





Seminole Tribune Voice of the Unconquered

Volume XLIV • Number 6

More Seminole Gaming/Hard Rock venues welcome back customers, employees

BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor

HOLLYWOOD — The reopening of Seminole Gaming venues is nearly complete.

On June 16, Seminole Casino Brighton welcomed back customers and employees on the Brighton Reservation. Four days earlier, the Seminole Tribe's three casinos in Broward County reopened. They joined Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa, which reopened May 21.

"We're real excited about being able to generate some business again for the Tribe and Tribal members," Jim Allen, CEO of Seminole Gaming and Chairman of Hard Rock International, said as he met media members on the casino floor at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood on June 12, a couple hours before the official reopening at 12 p.m. "We're very proud of the fact that we were able to live up to all of our financial commitments in the three months that we were closed. It really shows the strength of the Tribal Council, our Chairman for having the right reserves in order to navigate through something none of us have ever seen in our lifetime.'

BC parade honors 2020 graduates

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BIG CYPRESS — It's not often that a lengthy line of vehicles occupies a stretch of Josie Billie Highway on the Big Cypress Reservation, but the "heavy traffic" in the early evening of June 9 featured some honorable passengers.

Big Cypress Reservation and Immokalee Reservation graduates from the class of 2020's preschools, kindergarten, high school and other academic levels were honored by the Big Cypress Council Office. The students rode in a police-escorted parade that started from near the Frank Billie Field Office and headed north to the open field in front of the old bingo facility. Several vehicles were decorated with balloons and congratulatory themes and messages as the graduates – whose last few months of school were significantly altered by the Covid-19 pandemic – waved to bystanders, including Seminole Fire Rescue personnel who gathered outside the station to honor the

Due to the pandemic, everything was held outside. Vehicles parked in the bingo field. One-by-one, Mariann Billie called graduates to drive up. While staying in their vehicle, students received gifts in a drivethru fashion. A boisterous chorus of applause and honking from the vehicles greeted each

Afterward, President Mitchell Cypress, Jarrid Smith, who recently earned a master's degree from Nova Southeastern University, and Ahfachkee School valedictorian Priscilla ◆ See CASINOS on page 4A | and Amacinece Benoof value | Alvarado spoke to the students and their



June 30, 2020

2020 preschool graduate Ellis Gopher, 4, waves during a graduation celebration parade in Big Cypress on June 9.

President Cypress congratulated all the students and addressed the high school graduates specifically.

"Whatever you want to do, the Seminole Tribe will back you up," he said. "I know

there [were] times when you didn't want to get up and go to school back in grade school, but today it pays off."

Smith emphasized three areas that the high school graduates should focus on as they move forward.

"When you do those things – priorities, boundaries and finding joy every day - that's the kind of things that will get you to where you want to be in life," he told the graduates.

♦ See PARADE on page 2B

Four new homes open in Big Cypress

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BIG CYPRESS — The Housing opportunities are increasing in Big Cypress.

Construction of homes in the Ma Frank residential project near the airport is well underway. Lennar is in the early stages of building close to 50 new homes, which will feature a mixture of rental homes and Tribal member homes.

On June 11, the spotlight shined further south as the Big Cypress/Immokalee Housing Department opened four new single family rental homes on Horseshoe Road. Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress handed the keys to the occupants, who toured their new residences for the first time.

"It's a good addition to the community. Good people are getting it. It beautifies the community," Councilman Cypress said.

Two units are 3-bedroom and the other two are 4-bedroom. They were built by Clyde Johnson Contracting.

One of the new renters said he grew

up on the reservation but has been renting an apartment in Broward County. He said he was eager to return because he wanted to be closer to his parents, who live on the

"I'm pretty excited to move back. I've been waiting for a while to get land for myself, but this rental will be pretty good, he said. "It looks good."

"Those who don't have a home or have moved off the reservation to go rent on the outside, they'll be coming back, which is good," Councilman Cypress said.

Reviews were positive from all the new

"I like it. This is nice," one said.
"These are super nice," said another.

The kitchens, which have generous countertop space and plenty of cabinet area, received numerous favorable comments. The units have laundry rooms with washers

A youngster entered one unit and looked through the glass sliding doors to the backyard and immediatley his mind turned to basketball and he asked about putting up



Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress hands over the keys for a new rental unit on June 11 in Big Cypress. Looking on are James Mitchell, left, regional manager for Big Cypress/Immokalee Housing Department; Katherine Billie, housing rental coordinator, and Skip Edmondson, project manager.



Kevin Johnson





Kevin Johnson

New single family rental units have opened in Big Cypress.

Editorial

Code-talkers helped U.S. stay unbreakable

• Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle **Editorial Staff**

Of the six World War II Marines who iconically erected the American flag at Iwo Jima, we'd bet you didn't know that one of them was a Native American.

Cpl. Ira Hayes belonged to the Pima tribe in Arizona. Johnny Cash even wrote a heart-rending ballad about him.

Knowing the significant contribution of Native Americans in helping win World War II, it felt particularly appropriate [June 5] the eve of the 76th anniversary of the D-Day invasion - that The Augusta Chronicle reported a local veterans organization's progress in a program to help Native American veterans.

America's Warrior Partnership actually launched the Dine Naazbaa Partnership in May. But CEO Jim Lorraine announced the first positive results - 114 veterans, family members and caregivers in the Navajo Nation have been connected with resources they need to elevate their quality of life.

'Our model is set up around proactive outreach and engagement with veterans in the community, so what we do in the Navajo Nation and what we do in the other communities where we work is that we do active outreach," he said. "We go out and meet the veterans, build a relationship with them, understand where they've been in their life, where they are today and where they want to go in the future.'

We couldn't be prouder that a locallybased organization would help such a special group of veterans.



Navajo Indian Code Talkers Henry Bake and George Kirk

the sacrifices and determination displayed by

The D-Day anniversary is one of those the brave military who help comprise what's World War II without including Native occasions when Americans should reflect on become known as the Greatest Generation. And you can't truly tell the story of

Americans.

Military men belonging to several tribes

became "code-talkers" - communications specialists who transmitted sensitive strategic information to one another in their native languages. The languages were so obscure that virtually no one outside the United States could translate them - which made them ideal for code.

The first 29 Navajo code-talkers came up with codes within the language. Names for animals would correspond to letters of the alphabet that would form messages.

Code-talkers also had to come up with special words to accurately fit the information. For example, since there obviously are no Navajo words for "transport plane," talkers instead would use the word atsa," meaning eagle. "Jeshoo," or buzzard, would mean a bomber.

Maj. Howard Connor, signal officer for the 5th Marine Division, used six Navajo code talkers during the first two days of the Battle of Iwo Jima, sending and receiving more than 800 messages without a single error. "Were it not for the Navajos," Connor said, "the Marines would never have taken

To this day, the Navajo code is the only spoken U.S. military code never to have been deciphered.

That's an enormous part of the Native American impact on World War II.

As you remember D-Day today, think particularly of the brave men who radioed the exact landing locations of each Allied group on the beaches of Normandy - broadcasting in pure Comanche.

This editorial appeared in the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle on the D-Day anniversary,

Strengthen law enforcement work to help **Native American women**

• Omaha (Neb.) World-**Herald Editorial Staff**

aw enforcement agencies in Nebraska and elsewhere in the country are devoting greater attention and resources to issues involving Native American women and girls. This is a welcome step forward, spurred by growing recognition of this nationwide problem.

It's a problem both because of what's known (the lack of law enforcement communication and coordination) and what's unknown (the full extent of Native American found in May inside a burning outhouse at a agencies on recommendations. women and girls missing or needing help).

A research effort several years ago by the National Crime Information Center made an effort to pull together nationwide data. The group found that as of 2016, there were 5,712 missing person reports of Native American and Alaskan Native women and

In Nebraska, this issue is receiving greater attention, spurred by an initiative to strengthen law enforcement cooperation and by the killing of Kozee Decorah, a 22-year-old Ho-Chunk woman from the Winnebago Indian Reservation in northeast Nebraska. After Decorah's remains were remote cabin site on the reservation, the U.S.

Attorney's Office charged her boyfriend with "manslaughter in Indian Country," which carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison. Decorah's family and supporters are calling for a more serious charge and for greater efforts to address problems weighing on tribal communities.

The Nebraska State Patrol heads the new law enforcement initiative, created under legislation by State Sen. Tom Brewer of Gordon, the only Native American currently in the Nebraska Legislature. The State Patrol held a series of listening sessions on tribal concerns and worked with local and federal

The patrol's report, released this spring, resources to tribal law enforcement, casinos trust and, in coming years, keep it strong.

cited national studies concluding that and hotels. Native American women are "murdered at an extraordinarily high rate — more than 10 times the national average on some reservations." The listening sessions identified common factors in tribal missing persons cases, including domestic violence, substance abuse, mental health challenges

In response, law enforcement agencies are strengthening their data-sharing and coordination on tribal matters. Building on Nebraska's stepped-up efforts against human trafficking in recent years, the State Patrol will provide human trafficking training if agencies work to establish that bond of

Public information efforts will help tribal members understand how to report a missing person. The state Department of Health and Human Services is directed to increase efforts to address domestic violence, substance abuse and mental health

Above all, the state has an obligation to remedy a key problem identified at the listening sessions: the lack of trust and confidence that native peoples have in outside law enforcement and agencies. Significant progress can come within reach

More Indigenous people in Canada are graduating from high school than ever. It's still not nearly enough

The Globe and Mail (Canada) Editorial Board

High schools across Canada are figuring out unique ways to celebrate this spring's graduates, with the usual ceremonies of caps and gowns and pomp and circumstance cancelled because of the pandemic.

