connect people from different backgrounds and cultures, promoting understanding and unity. The album features traditional Seminole music and is designed to inspire listeners around the world.

Lee Tiger’s original music is expressive of his past musical influences, including the Beattles, Rolling Stones, Animals, Kinks, and others from the British music invasion of the 1960s. His music reflects a unique blend of styles that has been influenced by the vibrant cultural tapestry of Florida Seminole music. His music is loved by people of all ages and is enjoyed by many around the world.

Please support Lee Tiger and his music by attending his event and sharing it with others. His music has the power to bring people together in a positive way and to create a world that is more understanding and connected.
A patient’s perspective on colorectal cancer screening

By CHRISSAN HAWKESON
Director of Media Relations
Health Services

The Florida Department of Health in Broward County has launched another free dental service for children — fluoride treatment to prevent cavities.

Hygienists from DOH-Broward are offering a free dental exam and tooth brushing for children in Broward County and Children’s Medical Center (CMC) family reunion programs.

Last year, the program began providing free dental sealant treatment to students at Broward County elementary and middle schools. More than 25,000 children were offered the treatment during the past school year.

The fluoride varnish is a flavored gel that is gently brushed onto a child’s teeth to seal in for several hours or overnight. The fluoride varnish can strengthen both enamel and help prevent cavities.

So far, the service is being offered at WIC offices in Lauderdale Lakes and Hollywood. It will be expanded later this school year to WIC offices in Coral Springs, Fort Lauderdale, Pembroke Pines, and Pompano Beach.

The treatment will be offered to kids on hand for the family’s normal WIC visit, so no appointment is necessary.

“Parents, it’s like killing two birds with one stone,” said Dr. Paula Thaqi, director of DOH-Broward. “It’s like going for a medical appointment at the same time you are at WIC.”

The treatment is available for kids ages 1 to 20, and takes just a few minutes. Hygienists give the children an examination, toothbrush, toothpaste and fluoride gel and explain the proper way to care for their teeth. They then paint on the varnish, which comes in strawberry, cool mint and Cool Mints.

After the children paint the toothpaste and varnish together, they are offered a free or low-cost appointment at DOH-Broward’s dental services offices. There, they can see a dentist for more extensive dental care.

The fluoride service has treated about 3,000 children.

For more information call 954-467-7290, ext. 5374.

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EDUCATIONAL ECLIPSE: Ahfachkee fifth-grade teacher Alicia Richards shows Ezekiel Billie, 11, how to use the pinhole viewer to see the eclipse Aug. 21.

PROUD MOMENT: Spencer and Doc Battiest are surrounded by family and friends who attended their performances in New York and Washington, D.C.

A STILL MORNING: Big Cypress remains quiet and still during a sunrise while fog rolled through.

EDUCATIONAL ECLIPSE: Miss Florida Seminole Randee Osceola stands in front of the historic Council Oak on the Hollywood Reservation as she uses protective glasses to gaze at the sun during the solar eclipse Aug. 21.

A BREAK IN WAR: A reenactment of fighting in the Seminole Wars took a brief lighthearted turn when the rifle of Seminole warrior Tocumah Robbins snapped while he was battling soldier Andrew Wallin during a performance of the Tribe’s 60th anniversary celebration Aug. 21 in Hollywood.

EL ESPECTACULAR: Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens rocks July 29 as singer Marc Anthony entertains a sold-out stadium during El Clasico soccer match, dubbed El Classico. Barcelona won 3-2 in front of more than 60,000 fans.

TAKING FLIGHT: A wood stork flies off to another part of the Big Cypress Reservation after it spied some fellow birds doing the same.

EDUCATIONAL ECLIPSE: Ronnie Billie Sr. wears more traditional clothing to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum’s 20th anniversary party.

A MAIL IN THE RAIN: Elizabeth Stubbs, 5, sports a smile while under a pink umbrella during a rainy Aug. 24 on the Hollywood Reservation.
Barber was then placed under arrest.

According to the Washington Post, a Navajo Nation officer, who is part of the security detail for Navajo Nation Vice President Jonathan Nez, had forgotten two of his suitcases in his hotel room.

Nez was in Washington, D.C., visiting Rep. Tom O’Halleran, D-Ariz., who has been working to steer a budget bill to Congress so it will not be held up by a spending battle to avert a government shutdown. He was then told by a supervisor to bring the officer his suitcases — one of which contained a loaded handgun — but when he left his hotel to inform the officer, he had no knowledge it was there.

Jackson Brossy, executive director of the National Museum of the American Indian, said the officer had no knowledge of the officer allegedly involved. Manas also said he had been briefed on the issue by the officer’s attorney and was not commenting.

Barber said “was released the same day she was cited. She was not cited. She was not arrested.”

Barber was arranged on Aug. 2 what has become a familiar story of a mishandled incident.