But a closer look at this annual ritual exposes one of Canada's stubbornly stark divides: Indigenous teenagers finish high school at much lower rates than other young Canadians. That disparity has a high cost, for

Indigenous people and the country.

More than 90 per cent of non-Indigenous Canadians in their early 20s have a high-school diploma. The graduation rate for Métis Canadians is not far behind, at 84 per cent. For First Nations people living off-reserve, it's 75 per cent. But according to a recent C.D. Howe Institute study, among First Nations Canadians in their early 20s living on a reserve, only 48 per cent have finished high school. The graduation rate for Inuit Canadians is similarly low.

It's a grim picture, but it's also an improving one. Sixty-four per cent of First Nations adults in 2016 had at least a high-school education, an increase of 10 percentage points in a decade, according to Statscan data. Métis and Inuit made similar

For those dreaming of a better Canada, these figures are a challenge. Things are not as they should be. However, there are signs of progress, pointing the way forward.

It's estimated that 350,000 Indigenous children will turn 15 in the decade from 2016 through 2026. This cohort has the chance to shape the future of the country. Governments

Indigenous, provincial and federal have to ensure that more Indigenous teens graduate from high school, and then go on to college, university and the trades.

The rising graduation rates of recent years show that the strategies in place in some delivering results. But while B.C. leads, Saskatchewan and Manitoba lag. Upwards of a third of the school-age population in those two Prairie provinces is Indigenous.

In Manitoba, the graduation rate of First Nations youth living on reserve is just 36 per cent. In B.C., however, it's 70 per cent. In Manitoba, just 61 per cent of Indigenous youth living off-reserve graduate. B.C.'s rate: 81 per cent.

Not long ago, B.C. was where Manitoba now stands. B.C.'s success in achieving change is underpinned by data and by investment, identifying problems and finding ways to fix them – and spending the money. B.C. for years has published an annual "How are we doing?" report full of ample detail, district by district, of Indigenous students in reading, writing and math.

In 2015, the B.C. Auditor-General put out a long list of recommendations, and last year measured the province's progress. There is also frank acknowledgement of issues such as what the Auditor-General jurisdictions, notably British Columbia, are calls the "racism of low expectations," a

subconscious bias among some educators a bachelor's degree. For all Canadians, about the inherent potential of Indigenous

In 2001, B.C. had a 39-percentagepoint gap between the graduation rates of Indigenous and non-Indigenous students. Over the past two decades, however, Indigenous graduation rates have surged. The graduation gap, though still too large, has been more than halved.

Most Indigenous Canadians live offreserve and in cities, which in theory gives them a shot at the same educational opportunities as everyone else. On reserve, however, too many schools are in bad shape, lacking basics such as functioning libraries, science labs and gyms. The Assembly of First Nations and the Harper government struck a deal for better funding and standards but the effort fell apart in 2015. The following year, the Liberals committed \$1-billion.

Beyond high school, supporting Indigenous teenagers into and through postsecondary education is key. Fewer than one in 10 Indigenous Canadians have regardless of race, there are economic disparities between those with more education, and those with less. Indigenous Canadians are not immune to this trend: The median income of First Nations adults working with a university degree is about \$70,000, compared with about \$40,000 for those working with high-school diplomas.

The challenges in Indigenous education are big but progress is possible, and it's happening. The goal, in a June not far in the future, is for Indigenous teens to finish high school, and go on to more education and lifelong success, at the same rate as all other

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Community **

Judge dismisses lawsuit, but Valholly Frank says climate change message must continue to be heard

BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor

Complimentary words weren't exactly what a group of young plaintiffs – including Seminole Tribe high school student Valholly Frank – wanted to hear from a judge in Leon County on June 1. They were more interested in succeeding to take the state of Florida to trial over what they say are violations to their Constitutional rights, but their environmental lawsuit – known as Delaney Reynolds vs. The State of Florida – was dismissed on Zoom by Circuit Judge Kevin Carroll, who still praised the plaintiffs and their efforts.

"I think that it is tremendous that they're engaged at this point in their lives," Carroll said in his ruling. "I'd like to tell you that I was that civic-minded when I was their age, and that just would not be true. But I hope you will tell your clients that this is one step in our civic process here, that you'll take it to the First District, and they'll let me know if I'm right or not. And if we are wrong, then some judge here in the Second Circuit will correct that and address your concerns down the road."

The plaintiffs allege in the lawsuit that the state, including Gov. Ron DeSantis, is violating their constitutional rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness due to its actions, including, according to the plaintiffs, "creating and perpetuating an energy system based on fossil fuels."

Frank, 17, said she believes something was holding back the judge from advancing the case, but she's not sure what.

"It sounded like he wanted to keep our case going and move it along, but he dismissed it instead...," Frank said.

In his ruling, Carroll said, "...it is awful tempting to deny the Motions to Dismiss and go ahead. But I think that the fact is, is that really, at the end of the day, no matter how you dress it up, these are issues that the Court is being asked to solve that are beyond its authority to solve."

The lawsuit will likely be appealed after the judge issues reasons why he dismissed the case.

"We'll review that decision and then it's most likely we will appeal to the district court of appeals," said Andrea Rodgers, senior attorney for Our Children's Trust and part of the legal representation for the



in Johnson

Valholly Frank, center, participates in an environrmental strike rally Oct. 19, 2019, in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Frank is part of a landmark lawsuit against the state of Florida and Gov. Ron DeSantis. The suit was dismissed by a circuit judge on June 1.

plaintiffs. "The judge encouraged us to do that. He recognized that the higher court has some additional staff and resources. We should be able to give some good thought to the issue that we raised. So we're confident that we will get a ruling on appeal that will allow these kids to present their case and get a trial."

The eight kids from various backgrounds and different parts of the state filed the lawsuit in 2018 when Rick Scott was the governor.

"These kids all have issues that are dear to them," Rodgers said. "Whether it's Delaney who is fighting to protect her home in the Keys. Valholly fighting to protect her cultural connection to the Everglades and the places she holds dear. Or Levi [Draheim] on the East coast or Issac [Augspurg], who farms and raises his own animals [and] the high temperatures are preventing him from doing that."

Frank, the daughter of Big Cypress Board Rep. Joe Frank and Rhonda Roff, said being part of the lawsuit has helped her forge ahead in many ways. The Sagemont School senior used to think her opinions or voice didn't matter, but that has changed. She speaks with plenty of confidence and poise, be it in one-on-one interviews, marching in streets or speaking in front of

large audiences.

"I wouldn't say it's given me a voice; rather it's given me a microphone. It's given me great opportunities to speak out and it was the main reason I started speaking," she said, adding "I try my best to make people realize that their voice does matter and they need to speak out when and if they can."

The fragile health of the Everglades and its impact on the Seminole Tribe has been one of Frank's major issues. She has shared her concerns about climate change at rallies, with others in the Tribe and elsewhere in Indian Country. Frank said connecting with other Native Americans who have their own sets of environmental issues has been one of the benefits brought by being part of the lawsuit.

"I love keeping in touch with those people and other tribes because it's really amazing to hear from people who are also disproportionately affected by climate change," she said.

Regardless of what path the lawsuit takes, Frank said she doesn't want people to forget the fight she and the other plaintiffs waged.

"I hope people just realize why we did this. I hope people realize that the government isn't necessarily working for them," she said.

Tribal loyalty card offers discounts at the gas pumps

BY AARON TOMMIE
STOF Executive Management Trainee

On June 1, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc (STOFI) launched the Tribal Loyalty Card program which currently provides discounts on gas purchases for Tribal members at the Hollywood and Brighton Trading Posts.

Led by the Board's Operations Systems Administrator Chris Danford, the Tribal Loyalty Card program's development process began over six months ago.

"The features are great," Danford said. "It gets [Tribal members] to reinvest in a Tribal business."

The Tribal Loyalty Card provides an introductory discount rate of \$0.07 off per gallon purchased.

In late May, the cards were mailed to enrolled Tribal members who are at least 15 years old. Included with the card is a program manual and a document that has other detailed information associated with the card.

"I'm excited to be part of this," said Board Marketing Specialist Shawn Murphy, who created the card's design.

who created the card's design.

In addition to Hollywood and Brighton, the discount card will be able to be used

construction is completed in 2021. The Big Cypress Reservation's gas station, SemFuel, may also accept the cards in the future.

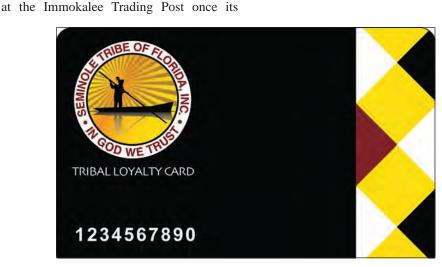
"We're happy to roll it out now especially through hurricane season," said the Board's Executive Director of Operations Golden Johansson.

To use the card while at the gas pump, insert the Tribal Loyalty Card and enter the 5-digit PIN. After doing so, insert the method of payment. Once the payment is selected, select the fuel grade type and pump the gas as normal. When the card is used at the gas pump, the \$0.07 discount is shown on the screen. Once finished, there is option to print a receipt.

The discount is adjustable based on the STOFI's discretion. There are plans to have it be paired with promotional events. The card is only applicable to gas purchases. Onsite and virtual trainings have taken place to help employees assist Tribal citizens with the card's usage.

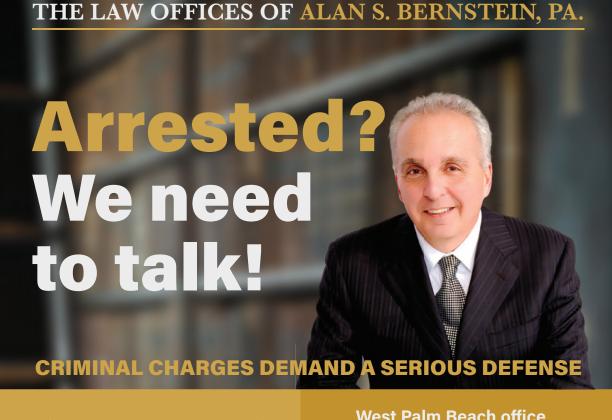
"We want them to be safe and let them know we are saving them money," said Hollywood Board Representative Gordon Wareham. "This is one way the Board is giving back to shareholders."

For more information concerning the Tribal Loyalty Card, please call (954) 967-3700 or email TLC@semtribe.com.



Rolled out June 1, the Tribal Loyalty Card provides Tribal members with discounts on gas purchases.





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LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

CASINOS From page 1A

Seminole Classic Casino in Hollywood and Seminole Casino Coconut Creek also reopened June 12. The only Seminole Gaming facility that remains closed (as of press time) is Seminole Hotel Casino Immokalee, whose reopening date has not been announced.

Allen said Tampa's reopening has been successful.

"We've had over 200,000 people visit the facility since we've been open. Less than 10 cases of people not wanting to wear a mask or concerned about the temperature checks and body imaging, so it's really going well," he said.

Allen said about 50% of Tampa's Hard Rock workforce was brought back when it reopened. He said Hollywood's reopening numbers were slightly higher on the first day.

"Our goal is to get back to 60 to 70 percent sometime here in the next two or three weeks," he said.

The reopening of the two casinos in Hollywood and one in Coconut Creek meant the return to work for nearly 4,000 employees.

All facilities were shuttered March 20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The casinos have implemented new safety precautions and guidelines - known as the "Safe and Sound" program – including temperature readings that are done by thermal imaging as guests walk through the doors. Any guest or employee with a temperature reading above the CDC guidelines of 100.4 degrees is not allowed entry.

The casinos are operating with a 50% reduced maximum guest capacity. All customers and employees are required to wear masks.

At the Hard Rock Hollywood's reopening day, an army of cleaning personnel wore bright yellow long sleeve shirts with "Clean Team" and "Safe and Sound" on them. The workers sprayed and wiped gaming areas and other touchable surfaces. Poker chips also underwent a cleansing with a spray liquid. Slot machine rows were not available to full occupancy as every other machine was turned off in order to avoid side-by-side seating. Plexiglas dividers separate dealers and guests at table games, poker games and customer service areas. Hard Rock's electronic display board on State Road 7 in front of the complex alerted those passing by that the casino would reopen at 12 p.m.,



Above, Jim Allen, CEO of Seminole Gaming and Chairman of Hard Rock International, speaks to the media at the reopening of Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood on June 12. At right, the casino's electronic sign on State Road 7 displays an "open" sign for the first time since the venue closed March 20 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Seminole Casino Coconut Creek/Facebook

Plexiglas dividers are now part of the gaming tables at Seminole Gaming casinos, including this one at Seminole Casino Coconut Creek.

although a few guests were allowed to enter slightly earlier.

Six hundred of the guest rooms at The Guitar Hotel were made open to bookings. A week later, hotel rooms in the Oasis Tower became available. Some restaurants remained closed on the reopening day, but others – such as The Bol, Cipresso, Council Oak Steak & Seafood, and Hard Rock Cafe - were open. The menu of options grew June 19 as Kuro, Beach Club Bar & Grill and Bae Korean Grill reopened. Events at Hard Rock Live arena have not resumed.

Outside, the massive light show on the exterior of The Guitar Hotel resumed June 15 with shows at 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

The reopening of Seminole casinos comes as hundreds of other casinos throughout the country are returning as well. As of June 26, according to the American Gaming Association, 782 of all casinos in the nation had reopened while 207 remained closed.



Seminole Casino Brighton/Facebook

Slot machines are in action as the Seminole Casino Brighton reopened June 16.

Keith Sheldon named president of entertainment for Seminole Gaming, HRI

BY TRIBUNE STAFF

HOLLYWOOD — Keith Sheldon has been named president of entertainment for Seminole Gaming and Hard Rock International. Seminole Hard Rock Support Services made the announcement June 25. Sheldon will oversee and direct the entertainment function for Seminole Gaming

"Keith Sheldon has a proven track record of success and an impressive list of accomplishments from his previous endeavors that will set him apart in this role at Seminole Hard Rock Support Services,' Jim Allen, chairman of HRI and CEO of Seminole Gaming, said in a statement. "We are excited to welcome him to our team and are certain he will continue to leverage his expertise in the entertainment industry to provide unbeatable experiences that our fans will enjoy for years to come."

Sheldon most recently was executive vice president of programming and development at BSE Global, where he led the development of content opportunities and special events at Barclays Center, home of the NBA's Brooklyn Nets and the parttime home of the NHL's New York Islanders. Acts he helped secure included Bruce Springsteen, Barbra Streisand, Jay-Z, Ed Sheeran, Madonna and Justin Bieber. He was also involved in planning, development and programming of Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum and Webster Hall.

Sheldon was named to Billboard magazine's "40 Under 40" in 2016 and was a finalist for Pollstar's Venue Executive of the Year in 2017, 2018 and 2019. He has degrees from Brooklyn Law School and Bucknell University.



Keith Sheldon, Seminole Gaming and Hard Rock International president of entertainment

Hard Rock Stadium offers outdoor movie experience

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

Action has returned to Hard Rock Stadium, but it's on the giant TV screens, not the field.

The stadium has opened its field and plaza to movies, such as older classics like "Jaws" and "E.T." as well as newer films such as "Black Panther" and "Inside Out." With entertainment offerings still limited throughout the state due to Covid-19, a chance to leave the house and watch movies while on the home field of the Dolphins and Hurricanes has become a welcomed sight for pandemic-weary South Florida.

Described by the stadium as "The Outdoor Theaters," 230 vehicles can park on the field and watch movies from their vehicles or tailgate in assigned tailgating space while maintaining a six-foot distance from all other vehicles and customers. Audio is available through 100.3 on the FM dial or the stadium system.

For a more intimate evening, the Fountain Plaza outside the stadium offers movie-goers a chance to sit on couches in reserved seating, enjoy a 3-course meal and watch the flicks with appropriate spacing.
"We've spent several weeks planning

this to be able to provide people with a safe option to go out and enjoy movies, classic Dolphins content, concerts, and celebrate

2020 graduates," Tom Garfinkel, Miami Dolphins and Hard Rock Stadium vice chairman and CEO, said in a statement May 26. "It's a fundamental human need to physically experience and celebrate events and experiences together, and we're trying to provide options for everyone where they can be safely socially distant and socially present at the same time.'

Early July offerings in the open air plaza include:

- Soul Surfer (July 2)
- The Nevending Story (July 3)
- Apollo 13 (July 4)
- Space Jam (July 5) Palm Springs (July 9)

Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure

Inside Out (July 12)

The stadium drive-up will show:

- Jaws (July 2)
- E.T. (July 3) Creed (July 5)
- John Wick (July 9)
- Back to the Future (July 10) Black Panther (July 11)
- Jerry McGuire (July 12)

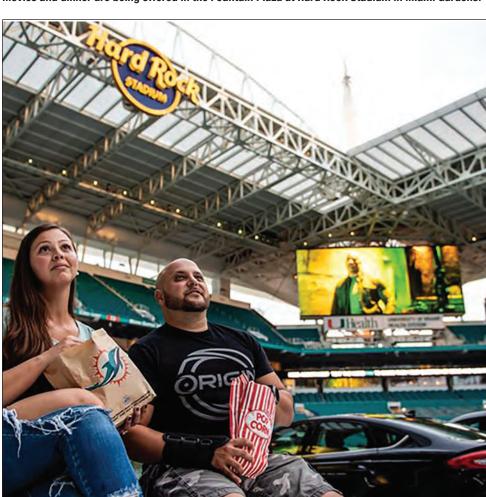
For more information and tickets, visit HardRockStadium.com/Theater.



Hard Rock Stadium

Movies and dinner are being offered in the Fountain Plaza at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens.





Hard Rock Stadium

A rendering of the drive-up movie experience offered by Hard Rock Stadium. Movie-goers can watch from inside or outside their vehicles while on the field at Hard Rock Stadium.



Brighton and Fort Pierce Regional Housing Manager Bryan Arledge, left, and Brighton Councilman Larry Howard with a resident at the key turnover June 12 in Brighton.