The navajo and Pueblo tribes are the first three children to be buried in the cemetery since she died in 1877, Hauptmann said. Hauptmann said the handax in one of the suitcases, the “discovered a loaded handgun in one of the suitcases.”

She had no knowledge it was there.

The gun was a handgun in a grassy hill near the cemetery, Hauptmann said. It is logical because of the trading post of other vendors.

The black elk, a moon and a white buffalo. Hauptmann said the the Ponca and Omaha tribes came to Neligh in 1877 to celebrate the memory of the Black Elk. Hauptmann said the the Ponca and Omaha tribes came to Neligh in 1877 to celebrate the memory of the Black Elk.

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Students honored for academic achievements

BY LI COHEN
Staff Reporter

DAVIE — The school year may have just ended, but recognizing academic accomplishments does not have to set a term.

To bring in the new academic year, motivation students to pursue high academic standards, the Center for Student Success and Services honored students’ academic achievements from the 2016-17 school year Aug. 8 at Signature Grand in Davie.

CSSS staff recognized recent high school graduates and students who maintained perfect attendance and/or maintained a 2.5 GPA or higher. Students from all reservations were included in the ceremony, where they were congratulated and commended for their accomplishments.

Kesha King, CSSS director, congratulated students on their hard work throughout the past year. She encouraged students to remain proactive in their endeavors and strive to improve every day.

“Do well in school for yourself,” she said. “By doing a proactive position, nothing will get in your way.”

Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola told students that they should look to the successes of fellow tribal members to motivate them. Nearly 150 tribal members are pursuing higher education in college, vocational and technical schools. Sixty-five of those students graduated just this summer and he explained that is something to be proud of.

“We are something to be proud of,” Osceola said. “There is something to be proud of that coaching to help get you to that level.”

As the ceremony ended and students left, students were reminded to pursue education for the rest of their lives. “I’m going to graduate college and I’m going to major in exercise and sports science,” one of the graduates said. “It is all about focusing on your direction.”

The opportunity was created and video lessons, and constant feedback provided, only study resource.

Students were encouraged to pursue excellence in education. “Those [students] who go all the way, and graduate, you’re setting a great example for the rest of the kids out there,” Osceola said. “Students have a unique opportunity here at the tribe. You have an education at your feet to be here.”

Upon signing up, students can select their tutors to further their test preparation. Students who are simultaneously being tutored by CSSS can take practice results to complete at times best for them, such as during study hall at school or on weekends.

“I know God put me through that for a reason and I got through it,” she said. “I’m going to major in criminal justice and sports science. I’m going to graduate college and I’m going to make my family proud. ”

Students were honored for academic achievements from the 2016-17 school year.

Students can meet with advisors for further assistance. For more information or to sign up, visit sappractice.org or contact CSSS at HigherEd@suncom.com or 954-988-6840.


**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**From page 1A**

she will definitely bring her back next year.

“I was a good actor and the kids seemed to really enjoy it,” she said.

Saying hello, PECS and AYackee students hoped to their schools to learn what to expect for the upcoming academic year. The meet and greets were an ideal opportunity for students to scope out their new teachers, talk to their students and parents to be comfortable with the procedures of the school.

“Tis a time to get prepared for the coming school year,” said PECS principal Dawn Fearn. “Some kids are ready for school and some would lose another week off, but most are excited to get back into the groove.”

At the PECS open house, parents and students received all the information they needed about buses, classroom assignments, pick-up and drop-off details, sports teams and the Skyward online parent portal to the classroom and more. Then it was off to meet the teachers.

Classrooms were decked out in their first-day finery with ruby, ducks and plans of information, and for some, candy treats. At least one classroom had words of encouragement posted on the walls, including the pearl of wisdom, “I’m not telling you it’s going to be easy,” and “Try again. Fail again. Try again.”

Sisters Joss and Nena Youngblood explored Nena’s sixth-grade social studies classroom. “I am looking forward to people being more mature this year,” said new middle schooler Nena, 12. “This will help me focus on school; they used to be so loud.

The girls were accompanied by older sister Ingrid Youngblood, who had some useful advice for the eighth- and sixth-grade students.

“Turn in your work on time, pay attention and be respectful to your teachers,” said Aleyan, 23, a student at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Fifth-grade Kaidiia Huff met her teacher Renee Finney with her third-grade sister Jenna and parents Tracy and Chad. Hayesville lives science because of the hands-on experiments and activities and is looking forward to the class. Finney gives students plenty of opportunities to group projects.

“I want the students to get a love of science,” said Finney, who teaches third, fourth and fifth-grade science. “Girls tend to think it’s a boy thing, but I want to make it a girl thing. I want them to believe they can do it. Science doesn’t have to be intimidating.”