Brighton opens nine new homes

BY AARON TOMMIE **STOF Executive Management Trainee**

BRIGHTON — On June 1, a group of the Brighton Reservation's residents were welcomed into newly constructed singlefamily homes during a key turnover in Knotts Landing.

"We hope you guys will enjoy this," Brighton and Fort Pierce Regional Housing Manager Bryan Arledge said to the residents.

The construction for the nine singlefamily rental homes began in January 2020. Every house is fenced in and has a minimum of three bedrooms and two bathrooms. The homes were built by Seminole Design-Build, Inc. and Brian Sullivan Contractor, Inc. By



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, far left, welcomes families into new housing rental units June 12 on the Brighton Reservation.

the end of the year, construction for 10 more homes will take place directly across from

"It has been a long time coming in a short period of time," said Brighton

the recently built ones.

Councilman Larry Howard. "These houses were given the keys for their homes after you see today shows the progress that we've been going through."

After the residents were congratulated, they finalized necessary procedures and years on the waiting list.

"It seems surreal to me," one of the new occupants said. "I'm blessed for Bryan and Larry for all the work they put in."

Hard Rock Atlantic City earns Casino of the Year honor

STAFF REPORT

ATLANTIC CITY — It didn't take long for Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City to earn a big honor within the Hard Rock family.

The venue, which opened on the famed Boardwalk in June 2018, was named 2019 Casino of the Year in Hard Rock International's Hotel & Casino awards.

"We are honored to have been selected for this award in our first full year becoming part of such an iconic brand" Joe Lupo, president of Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City, said in a statement. "Standing out in an organization with HRI venues in 76 countries around the world shows the positive progress of our property. We couldn't be more proud of the guest service scores, which speaks to the commitment of our team's effort to take service to the next level and provide a product that exemplifies

great experiences."

Hard Rock Atlantic City topped the charts in brand compliance, gaming shops and online reviews, with a 9.4% increase in Global Review Index, an online reputation score for hotels based on data taken from major online travel agencies and review

Other winners in the HRI awards included Hard Rock Hotel Daytona Beach (Hotel of the Year), Hard Rock Hotel Shenzhen's general manager Christoph Zbinden (Leader of the Year) and NSF (Partner of the Year).

People walk on the Boardwalk near the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City in 2018.



Northern Arapaho tribe's Grey Bull announces bid for U.S. Congress

BY NICK REYNOLDS **Casper Star Tribune**

Northern Arapaho tribal member Lynnette Grey Bull officially announced her intention to run for the Democratic nomination for Wyoming's sole U.S. Congressional seat over the weekend (June 6-7). If elected, Lynnette Grey Bull would become the first Native American from Wyoming to hold federal office.

In remarks at the Wyoming State Democratic Convention on June 6, Grev Bull — who had filed with the secretary of state's office but had not previously made her intentions public — declared a campaign centered on promoting civil rights as well as economic equality across Wyoming and the

The current vice president of the Global Indigenous Council and a leading voice on the state's efforts to address missing and murdered Indigenous women, Grey Bull drew heavily on the experience of being a Native woman in her speech, calling on a need for the "Equality State" to become a place of true equality amid a time of political upheaval and international dialogues on

"I stand before you as a full-blooded, Native American woman," she said in her speech. "And the statistics that hang over my head is that I am the most stalked, raped, murdered, sexually assaulted, and I suffer domestic violence 50 times higher than the national average compared to any other ethnic group in this country. I share this reality with you not to elicit guilt and unease but so you realize that I understand what this moment is in America. For some 400 years, people of color in this country have been crying, 'I can't breathe.'

Like other Democratic candidates in the race — namely, her primary opponent Carl Beach — Grey Bull stated a commitment to running a campaign centered not just on racial justice but also issues like socioeconomic justice and equality for women. She said she is running on a promise to help veterans who are homeless, ranchers

and farmers who no longer have access to markets, energy workers who has lost their jobs due to factors beyond their control, and LGBTQ couples denied service by business owners based on who they are.

"This is about us," she said. "This is not 'I,' it is 'we.'"

Her platform reflects that spirit, including proposals for a transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy, a proposal to "decriminalize addiction," widespread police reform and a focus on increased infrastructure spending, particularly in Indian Country.

'The COVID-19 crisis has drawn into stark focus the systemic failure of federal policy and administration in Indian Country and glaringly exposed what indigenous people have known for generations — that institutionalized racism infects virtually every aspect of what is supposed to be the federal-Indian trust responsibility," she wrote in her platform. "Infrastructure in Indian Country does not need incremental repair — Indian Country needs a functional infrastructure! Every aspect of vital infrastructure is lacking in Indian Country and we must change this with bold initiatives, not more of the same incremental failures.'

She brings substantial advocacy experience to the table. Prior to her current position, Grey Bull served as executive director of the Wind River Native Advocacy Center as well as the chair of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs from 2015 to 2016 and has been actively involved in victim advocacy work as well as political organizing on the reservation.

Her reasons for running for Congress, however, are more than just a logical next step in that work, but an effort to better represent the demographics and backgrounds

of most people living in Wyoming.
"I thoroughly believe that all things can be moved forward in an equitable manner where both parties are represented, and both parties have a say," she said in an interview. 'I as a Wyomingite don't feel like I'm being represented the way I ideally would like in Congress. And so I think that Wyoming is ready for a Democrat candidate. I



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Lynnette Grey Bull

economic development and security like [Republicans]. I want to protect agriculture farmers that we do have. All different things that make Wyoming unique, I want those same things. And it takes a unique person to represent that, because Wyoming is unique.'

At a pivotal time in the nation's politics, Bull kicks off the beginning of a new era in Wyoming's politics as well: an increasing role of Native voices in shaping the political conversation.

While just three Native American politicians have ever been elected Wyoming Legislature, a review of election records indicates no Native American candidate in Wyoming has ever run in a major party election for federal office.

However, the time seems ripe: While just 22 individuals with Native American ancestry have ever been elected to U.S. Congress, two of them — Kansas Rep. Sharice Davids and New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland — were elected in the 2018 midterm election. More than a dozen Native American candidates nationwide have announced congressional bids ahead of the 2020 elections.

That influx of candidates was not lost in her introductory speech, in which Grey Bull declared the need for greater representation of all the people of Wyoming on the national

"Today, there is no holding back," she said. "We must hold this truth to be selfevident that we the people must finally become all the people. For without that, there never will be a more perfect union. I seek this nomination not to represent the

party as a Democratic candidate for Native America, but as a proud, Native American who aspires to give voice and serve all the people of Wyoming.'

While facing a less crowded Democratic field than that for the open U.S Senate seat vacated by Sen. Mike Enzi, Grey Bull will ultimately have a fight before potentially facing off against Rep. Liz Cheney in the general election. In addition to Beach, Grey Bull will also face off against Carol Hafner, a perennial novelty candidate in races all across the nation.

Hafner, who is from out of state, has already been denied resources from the state party, which has committed to only supporting candidates within its own

The primary takes place Aug. 18.

This story is from the Casper (Wyo.)



Sharing Seminole culture a big hit at Camp E Nini Hassee

BY GALE E. WIRE Camp E Nini Hassee staff

CITRUS COUNTY — A good time was had by all May 27 when Tatiana Torres, of the Brighton Reservation, and Caniah Billie, of the Immokalee Reservation, held a Seminole Tribe experience day for the students at Eckerd Connects' Camp E Nini Hassee, a girls outdoor therapeutic school they attend in Citrus County, about an hour drive north of Tampa.

All the girls at the school have to conduct research and create a project or presentation. A few months ago, Torres started doing research on the Seminole Wars. She asked the education staff if she could present it to the student body. The conversation evolved and Torres became excited about the idea of teaching the students about Seminole culture and history.

During a phone call, she consulted with her grandmother, Oneva Osceola, and laid out a plan for the day with the staff. She wanted to teach the students about beading, dancing and cooking traditions and provide a background history on the Seminole Tribe. She enlisted the help of Billie. The two 16-year-olds met several times with staff and practiced what their day would look like. Billie's father, Pedro Aguilar Jr., provided a great deal of encouragement to his daughter, who is shy when it comes to public speaking. The girls made flyers for the student groups and staff the day before. On the day of the event, both girls wore Seminole modern clothing.

Torres started the day with her presentation on the history of the Seminole name and the three Seminole Wars. She fielded many questions from the student body with wisdom and poise. She consulted maps and showed the girls the routes of the cimarrons, or runaways, to the south and the Trail of Tears to the west. She spoke about Andrew Jackson as a general and as a president of the United States and his impact on the Native Americans of the southern region. She discussed the defiance and strength of both Osceola and Billy Bowlegs as they led the Seminoles through difficult times. In the end, she clarified with everyone that "One Tribe Undefeated" has everything to do with the Seminole Tribe of Florida and is simply borrowed by Florida State University.

Several months ago Billie inspired many students to read Patrick Smith's book "A Land Remembered." In fact, an entire reading class chose this book for their lessons and created a book club based on the recommendation of Billie. So when she took the stage after Torres, Billie reinforced the message of the hardship and struggle the Indigenous people of Florida had when they were being forced to leave their land because white settlers wanted more.

She made connections with many girls in the audience as they made reference to their readings of "A Land Remembered." Billie then adapted a presentation previously put together by her sister, Cartaya Billie. She spoke about the background of the 1970s and the landmark cases that brought tribal sovereignty to the Native American reservation land. She discussed the wisdom of her Seminole forefathers/mothers when they sought to rise out of poverty and instituted a high stakes bingo hall on the Hollywood Reservation in 1979 and then won the Supreme Court Case of The Seminole Tribe vs. Butterworth (1981) that paved the way for the Seminole Tribe to invest more in gaming and maximize its enterprise, including the acquisition of Hard Rock International, known for its casinos, hotels and the legendary Hard Rock Cafés. Billie shared her experiences of Hard Rock being a family event place that holds good memories and fun times for her. With ease and organization, she described the benefits of the money earned and distributed from Hard Rock by discussing and showing pictures of the Seminole Tribe's Health and Human Services department, new cars for the Tribe's police department, the Tribe's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in Big Cypress, Seminole schools on the reservations and their teachings of 'the old ways,' and the recognition by Florida schools that Creek is a language that fulfills the two-year language requirement.

The students watched the short video "I am Seminole" by Everett Osceola. After telling the students about the Council Oak, the Princess Pageant, the Clans and Betty Mae Tiger Jumper, Torres handed out the "Legend of The Corn Lady" and asked the staff to read the legend when the students went to sleep that night. Then Torres and Billie began to talk about Corn Dance traditions. Enthusiastically, Billie piqued the interest of many students as she described the game of stickball through photographs. Both girls also showed pictures of Chickee huts and related them to the tents the students currently live in while at Camp E Nini Hassee. Then the student body rotated through three stations.

Over an open fire pit, Torres taught the girls how to make fry bread, which was offered at lunch and also included Indian burgers. Billie tied cans with stones in them as shakers to the ankles of the girls and taught them dance stepping and answered questions about her Clan and blood percentage. An E Nini Hassee staff member helped the girls organize and make a traditional Seminole pattern glass bead bracelet they could keep and wear after watching a short clip on the Seminole styles.

Students and staff were interested to learn the history of the Seminoles and the traditions of Corn Dance. The only thing missing from Torres's original plan was the Spam she planned to offer as a snack, but it was on back order due to Covid-19. Afterward the students began to call it the first annual Corn Dance as clearly Torres and Billie outdid themselves. They both started



Caniah Billie, left, and Tatiana Torres presented a program to their fellow students at Camp E Nini Above and below, students had an opportunity to learn about and make their own bead bracelets. Hassee on May 27 about aspects of Seminole culture, including clothing, history, cooking and dance.





Students get a hands-on experience about Seminole food.



Tatiana Torres makes a presentation to the students at Camp E Nini Hassee.





much as they beamed with pride.

Caniah Billie and classmates hold hands in a circle during her presentation. the day their cheeks hurt from smiling so out so nervous and fretted for days about

pulling off the event day, but by the end of



Courtesy photo

Seminole input – from present and past – sought for Everglades restoration plan

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

significant has brought challenges to Indian Country that have required considerable attention from Tribal members. While COVID-19 has grabbed the spotlight across the nation, at home another matter continues in importance: the Seminole Tribe's role in ongoing Everglades restoration efforts. To that end, the Tribe is partnering with the Army Corps of Engineers to lend Indigenous guidance in South Florida conservation and preservation.

The Seminole Tribe's newly formed Seminole Heritage Services (SHS) would like to hear from Tribal members to discuss the importance that the Everglades and natural resources, such as water and land, have on their lives or had on the lives of their

"What's important to you about Everglades restoration? What do you want others to know about what these lands mean and how do you think these lands, waters, natural resources should be managed?" said Jason Herbert, who was recently hired as an ethnographer for SHS.

Herbert, 42, comes to the Tribe with master's and bachelor's degrees in history from Wichita State University in Kansas. He is quite familiar with Native American history in Florida, proof of which is found in his current pursuit of a doctoral degree in Indigenous and Environmental History from the University of Minnesota. His dissertation is about the history of cattle in Indigenous Florida from the 16th to 19th centuries.

Herbert and his teammates from SHS have embarked on compiling an ethnography, which is an extensive and detailed body of research about a culture or aspect of a culture. The focus is on the Tribe's cultural history and how the past, current and future utilizations of natural resources are important to Tribal members and the Tribe. Herbert will do the writing, and plenty of it – the ethnography will likely be hundreds of pages – but the foundation of the project will come from interviews with Seminoles.

"This ethnography is being written from the Tribe's perspective. It is a cultural history of the Tribe, by the Tribe, and that's what's really important," he said.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commissioned the ethnography as part of its Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

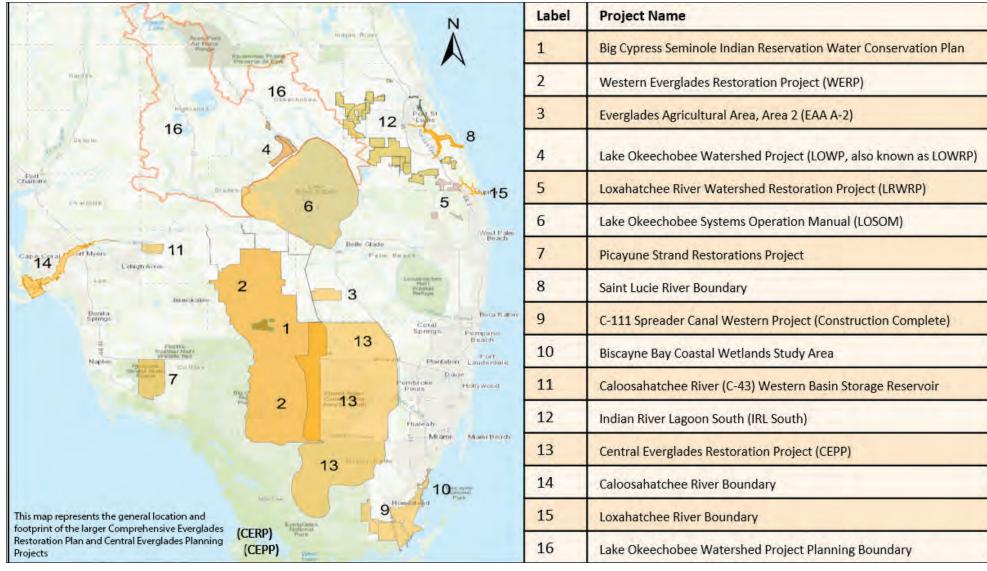
"The Army Corps of Engineers is in the midst of a massive Everglades restoration project," Herbert said. "But you can't talk about the Everglades without talking to Seminoles. In fact, federal law requires consultation with the Tribe. The Corps wants to understand how Seminoles have engaged with the lands, waters, and natural resources in South Florida. We're hoping that this ethnography will help guide this process."

Seminole voice in the plan

The Corps is the lead federal agency for CERP, but Herbert emphasized that the voices in the research work will be Seminole.

"The Seminole Tribe of Florida has a really talented team of folks working with Seminole Heritage Services who care deeply about not only the Seminole past, but the Seminole present and future. We're all working to ensure that this is a Seminole project," he said.

CERP is a multi-faceted, multi-billiondollar project that was first authorized by Congress 20 years ago. It's described by federal agencies as the largest hydrologic restoration project in U.S. history with a stated goal to preserve, protect and restore South Florida's ecosystem while providing for other water-related needs of the region. It's an ecosystem that has been under assault from a variety of issues, such as algae blooms, fish kills, invasive species, nutrient pollution, and commercial and residential



A map shows areas of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan and Central Everglades Planning Projects.

Courtesy USACE

sprawl, to name a few.

Some components of CERP either directly or indirectly impact Seminole communities. For example, the Lake Okeechobee Watershed Restoration Project is next door to the Brighton Reservation. A massive reservoir project, also known as the Everglades Agricultural Area, south of Lake Okeechobee, is adjacent to the Big Cypress Reservation. In addition, the Western Everglades Restoration Project, as stated by the South Florida Water Management District, "is to re-establish sheet flow from the West Feeder Canal across the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation and into Big Cypress National Preserve, maintain flood protection on Seminole Tribal lands and ensure that inflows to the north and west feeder canals meet applicable water quality standards." Further south, in a region of the Everglades where the Seminole Trail community lives and is home of the Miccosukee Tribe, new bridges have been constructed on the Tamiami Trail with a goal of improving water flow that has been hampered for decades by the construction of the roadway.

Dr. Paul Backhouse, senior director of the Tribe's Heritage and Environmental Resource Office, said input from the Seminole Tribal Community in the ethnography project is crucial.

'The project is going to be extremely important in its opportunity to get the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to better understand who the Seminole Tribe is and why Seminole communities absolutely need to be considered during 'restoration' project planning," he said.

Lois Billie and Quenton Cypress are points of contact for Tribal members who want to share their thoughts and stories with THPO. The parameters are vast. From canoes to canals, from cooking to cattle ranching, from hunting to history, to all points between, how do natural resources impact Tribal lives?