Nena Osceola met with students and parents in her seventh-grade and eighth-grade English classroom and shared her expectations for the school year.

“I want students to be more organized,” Osceola said. “Skyward can help them keep up and check what is missing. This class counts for high school credit so I expect them to be as organized as high school students.”

A Yackee parents and students were welcomed by Principal Dorothy Cain and staff at the school’s open house. Cain wanted to make sure students knew exactly where to go on the first day. The school hired an assistant principal, guidance counselor and four new teachers over the summer.

“Three-grade teacher Jennifer Soterakis answered questions from students and parents during the open house. Yes, there will be homework every day, including the first day and courage will be taught much later in the school year. She told the inquisitive parents, “I’m going to teach them the classroom procedures so they can learn. When a classroom is in chaos, there is no learning going on.” Soterakis said, “During group work on projects it may be noisy but it won’t be disruptive. I run a very tight classroom. When they follow procedures, we will get to have some fun.”

Most of the new teachers are education veterans with many years of experience under their belts. Fourth-grade teacher Julie Armitage taught in Honolulu for 24 years before making the change to Ahfachkee and eagerly anticipates teaching children from a different culture than her own.

“I am excited about the adventure of the first day, it’s a fresh start and I look forward to seeing the children coming back,” Armitage said.

Third-grade teacher Jennifer Soterakis said, “I want to learn the Seminole language, which is a nice to find in a teachers’ event in the spring.”

Middle school social studies teacher Mike Daniels spent a dozen years teaching in Honolulu, Hawaii and made the move to Ahfachkee after meeting Cain at a teachers’ event in the spring.

“The school has a sense of purpose, which is nice to feel as a school,” Daniel said.

For teachers, the beginning of a new school brings the promise of a year of being engaged, making friends and communicating with students for the future at PECS and AYackee. The foundation is set and the students are off and running.

Claudia Mathes gives the first day of school at Ahfachkee a ‘thumbs up.’
Ahfachkee students get ready to head to class as they get off the bus on their first day of school.

Among the many activities at the Hollywood Back to School Bash was the giant waterslide that exited directly into the pool. Children enthusiastically dived in a fan favorite and practiced various tricks and spins as they caught air.

Science teacher Renee Finney talks to fifth-grader Kalissa Huff, 10, and parents Chad and Tracy Huff at the PECS open house. Kalissa likes science and looks forward to doing ‘cool’ activities and learning more.

Immokalee girls enjoy some fun time before school starts at the Back to School Bash in Immokalee.

Ahfachkee students get ready to head to class as they get off the bus on their first day of school.

Immokalee fourth-grade teacher Julie Armband gives a thumbs up to Shwayte Billie, 10, and his mother Lisa Billie at Ahfachkee’s Sneak Peek Aug. 11.

Fourth-grader Taycee Sanchez, 10, strings beads at the Immokalee Back to School Bash August 7. He likes math and reading and is ready to get back to school.

Mercedes Oconcin and her son Braxton cool off in the shade at the Hollywood Back to School Bash.

Beverly Bidney

Beverly Bidney

Li Cohen

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Li Cohen
Students attend Florida Indian Youth Program and Leadership Academy

BY LI COHEN
Staff Reporter

Figuring out a career path takes much time and attention. With the help of the Center for Student Success and Services, new student ambassador program is being utilized by students. This program has become a lot easier.

CSSS created a program to match up tribal college students and seasoned professionals with tribal members looking to pursue higher education or enter the workforce. Many of the volunteers who serve as ambassadors also include college seniors, business owners, and those who completed technical programs.

Tommy Gilliam, who works in Advanced Career Development, said CSSS came up with the idea for the program after receiving feedback that tribal students want more personal guidance when figuring out the next steps into adulthood. The volunteer program connects all student, regardless of age, to professionals so that they can succeed in their future endeavors while maintaining a sense of community.

“We know that the level of students interested in the college world and said they would feel more comfortable talking to someone from their community who has been through what they’re currently going through,” Gilliam explained. “It’s really about developing a relationship, and helping each other grow in the community to cultivate leaders.”

There is no limit for how long individuals can participate in the program. Even though the program just started, the office has already received interest from community members who want to become ambassadors. To serve as volunteers, individuals must have established good personal relationships and helping each other grow in the community to cultivate leaders.

This program is beneficial because “it’s more community-based,” Gilliam said. “You’re talking to a tribal member who is successful in the route you’re trying to go or who has insight … You’re establishing a relationship with another tribal member.”

To sign up or learn more information, contact CSSS at 954-998-5649.

Boys and Girls Club teaches kids kindness

BY LI COHEN
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The Boys and Girls Club in Hollywood is more than just an extracurricular venture for children; the organization aims to mold children into community leaders.