"Maybe you're a cattle rancher. How does water management affect how you ranch your cattle? Do you fish? Do you

hunt? How do these things affect you?" Herbert said as examples of those who might

Legacy opportunity

The ethnography will be public record, and therefore, the eyes that see it could be engineers, environmentalists, historians, politicians and anyone else from the general public. However, any sensitive information that the Tribal community provides will be kept safe and private as the Tribal members best see fit. The sensitivity of many of the discussions will be maintained and respected, as such some portions of the discussions might be redacted as necessary. Yet everyone involved with SHS wants to share the Seminole story the way the community wants it to be told, to provide a better engagement with the Corps and the

"This is an opportunity with this ethnography to really interject the Tribe's voice into the environmental restoration and management practices going forward," Herbert said. "It's also an opportunity to put into the historical record how the Tribe sees this interaction going right now so that when Tribal members want to look back 20 years from now, 100 years from now, 200 years from now, they can look back and we have this record of engagement. This is really an opportunity in some ways to put a written legacy to Tribal engagement with the land, waters, natural resources in South Florida."

The SHS team would like to hear from as many Tribal members as possible, regardless of where they live.

'I think it's pretty well established that the Everglades are important to Seminoles. no matter if you live in Tampa or if you live in Hollywood or if you live in Brighton or Big Cypress or somewhere else," Herbert

The areas of the restoration plan encompass a big chunk of Florida, and hence, substantial pieces of Seminole life

"Really what we're talking about is

want to contribute.



Jason Herbert, shown here giving a presentation at the American Society of Ethnohistory Conference in 2019, was recently hired as an ethnographer for the Seminole Tribe.

largely these lands that go from the Orlando area south," Herbert said, "and because Seminoles and their ancestors have always lived in these regions, it's an opportunity to say these lands are important and here's why, here's how the Seminole Tribe of Florida has always engaged with them."

Any Tribal member who would like to contribute to the Tribe's ethnography can contact Lois Billie at (863) 697-2835 or Quenton Cypress at (863) 677-1598.





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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.

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA AH-TAH-THI-KI

A PLACE TO LEARN, A PLACE TO REMEMBER

Oral histories speak about environmental change

BY TARA BACKHOUSE **Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Collections Manager**

For the last few months a dedicated team of Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum staff has been researching the oral history collection in order to provide insight to our current environmental projects. The museum holds over 200 interviews and they date from 1960 to 2019. Everyone who gives an interview is able to identify what kind of access they want the interview to have. This process ensures that privacy is respected, and is something the museum takes very seriously

to protect and/or restrict access. Therefore, we have been working with the unrestricted oral histories to listen to what they can tell us about how the environmental changes of the 20th century have affected the Seminole and Miccosukee people. One of those interviews stands out.

In 1998, Jack Henry Motlow recorded



A late 20th century photograph of mixed agricultural operations features citrus, sugarcane, and other crops. Expert water management is needed to maintain this landscape.

This photograph was taken sometime between 1910 to 1940 by early non-Seminole explorers in the Everglades. What they may have seen as an adventure, Seminole and Miccosukee residents knew as home.

in 1923 near Miami, and he moved to the Tamiami Trail in his early life. When he was young, he must have witnessed a lot of environmental change, as the Everglades were being drained, roads were being constructed, and more people were settling in South Florida. Mr. Motlow remembered farms and canoes in the Everglades near Miami. But he mentions having to move from the Everglades to a roadside Tamiami village because white men took over the land to farm and Seminoles couldn't use it anymore. He said they used fertilizer and it ran off the fields into the water supply, so the water wasn't good to drink anymore. He surmised that this was probably still true in 1998. An emotional quote speaks to concerns we are well aware of today:

"Before that the white people were going to built canal and our older people didn't want them to be built but they did anyway. The older people say it will dry up the Everglades and it wasn't good. That what happen. Today we have to buy bottle water to drink because of the fertilizer draining into the water. Today I think there law now to protection the Everglades from drying up. Back then you could see way off and nice breeze for the sail to travel with. Because of the drainage there are a lot of growth today.'

Photos from the museum's collection

an interview about his life. He was born can illustrate just what Mr. Motlow was talking about. Before Everglades drainage, the water was clean and plentiful. The land was not crowded with people. Animals and plants were healthy. This black and white photograph (at left) from the very early 20th century captured the environment like this. But the color aerial photograph of agricultural and water management areas (above) is the complete opposite of nature's harmony. It seems impossible to make this mosaic of industry back into something that would give Seminole people an ideal landscape.

Do you have thoughts on environmental change that you'd like to share? How has it affected you and your family? What you would like to see happen in your surrounding landscape. There's an opportunity for you to add your voice to the oral history collection so that current and future generations understand what life is like today, and what you remember about the past. If you'd like to be interviewed for the museum's oral history collection, please contact Jason Herbert, THPO ethnographer at jasonherbert@semtribe.com or Lois Billie, EOO administrative assistant, at 863-697-2835 to arrange a time to talk.

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum offers virtual visits

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BIG CYPRESS — The virtual doors are open at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.

Although the museum in Big Cypress has remained closed (as of press time) since March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all its permanent and temporary exhibits that showcase the Seminole Tribe's culture and history are available for anyone in the world with internet access to view.

The museum's 3D virtual tour launched June 25 at ahtahthiki.com.

"We are committed to staying engaged with our community and public during the pandemic crisis and this virtual tour is a chance for visitors near and far to get a glimpse into Seminole history and culture from the comfort of home. While it doesn't replace a visit out to Big Cypress, we hope this online experience will be a fun introduction to future visitors and provide a different perspective to those who have visited us before," said Kate Macuen, museum director.

Each stop on the tour provides opportunities to enjoy 360-degree views and the ability to tilt scenes up and down and zoom in and out. Essentially, you go where you want to go.

Take a stroll along the boardwalk through the cypress dome, get in the middle of the action in a stickball game or zoom into the powerful jaws of an alligator.

Some stops include clickable videos that enhance the experience. The theater item offers virtual visitors a chance to watch the 17-minute orientation film "We Seminoles" that is shown to visitors at the start of tours during normal operations.





Seminole camp life is on display for visitors to see as part of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's new virtual tour that launched June 25.

From the Land

journey include:

Harvests from the land and many parts of animals are used to supply food, clothing, and tools. When items could not be obtained from the Everglades, the Seminoles would trade with a handful of store (trading post) owners.

A sampling of exhibit highlights on the

The Camp

Under the chickee is a glimpse of traditional meal time, where multiple generations gathered around their food. The camp is characterized by numerous chickees, which in Miccosukee means house. In the center of the gallery, three women are busy around a fire preparing the daily meal. This fire, if properly tended to, could last for weeks. A family glides down a quiet stretch of river in their full size dugout canoe on their way to a trading post.

Mosaic Gallery: Ahfachkee Student Art Exhibit

In this selection of artwork, students used the basic elements of art repeating the likeness of the different artistic styles.

West Gallery: Alligator Wrestling

Explore the deep roots of the Seminole's relationship to alligators. Discover how alligator wrestling took hold and how it helps preserve culture and tradition today. Learn about the biology of an alligator through interactives and watch the incredible skill and techniques of alligator wrestlers on screen.

"Having a virtual tour is something we have talked about for years," said Carrie



Cookware is on display in an outdoor Seminole camp setting that viewers can see online.

Dilley, visitor services and development manager. "We understand that our location is a bit remote and not everyone can come visit us in person when we are open. This virtual tour immerses you in the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki experience no matter your location.

We really hope we are able to bring the Seminole story to the forefront, to plant a seed, so that people want to still visit us once we reopen and expand their knowledge even

Statue of Roosevelt to be removed

FROM CNN

A statue of President Theodore Roosevelt in front of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City will be removed, a statement from New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio's office said June 21.

Following the museum's request to remove the statue, which features the nation's 26th President on a horse with a Native American man standing on one side and an African man standing on the other, the mayor's office announced the approval.

The announcement comes as several state's grapple with how to handle removals of confederate monuments and other controversial statues.

'The American Museum of Natural History has asked to remove the Theodore Roosevelt statue because it explicitly depicts Black and Indigenous people as subjugated and racially inferior," de Blasio's office said in a statement to CNN. "The city supports the museum's request. It is the right decision and the right time to remove this problematic

While it was meant to celebrate Roosevelt as a "devoted naturalist and author of works on natural history," the statue also "communicates a racial hierarchy that the museum and members of the public have long found disturbing," a press release on the museum's website said.

No date has been set for the removal and the mayor's office is still working to determine next steps, a spokesperson for the mayor's office told CNN Sunday.

The statue, titled "Equestrian Statue of Theodore Roosevelt" was commissioned in 1925 and made its debut in 1940 as part of the state's larger memorial to Roosevelt, according to the museum.

"To understand the statue, we must recognize our country's enduring legacy of racial discrimination - as well as Roosevelt's troubling views on race," the press release said. "We must also acknowledge the museum's own imperfect history. Such an effort does not excuse the past but it can create a foundation for honest, respectful, open dialogue.'

Last week, in neighboring New Jersey, trustees at Monmouth University voted to remove President Woodrow Wilson's name from the campus's Great Hall.

"Wilson was a controversial politician, who never actually set foot in the current building," university president Patrick Leahy said in a statement to students on Juneteenth. Removing his name, and incorporating these earlier names, connects the centerpiece of our campus more accurately to our historical roots and eliminates a symbolic barrier to the important work of creating a truly welcoming and inclusive space in the Great Hall."

Join a journey on a canoe during the virtual visit.