To celebrate the end of summer and kick off the new academic year, the club hosted Kindness Week from Aug. 7 to 11. During the week, members participated in service events that aimed to help various aspects of the community. Activities included making pillows to give to foster children through Project Linus, writing cards for military service men and women, creating care packages for Hollywood Police and Fire in Rescue Department, and showing love for their community by making picture frames filled with photos of themselves and their siblings.

This is the first time the Tribe’s Boys and Girls Club hold a week of service. Valentine Arce, Boys and Girls Club youth coordinator, said they plan on hosting it again, as the children were clearly positively impacted by the projects.

“Kids teach the members while they’re young about giving back and dedicating a little bit of their time to others and the community,” she said. “It helps mold them for the future. They’re not just kids, they’re our future leaders.”

Students attend Florida Indian Youth Program and Leadership Academy

During the summer, tribal students from around the country attended the Florida Indian Youth Program and Leadership Academy to Tallahassee. Thirty-six students participated in the program, including some from the Seminole Tribe. Pictured Mikayela Cypress, above, and Allegra Billie, below, both of whom attended the program.

Bring your friends & family for summer fun!

September 9th: Art at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki

AH-TAH-THI-KI MUSEUM
Seminole Discovery Days

Center for Student Success & Services

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Kids in Big Cypress and Immokalee spent a hot summer’s day June 28 cooling off with some wet and wild activities thanks to the health department, recreation, Boys & Girls Clubs and the Seminole fire department.

The dash part of the program was intended to get the kids moving, which they did with abandon as they played in the slip-n-slides, participated in relay races and obstacle courses and gathered like moths to a flame to the continual soaking of the fire hoses. “Normally we have a Fourth of July event, but this year we tried something different to get them active,” said Andrea Kuzbyt, Immokalee health nutrition counselor. “Hydration and overheating are real issues during the summer. We try to make physical activity fun.”

The fire department set up a truck and doused the kids, who couldn’t get enough of the water in the 90-plus heat of the day. In Big Cypress, the kids took over the veterans park with water features just about everywhere. If the water didn’t do the trick, cold watermelon and snow cones were available in the shade of the pavilion. “We like to change it up so the kids can continue to enjoy our events,” said Jamie Diersing, Big Cypress health educator. “We want them to play outside and have fun with their friends. It helps them get the one hour of daily physical activity recommended by the American Heart Association.”

BY BEVERLY BIDNEY
Staff Reporter

Summer fun with a splash

NIEA to host convention and trade show in Orlando

From Press Release

ORLANDO — The National Indian Education Association (NIEA) will host its 48th annual Convention & Trade Show in Orlando at the Caribe Royale from Oct. 4-7. This year’s theme, “Building Education Nations by Amplifying Innovative Voices,” brings together Native educators, students and advocates focused on improving the academic achievement of Native students.

“The NIEA Convention creates a unique opportunity for educators, advocates and tribal leaders to share successful teaching strategies and seek solutions for challenges faced in school systems. We offer a meaningful space for stakeholders to discuss, network, learn, and guide and advocate at a national level,” NIEA Executive Director Ahniwake Rose said in a press release.

“Our Convention is a focal point of Native culture and community, and will shape the future of Native education by allowing attendees to immerse themselves in traditional and learn about innovative teaching strategies,” added NIEA President Yatibaey Evans.

NIEA Convention attendees will have opportunities to engage in participatory workshops, research presentations, poster sessions, and keynote addresses from prominent educators and advocates — all focused on advancing educational programming, opportunities, and results for Native students.

The event also offers a trade show, which attracts exhibitors from across the United States including Native arts and crafts vendors, college and career opportunities, education resources, and nationally recognized agencies and non-profits. Registration is currently open for NIEA members and non-members. A host, space is still available for trade show exhibitors. For more information visit www.niea.org.
Hard Rock Stadium unveils phase III upgrades

FROM PRESS RELEASE

MIAMI GARDENS — The Miami Dolphins unveiled their latest phase of a $500-million plus renovation at Hard Rock Stadium on Aug. 8. Privately funded by Dolphins and stadium owner Stephen Ross, the phase III renovations include a new partnership with Aston Martin Residences, new food and beverage offerings, luxury and party spaces and redesigned landscaping and parking.

The renovation brought additional luxury to the midsection of the stadium, renovating the BankUnited Club Level. Hard Rock Stadium’s 147 suites were completely renovated, with the suites varying in size from 10 to 50 seats with air conditioning and multi-feed sound systems, refrigerators, ice-makers and private telephone services.

Unveiled in the latest phase, Hard Rock Stadium features theatre boxes on the BankUnited Club Level. These 4 to 6 person individual boxes are located in a shared suite environment with inclusive food and beverage. Hard Rock Stadium also debuts four new corner clubs, including the new UHealth, University of Miami Health System Cornerstone Club – giving suite members access to the corner’s interior space and bar.

The latest renovations brought new party terraces on the 300 level of Hard Rock Stadium. These party terraces have a bar that services guests on the concourse, as well as a doubles-sided bar with awesome views of the field. Each corner includes two semi-private spaces that each can hold up to 100 people – creating a new experience for a total of 800 guests per event. The Dolphins additionally have made a commitment to donate a party terrace of 100 military tickets each game to local U.S. troops.

Throughout phase III of the renovation, the exterior of the facility saw enhancements in the redesign of the parking lots and landscaping bringing nearly 37,000 new trees and shrubs. Celebrity chef David Chang will make his first foray into Florida with the debut of Fuku at the venue. Hard Rock Stadium also will serve new offerings from Coyo Taco, /os Ranchos, Jackson Soul Food, 2-B House and Shorty’s BBQ.

In 2017, Hard Rock Stadium will introduce three additional premium craft offerings within the Tap Rooms on the north and south sides of the 100 level at the stadium. These selections are in addition to 16 Florida craft selections in bottles, along with another 18 domestic craft brews, including two Gluten-free craft beers.

Miami Dolphins
Guests check out the new 300 level party terrace at Hard Rock Stadium on Aug. 8. The new space is part of the most recent phase in the facility’s upgrades.

Miami Dolphins
Newly renovated suites are part of the BankUnited Club Level.

Miami Dolphins
The UHealth, University of Miami Health System Corner Club is one of four new corner clubs at Hard Rock Stadium.
Brighton well represented as Moore Haven High football season kicks off

MOORE HAVEN — It didn’t take long for players from the Brighton Reservation to make an impact on Moore Haven High School’s varsity football season.

On the team’s first offensive play in a preseason game against Gateway Charter on Aug. 18, linemen Andrew Fish, Robert Harris and Conner Thomas helped pave a hole for quarterback John Cox to gallop 60 yards. That trio — which brings the Terriers plenty of size and strength up front — are only half of the Brighton contingent on this year’s squad. Robert’s brother Richard started at defensive end, freshman Jaylen Baker made an immediate impact on special teams and defense, and defensive lineman Jarrett Bess saw some playing time before a storm forced the game, which Moore Haven won 41-0, to be shortened to three quarters.

“Those kids from the Tribe do a heck of a job. They’re hard workers,” said Moore Haven first-year head coach Max Manin.

In his third year, Thomas is the veteran of the group. The junior started at right guard right next to 6-foot-5, 320-pound right tackle Robert Harris with 6-foot-4, 300-pound Fish on the other end at left tackle.

“I like it,” said the 6-foot, 290-pound Thomas, who also handled center duties on extra points. “We finally have some big guys on the line this year. From what I saw tonight, I think we’re going to be very good.”

Baker, one of 10 freshmen on the Terriers roster for the game, made the most of his opportunities. He made a solo tackle on a kickoff return in the first quarter. Later on defense, he made a few tackles in a series, including one that kept the shutout intact when he brought down a runner as the last defender. Less than a second later, he notched another special teams tackle on a kick return.

Overall, Manin was pleased with his team’s performance, but saw plenty of room for improvement.

“I still think we look like a 7-3 football team. We don’t look like a 10-0 football team,” he said. “There’s still a lot we have to work on.”

Moore Haven started the regular season off on a positive note with a 35-0 win against St. Petersburg Catholic on Aug. 25.
BY KEVIN JOHNSON  
Senior Editor

A trip halfway across the country proved to be worthwhile for some Seminole basketball players and coaches.

The Nationz team, which was guided by head coach Preston Baker of Brighton and featured his son Alyke Baker, and Ricky Garza, of Big Cypress, finished in third place out of 60 teams in the 11th and 12th grade division at the Mid-American Youth Basketball's Nationals held Aug. 3-6 in Wichita, Kansas.

Nationz was the lone squad from the Eastern U.S. Most of the teams came from Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Wyoming.

Nationz's squad also included players from Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

The team lost its first two games in pool play, but shrugged off the slow start to win four straight before falling in the semifinals in its fourth game of the day Aug. 5.

"I was proud of them. They played good ball. They played good all-around ball," said coach Baker.

After losses to teams from Kansas and Texas to start the tournament, Nationz found its groove and churned out playoff wins against the Texas Rebels Elite (82-72), Missouri's SWMO Suns (70-63) and the Texas Blue Devils (74-69). The Oklahoma Honey Badgers finally cooled off Nationz with a 77-66 semifinal win.

"We sort of ran out of gas," coach Baker said.

Central Kansas Elite won the tournament.

A Nationz team in the 8th grade division didn't fare quite as well as the older group. The team, which included Brighton's Nakai Alex, Ramon Baker, Dathen Garcia and Donovan Harris, went 0-4 with setbacks to teams from Illinois, Kansas and Texas.