Health *

Town hall discusses solutions as the pandemic exposes systemic issues on tribal lands

BY MARSHALL TERRILL **ASU Now**

COVID-19 has exacerbated infrastructure vulnerabilities in Indian Country and has brought attention to myriad issues that advocacy hasn't been able to, experts say.

Even though the Navajo Nation's highest per capita coronavirus infection rate has been getting the lion's share of attention in the media, the lack of infrastructure — especially broadband — impacts civic engagement, education, energy and health care delivery on U.S. reservations affected by the pandemic.

These were some of the discussions that took place June 19 in a virtual town hall hosted by Arizona State University's Marcus Denetdale, program manager for Construction in Indian Country.

"My condolences to those that are grieving because of the devastating impact that COVID-19 has had on our tribal communities," said Jacob Moore, associate vice president for tribal relations at ASU. "Our role at ASU is to not only help fulfill the immediate needs of these communities, but also to think about, 'What does recovery and renewal look like as we come out of our current state?"

The goal of the town hall and subsequent panel discussion was to bring together tribal and business leaders to discuss the economic outlook and address the current situation in Indian Country as they continue fight

Moore said ASU's response to tribal communities in need includes a variety of needs, such as providing COVID-19 test kits, testing research, medical and public health support, PPE supplies, chain supply management and monitoring wastewater.

"It's quite an honor to be affiliated with ASU and a president who recognizes the importance of our tribal nations and communities, not just here in Arizona, but

across the country," Moore said.

In addition to Moore, the panel also featured Jonathan Nez, president of the Navajo Nation; Traci Morris, executive director of ASU's American Indian Policy Institute; Brian Howard, research and policy analyst, American Indian Policy Institute; James Murphy, chief executive officer, Willmeng Construction; Larry Wright Jr., tribal chairman of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska; and Martin Harvier, president of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

While ASU's and others' efforts to help tribal communities have been exhaustive, the response simply isn't enough. That's because the needed infrastructure, especially when it comes to broadband and interconnectivity, is sorely lacking, according to Morris.

The internet is the underpinning of our lives," Morris said. "Everything depends on it, and we're very far behind in Indian Country. We need broadband for everything from telehealth to education to energy management. The digital divide is real, and there are multiple divides.'

To illustrate her point, Morris said last year the American Indian Policy Institute released a research paper titled "Tribal Technology Assessment: The State of Internet Service on Tribal Lands." Morris co-wrote the paper, which showed that many Native Americans on reservations do not have equal access to the internet and that most are using smartphones to go online at slower speed.

Morris said some of the major findings in the paper include:

• 18% of tribal reservation residents have no access to internet at home.

- 33% are relying on internet from a
- 31% of tribal reservation residents who do have internet said the service was

have 162,000-plus people living on tribal lands that either are underserved or unserved when it comes to telecommunications infrastructure needs,' Morris said. "It was stunning to me that it took a pandemic to draw attention to the fact ... of the digital divide." Toward this in April, the American Indian Policy Institute authored two policy briefs on the impacts of the digital divide on higher education on tribal reservations. The digital divide has also caused telecommunication problems with the delivery of online content to Native American students taking courses at ASU,

'We've been looking at ways that ASU's University Technology Office could support these issues, including providing Wi-Fi hot spot devices to ensure they can continue with their studies," Howard said. Additionally, the institute's briefs were used by the ASU Office of the President in working with Arizona congressional leaders to push for broadband funding in potentially forthcoming infrastructure packages serving

Wright said in addition to internet connectivity, infrastructure issues such as the lack of funding for road maintenance and health care facilities have created major headaches for his tribe and others in the Great Plains.

"A lot of our tribal nations are spread out over large areas, and in some cases, it's two to three hours of drive time to get to a health care facility," said Wright, whose tribal area covers 15 counties in Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota. "That gets even more compounded when roads and bridges are closed because of flooding from the past few years, making travel even more difficult."

Wright said the problem has been amplified because many Indian hospitals have either been shut down or are understaffed, which is why they've quarantined their elders and the tribe has declared a state of emergency this year.

"All of these things get exacerbated in a time like this when our health care crisis

is magnified," Wright said. "We have been grossly underfunded, and that impacts how we move forward."

Harvier said because many of his community are susceptible to diabetes and other underlying health issues, he has stressed taking extreme precautions. He added that his tribe is in an urban setting and borders cities such Scottsdale, Tempe and

"With the rise of numbers in the surrounding cities and in Arizona, ours (numbers of COVID-19 cases) have gone up also," Harvier said. "And if it starts getting into the community, it can really affect a large portion of our membership.

Harvier said COVID-19 has impacted the community's financial health as well. The tribe has had to shut down its two casinos, which employs hundreds of community members, Harvier said.

'Without any income being generated and coming in, a lot of tribes are looking at the CARES Act to fill some of those gaps to make sure everything is moving forward," Harvier said. "But now we're starting to see all the strings that are tied to it. There's some confusion how we can actually use those

Things are quite serious for the Navajo Nation, said Nez, who piped into the meeting from his car as he was conducting a food and supply distribution in Tuba City. He said they recently instituted another weekend curfew, their ninth consecutive.

Our numbers are going down, but we'll see what happens," Nez said, who also mandated wearing masks among tribal residents and has instituted "aggressive testing."

Nez said most construction and infrastructure projects on the Navajo Nation have been delayed, businesses have been forced to close and tourism has been completely halted due to the pandemic.

There is not even a gas pump that is open (during the curfew hours)," Nez said. "We're losing a lot of revenue, but hey, you gotta do what you gotta do to protect your

Nez added the pandemic has underscored the need for Native doctors, nurses, police officers and law enforcement, which is why he said he has set aside \$50 million in scholarships for professional development and building capacity.

"I think many of us tribal leaders want to grow our own," Nez said. "We want our own Navajo to be in these professions.

Morris said the role of ASU is not only to support tribal communities, but to be partners in creating the pipeline of youth going into a range of professions.

We strive to be part of the solution," Morris said.

This article is from Arizona State University's ASU Now.

CDC updates, expands list of people at risk of severe COVID-19 illness

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Based on a detailed review of available evidence to date, CDC has updated and expanded the list of who is at increased risk for getting severely ill from COVID-19.

Older adults and people with underlying medical conditions remain at increased risk for severe illness, but now CDC announced June 25 that it has further defined age- and condition-related risks.

As more information becomes available, it is clear that a substantial number of Americans are at increased risk of severe illness - highlighting the importance of continuing to follow preventive measures.

"Understanding who is most at risk for severe illness helps people make the best decisions for themselves, their families, and their communities," said CDC Director Robert Redfield MD. "While we are all at risk for COVID-19, we need to be aware of who is susceptible to severe complications so that we take appropriate measures to protect their health and well-being."

COVID-19 risk related to age

CDC has removed the specific age threshold from the older adult classification. CDC now warns that among adults, risk increases steadily as you age, and it's not just those over the age of 65 who are at increased risk for severe illness.

Recent data, including an MMWR published last week, has shown that the older people are, the higher their risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Age is an independent risk factor for severe illness, but risk in older adults is also in part related to the increased likelihood that older adults also have underlying medical conditions.

COVID-19 risk related to underlying medical conditions

CDC also updated the list of underlying medical conditions that increase risk of severe illness after reviewing published reports, pre-print studies, and various other data sources. CDC experts then determined if there was clear, mixed, or limited evidence that the condition increased a person's risk for severe illness, regardless of age.

There was consistent evidence (from

multiple small studies or a strong association from a large study) that specific conditions increase a person's risk of severe COVID-19

Chronic kidney disease COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary

Obesity (BMI of 30 or higher)

Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant

Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies

Sickle cell disease

Type 2 diabetes These changes increase the number of people who fall into higher risk groups. An estimated 60 percent of American adults have at least one chronic medical condition. Obesity is one of the most common underlying conditions that increases one's risk for severe illness - with about 40 percent of U.S. adults having obesity. The more underlying medical conditions people have, the higher their risk.

CDC also clarified the list of other conditions that might increase a person's risk of severe illness, including additions such as asthma, high blood pressure, neurologic conditions such as dementia, cerebrovascular disease such as stroke, and pregnancy. An MMWR published today further adds to the growing body of research on risk by comparing data on pregnant and nonpregnant women with laboratoryconfirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection. Pregnant women were significantly more likely to be hospitalized, admitted to the intensive care unit, and receive mechanical ventilation than nonpregnant women; however, pregnant women were not at greater risk for death from COVID-19.

Protecting yourself, your family, and

Every activity that involves contact with others has some degree of risk right now. Knowing if you are at increased risk for severe illness and understanding the risks associated with different activities of daily living can help you make informed decisions about which activities to resume and what level of risk you will accept. This information is especially critical as communities begin to

Americares delivers 20 tons of supplies for Native American communities hit hard by COVID-19

FROM PRESS RELEASE

STAMFORD, Conn. - Americares has delivered 20 tons of personal protective equipment, infection-control supplies and hygiene products for Native American communities devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

health-focused relief and development organization has sent 99,000 masks, 6,300 containers of hand sanitizer and thousands of other critically needed supplies to the Hopi Tribe and Navajo Nation. The shipments support frontline health workers as well as staff working in shelters and food pantries in Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico serving Native American populations.