Hollywood hosts For the Love of the Game tournament

HOLLYWOOD — Young basketball players showed their love for the sport at the For the Love of the Game Youth Tournament.

Fourteen teams – boys, girls and co-ed – vied for championships in early August at the Howard Tiger Recreation Center.

"I hope this tournament continues to grow and that teams from all over Indian Country come down to participate," said tournament director Courtney Osceola, "and also a special thank you to Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola for his gracious support of this tournament and his dedication to the youth of the Seminole Tribe of Florida."

In the 10U division, Lil Dribblers, coached by Cassandra Jones, won the championship. Rising Stars, coached by Issiah Billie, finished runner-up.

Guided by former college star DeForest Carter as its coach, Unconquered captured the 14U division championship, coached by Paul Buster, took runner-up.

Lady Native Soldiers, coached by Nova Southeastern University player Skyla Osceola, won the 18U girls division. Runner-up was Swoopz, coached by Claudia Gore.

Plainzmen, coached by Russell Archambault, took home the 18U boys title for the second straight year while Canes, coached by Ethel Huggins, finished second.

The tournament's top individual accolades – the MVP awards – went to Jayce Archambault on the boys side and Jolie Woods on the girls side.

The adult section of the tournament will be held Oct. 6-7 in Hollywood. Registration deadline is Oct. 2.
Seminole teams shine brightly in Arizona desert

A fast start for four Seminole teams helped pave the way to a solid showing at the Native American Basketball Invitational.

The teams – STOF and the Seminoles in the boys division and Lady N+S and Lady Seminoles in the girls division – all made the Gold bracket playoffs after they racked up a 10-2 record in pool play in mid-July at the annual tournament in Arizona that attracts 64 teams in each division.

The Seminoles and Lady N+S each won 3-0 in the pool round. The Seminoles cracked open with second-seeded teams from Alaska, Arizona and New Mexico.

They beat teams from Arizona and South Dakota.

In the boys playoffs, the Seminole Tribe was guaranteed at least one win in the Gold bracket because STOF and Seminole squared off against each other. STOF won both games, 89-86 and 85-62.

STOF stayed alive the following morning with a 43-31 win against the Cheyenne Dogmen (Montana), but in the afternoon STOF was eliminated in an Elite Eight game with a 69-64 triple overtime loss to a built-out Oklahoma team.

Cheyenne Arapaho (Oklahoma) won the boys championship with a 75-71 win against Lower Sioux (Minnesota).

On the girls side, Lady N+S won their fourth straight game, 41-12, in a playoff opener against Pueblo Elite (New Mexico). Lady N+S’s impressive run came to an end in the next game with a 43-38 loss to a 3-Elite (Arizona).

Malone Hill, the Lady Seminoles fell to Tohono O’odham (New Mexico), 59-42, in the live playoff round.

The girls Gold championship, 64-50, against N’n Elite (Arizona).

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TORONTO — Before Team Florida started competition in six sports at the North American Indigenous Games and before its Seminoles went out and captured four gold medals and one bronze along the way, athletes, coaches and parents were treated to a high-energy opening night ceremony July 16.

Thousands of indigenous athletes from throughout Canada and the U.S. filled Aviva Centre on the campus of York University in Toronto.

Early evening storms pushed back the schedule and altered the original plans which would have featured all athletes parading on the stadium floor. Instead, a few representatives from each team did the honors for their entire squad. For Team Florida, Trevor Thomas and Conner Thomas, both from the archery team, and rifle shooter Eecho Billie walked in the team’s colorful jackets while carrying Florida and Seminole signs and flags.

The weather cooperated for the rest of the evening, allowing for an electrifying performance from Native singer Taboo, of the Black Eyed Peas, who brought young athletes to their feet with a high-octane performance alongside dancers.

The next NAIG will be held in 2020. The host is expected to be selected later this year.
2017-18 Oklahoma City University basketball team includes Curtis Osceola Jr.

Former Anadarko (Okla.) High School multi-sport standout Curtis Osceola Jr. will be lacing up his sneakers for the Oklahoma City University men’s basketball team this fall. Osceola is now part of one of the top NAIA programs in the country. The Stars are coming off a 21-11 season and their third straight NAIA Tournament appearance. It was the program’s first 20-win season since 2008.

The 2017-18 season starts Oct. 28 with a home game against Manhattan Christian. The Stars include games and teams from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, New Mexico and Texas.

As an Anadarko senior last season, Osceola averaged more than 10 points per game and earned All-State honorable mention honors in Class 4A. He also excelled as a wide receiver and cornerback in football. He served as a captain in his senior year and finished second on the team in receptions and interceptions.

In July, he played on a team with his fellow Seminoles from Florida at the Native American Basketball Invitational in Arizona.

FGCU softball announces new recruits, including Ahnie Jumper

Florida Gulf Coast University softball head coach David Deiros announced Aug. 7 the signing of six new players, including the Seminole Tribe’s Ahnie Jumper of the Big Cypress Reservation.

The six newcomers — three freshmen and three transfers — join the five incoming freshmen and one transfer who signed in the fall with the NCAA Division I program in Fort Myers.

“We are very pleased to announce the addition of six talented players to our already strong 2017 recruiting class,” Deiros said in a press release. “We believe this group will help us in the even more potent at the plate and more versatile in the field.”

Ahnie Jumper, a three-time state champion and a First Team All-Broward County selection in back-to-back years at American Heritage in Plantation, is a three-sport athlete who will play softball for the Eagles this fall.

Jumper, the daughter of Josh and Andrea Jumper, is a three-time state champion and a First Team All-Broward County selection in back-to-back years at American Heritage in Plantation. As a senior in the 2017 season, Jumper hit .488 with six doubles, a triple and a home run to help American Heritage to a Class 6A runner-up finish. Jumper was the team’s primary catcher, but she also played other positions.

“Ahnie is a fantastic athlete who can play any position on the field. We love her strength behind the plate and her fearsome bat at the hot corner,” Deiros said.

Jumper also played volleyball in high school and was a member of the school’s inaugural bowling team last winter. She was named American Heritage’s Female Senior Athletic Award winner of the Year. She also excelled in soccer and rapidly qualified for the Indian National Finals Rodeo that will be held in Tsaile, Arizona, this fall.

A year ago, Ahnie’s brother, Andre, and his older brother, Blevyns, won state championships as members of American Heritage’s football team.

The five other newest Eagles are Bri Bennett (C - Jacksonville, Fla.), Ashley Biddle (1B - Trenton, Fla.), Farley Callaghan (2B - Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.), Brooke Clements (C - Palm Coast, Fla.) and Addy Simpson (P/SS - Delray Beach, Fla.).

Deiros has been FGCU’s only softball head coach in the program’s 15-year history. The team compiled a 30-30 record in 2017 and reached the conference final. In the 2012 postseason, the Eagles notched the university’s first NCAA Division I tournament victory in any sport with a 2-1 win against the University of Florida.

FGCU’s fall exhibition slate includes seven games, starting with a home game against Miami Dade College on Sept. 30 at noon.

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

(Courtesy photo Facebook)

Curtis Osceola Jr. is a freshman on the Oklahoma City University men’s basketball team.

(Courtesy photo)

After helping American Heritage reach state championship games in four straight years, Ahnie Jumper will continue her softball career at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers.

BY KEVIN JOHNSON
Senior Editor

(Courtesy photo)

Curtis Osceola Jr. is a freshman on the Oklahoma City University men’s basketball team.
**Seminole Hard Rock Tampa steps up to the plate for Boys & Girls Clubs**

**In From Darkness 2 Light**

**Seminole Casino Hotel to host Evening with Village People**

**Neil Sedaka to take the stage at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek**

**Consortium Prep Schools Experience Learning for Creative Minds**

**Theodore Nelson Sr.**

**Announcements**

**Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa donates $50,000 to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay. Hard Rock made the donation at a Tampa Yavraks baseball game in late June.**

Unity is being together or at one with someone or something. It is the opposite of being divided.

A what point did we lose that? Our ancestors didn't intend for our tribe to be where we are now, meaning spiritually.

Financially, yes, they would be proud of us. But spiritually, could we be more divided? Can we stand together as a tribe, as a tribe, they would still be proud. Why? Because they would say that is what we are trying to do. A re we? Why? We have lost site of the value of our people. We do not care.

At some point, we need to put the unity between us above the money. We are stronger when we stand together. Sometimes we all don't agree. But it doesn't make anyone right or wrong. It's simply disagreeing.

We need to find what it is we go so we can do work as one, to get the unity back into our tribe.

Yes, everyone is busy with their own lives. If we can't work together, we can't find any hope in our lives. We can only find it by finding every clan represented on each Rep. Then we can decide on one person for each clan to represent them on whichever Rep they stay on. Form a committee. On the outside of tribal affairs, work together to construct a plan to organize our own Tribal members, separate land involvement, resources and find solutions to the mess that we are in.

Time for us to take care of our own problems, not relying on others. This is the only way to the getting back to our roots.

Knowing who we are, what we stand for and most of all what we left was left to us by our ancestors. If one person can read between the lines can we even see the value of is it going to be a difference to make a decision.

Find for other. Let's put the value back into our people, and go back to how we were, before evil took over.

Your fellow tribal member and sister in Christ,

Claire Gore

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**Seminole Casino Hotel to host Evening with Village People**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**COCOCONUT CREEK – Legendary singer, songwriter and composer Neil Sedaka will take the stage in The Pavilion at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek on Friday, October 18.**

Tickets priced at $50.00 (including per person Tax) and $75.00 (including Tax and 10% Service Charge). Tickets are on sale now via Ticketmaster locations, online at Ticketmaster.com, or by calling 800-745-3000. The Pavilion box office will open at 1 p.m. on the day of the show for on-site ticket purchases and will close 30 minutes prior to start time. Concert attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

Neil Sedaka is in his 50th year of civilian entertainment. He has written or co-written over 500 songs for various 501 (c) (3) non-profit organizations Seminole Hard Rock in Immokalee. 

During the duration of the charity's selected month, a customized memorabilia item will be created and sold throughout the property sales to the charity of the month.

To apply, visit www.SeminoleHardRockHotel.com/Apply.htm. The deadline is Sept. 21.

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**Fort Lauderdale Light**

From darkness 2 light through it all I stood strong, those times of time were rough and that journey was long.

I had the patience that only an uncorrupted heart can possess, so when I turned my back. It was because there was no end to that time.

Continued to grow and recognize this is only my way, I see at all I can now for I don't see what I should be why.

They make excuses and always blame others for it, they just don't know how to be grown when they get caught.

It is what it is and this is the on the rise, if you choose to try and kill, we can work together to bring it to end.

Ponce de Leon was 80, has received numerous awards for his contributions to music over the past decades. He has written and produced numerous hits in various genres, including pop, rock, and country.

Sedaka was born in Brooklyn, New York, on December 29, 1939. His father, a Russian immigrant, taught him how to play the piano at a young age. He later began playing the guitar and learned how to compose music.

Sedaka's career began in the 1950s when he started songwriting. He signed his first record deal in 1956 and released his debut single, "Bobby's Girl." The song became a hit and launched his career.

Over the years, Sedaka has had numerous hits, including "Stupid Cupid," "Y.M.C.A.," "In the Navy," and "Can't Stop Dancing." He has also written hits for other artists, such as Village People.

In 1972, Sedaka released his album "Laughter," which featured hit singles such as "Y.M.C.A." and "In the Navy." The album was a huge success and helped establish Sedaka as a solo artist. He continued to release albums throughout the 1970s and 1980s, with his music becoming popular in various countries.

Sedaka is a recipient of several awards, including a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. He has also been inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Despite his success, Sedaka has always remained humble and dedicated to his craft. He continues to tour and write music, with his influence still felt today in the music industry.

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**Seminole Casino Hotel to host Evening with Village People**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**IMOKALEE – As Evening with Village People, one of disco’s most recognizable and energetic hit-makers, will be held Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. at Seminole Casino Hotel in Immokalee.**

Known as the “Kings of Disco,” Village People have sold more than 100 million records worldwide since the 1970s with such career defining hits as “Macho Man,” “YMCA,” “In the Navy” and “Can’t Stop the Music.”

In 1979, the American Music Awards invited the group with the “Favorite Musical Group” award. They also won the American Guild of Variety Artists’ Georgia Award, West Germany’s Gold Lion Award for Music Excellence, and Beard’s Award for BestAct.

In 1980, Village People were the most famous gay band in the world. The band appeared in front of the stage with seating, private bar and washroom. They performed hits such as “San Francisco,” “Y.M.C.A.,” “In the Navy” and “Can’t Stop the Music.”

Concert attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

Tickets are $55 and can be purchased at the casino, online at www.jackpot.com or by phone at 800-514-3849.

On Veteran’s Day Nov. 3, Seminole Casino Hotel will host The Charlie Daniels Band, The Marshall Tucker Band and Jack Daniel’s Band at 9 p.m. Tickets are $55. A limited number of $125 VIP tickets are available, with a private section directly in front of the stage with seating, private bar and two beverages.

In 1981, Daniels, 80, has received numerous awards for his contributions to music over the past decades. He has written and produced numerous hits in various genres, including pop, rock, and country.

The Charlie Daniels Band was formed in 1978 and has been active ever since. The band has released numerous albums and has had several hit singles, including “The Devil Went Down to Georgia” and “Long Haired Country Boy.”

The Marshall Tucker Band was formed in 1972 and has been active ever since. The band has released numerous albums and has had several hit singles, including “Take the Back Road” and “Help Me Make It Through the Night.”

Jack Daniel’s Band was formed in 1980 and has been active ever since. The band has released numerous albums and has had several hit singles, including “Who’s Gonna Fill Their Shoes” and “Old Time Religion.”

Concert attendees must be 21 years of age or older.

Tickets are priced at $50.00 (including per person Tax) and $75.00 (including Tax and 10% Service Charge). Tickets are on sale now via Ticketmaster locations, online at Ticketmaster.com, or by calling 800-745-3000. The Pavilion box office will open at 1 p.m. on the day of the show for on-site ticket purchases and will close 30 minutes prior to start time.