The Navajo Nation has been especially hard hit by the pandemic, and in May surpassed New York and New Jersey for the highest per-capita coronavirus infection rate in the country. 'Native American communities have

been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19," said Americares Vice President of Emergency Programs Kate Dischino. "Responding to immediate needs in the most affected communities is essential to help slow the spread of the virus.

Case counts have risen in more than 20 states over the past 14 days, including Arizona and Nevada. Arizona has one of the highest numbers of patients hospitalized in the country with 1,992 people hospitalized as of Sunday.

We are very grateful to Americares for reaching out to the Hopi Tribe to provide PPE, hygiene products and supplies for our first responders and village members," said Hopi Tribal Chairman Tim Nuvangyaoma. "I can imagine that our Hopi-Tewa community members find some comfort with this donation since these types of supplies are in high demand and not readily available. We appreciate their unwavering support and acknowledge their sincere efforts to help protect our Hopi-Tewa people. We gladly embrace positive support for the Hopi Tribe. Our hats off to Americares, and their key staff for facilitating the contribution to our fight against COVID-19.

The emergency shipments are made possible, thanks in part, to the generosity of The 11th Hour Project, the grant-making arm of The Schmidt Family Foundation. In addition, many corporations donated products for the emergency shipments, including Clorox, Colgate-Palmolive, Henkel, Johnson & Johnson, Procter & Gamble, Sanofi and Welmed.

Americares is supporting the Hopi and Navajo communities directly, as well as through partnerships with Catholic Charities and The Salvation Army. Americares also consulted with the First Nations Development Institute and the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department to understand the unique needs of tribal communities.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Native Americans already had higher rates of infectious disease severity and death than any other population in the U.S., according to the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health. Worsening the situation, clean water for proper hand washing is not accessible in all tribal communities. Housing tends to be multi-generational, and therefore overcrowded, creating social distancing challenges. Native American populations are also at much higher risk for complications from COVID-19 as many adults suffer from diabetes, heart disease and other chronic

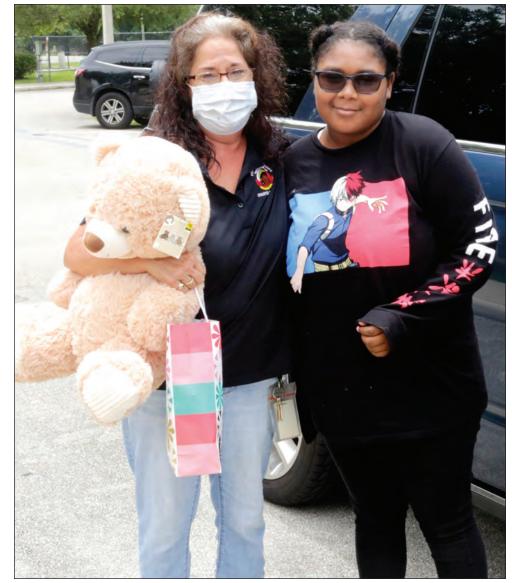
'Ninety percent of the people we serve are Native American and most live below the poverty line," said Vicki Trujillo, executive director of Catholic Charities in Gallup, N.M. "This donation from Americares will help families who do not have access to basic necessities, including running water or electricity in their homes.

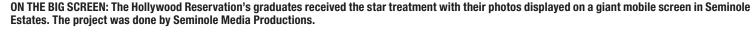
"Big-hearted community partners are critical in aiding our most vulnerable neighbors," said Lt. Colonel Kelly Pontsler, commander of The Salvation Army Southwest Division. "Love is kind, and the generosity of Americares embodies that kindness.

Americares is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in 13 countries. In the United States alone, Americares has delivered more than 120 tons of protective supplies, including gloves, masks, gowns and disinfectants. In addition, Americares is training thousands of health workers in infection prevention and control, disaster preparedness and mental health and psychosocial support. Americares is also continuing to care for patients at its primary care clinics in Colombia, Connecticut, El Salvador and India, including referring patients with suspected COVID-19 infections for testing.



SEMINOLE SCENES *







SHOWING THANKS: In a display of appreciation, Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School 8th-grade graduate Tierra Gardner, right, shows her thanks to PECS guidance counselor Jeanine Gran by giving her a giant stuffed animal and other gifts during the Brighton Council Office's graduation recognition event at the school June 5.



TESTING: Coronavirus test sites for Tribal members and other Seminole community members were set up in Hollywood at the Fire Rescue station (sign above), Brighton Fire Rescue station, Big Cypress aviation hanger and Immokalee Community Center. For more information contact Health & Human Services.



MEANINGFUL MASK: The mask of 2020 Okeechobee High School graduate Ozzy Osceola was made by his mother and recognizes Ozzy's Seminole and Mexican heritage. It also includes a nod to baseball, which he played for four years at OHS and plans to play at South Florida State College in Avon Park.

Seminole Scenes Rewind: Tribune photos from the past - Signs











NATIONAL NATIVE NEWS

Scholar wins Best First Book in **Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize**

HONOLULU, Hawaii — Dr. Noelani Arista, an associate professor of Hawaiian and US history at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, won the Best First Book in Native American and Indigenous Studies Prize for her book "The Kingdom and the Republic: Sovereign Hawai'i and the Early United States" (University of Pennsylvania Press).

Dr. Arista used extensive archives written in Hawaiian — the largest Indigenous archives in the world — to detail the political deliberations ali'i made when they encountered Americans and Europeans in the 19th century, creating a much more nuanced and historically complete picture of that period of history.

The prize committee wrote: "A rich history that draws extensively on previously on previously unused Hawaiian language sources and the interpretation of cultural modes of political and legal speech. Arista offers a compelling new story of how Native Hawaiians exerted political influence and indigenous law in the nineteenth century in response to colonial missions and markets. The book's insistence on Hawaiian language archives and nuanced interpretations of political speech and gesture by both Native Hawaiians and colonial figures stands as a significant contribution to historical scholarship.'

- KHON (Honolulu, Hawaii)

Alaska Gov. signs agreement returning Alaska Native land, including historic cemetery, to tribe

ANCHORAGE, Alaska state of Alaska will return a historic Native cemetery and portions of a traditional townsite to the Gulkana tribal government under a new agreement signed by Gov. Mike Dunleavy on June 10.

The agreement will resolve several issues between Alaska's state government and the Gulkana Village Council, a federally recognized tribe north of Glennallen. The tribe has petitioned the state for decades to resolve the issue.

Gulkana's traditional townsite and part of its cemetery were seized by the Alaska Road Commission in 1943 during efforts to improve the Richardson Highway. In the 1970s, the federal government transferred unused land to the state, which intended additional road work.

State officials said they needed to preserve the highway and protect public access to the Gulkana River. A parking lot and boat ramp now occupy part of the

Former Gov. Bill Walker said he would return the cemetery and portions of the townsite to the tribe, but access disputes over a separate road meant that didn't happen before he left office in 2018.

The agreement approved by Dunleavy calls for regional Native corporation Ahtna Inc. to pay the state \$300,000. The state will build a new boat ramp and parking lot by 2023, and public access to the existing boat launch will remain in place temporarily until the new facility is finished.

- Anchorage Daily News

'She needs to be returned home' say Lummi tribal members renewing push to free orca

The two Lummi Nation tribal members who have said they will sue to free an orca from the Miami Seaquarium and bring her home to the Salish Sea announced they now have legal representation from Earth Law

Raynell Morris and Ellie Kinley announced their intent to sue last July.

On June 10, they said during a virtual news conference that Earth Law Center will join them in their renewed effort, which is supported by the tribe, to push for the release of the orca the Lummi Nation has renamed Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut.

You might ask why two individuals are doing this. We're doing it because it's the right thing to do. No one should have to spend 50 years in captivity," Kinley said during the news conference.

'She was taken when she was 3 years old," she said. "She's been in that tank for 50 years. We feel it's enough. She needs to be returned home to the waters that her family

Earth Law Center is still developing a strategy and hasn't filed a lawsuit, Michelle Bender, its ocean rights manager, told The Bellingham Herald.

The Miami Seaquarium calls the orca Lolita, which the Lummi refer to as her stage name. Tribal members also called her

Tokitae before renaming her last summer. Lummi Nation has said that returning the killer whale to the Puget Sound waters she was taken from - near Penn Cove -

was a sacred obligation. Her 1970 capture was part of a roundup

of killer whales off Puget Sound, according to a March 13, 2018, article in The Miami Herald, which noted that she is the lone survivor of the 50-plus whales caught on Aug. 8, 1970.

Lolita has been at the Seaquarium since 1970, where she is the star attraction.

The Seaquarium has refused to release the orca, and previous public campaigns and a lawsuit to force it to do so have failed. It didn't respond to a Bellingham Herald request for comment.

The orca Sk'aliCh'elh-tenaut is a member of Sk'aliCh'elh, which is an ancestral name that the Lummi Nation gave to the endangered southern resident killer

whales last summer.

Sk'aliCh'elh is the ancestral name for Penn Cove area, the tribe said then, and the name affirmed the J, K and L orea pods as members of the Lummi family.

"The Lummi people are bound by culture and kinship ties to Sk'aliCh'elh, and have been in a reciprocal relationship with them since time immemorial," according to a release announcing the partnership with Earth Law Center, which is providing its services without charge.

Bender said Earth Law Center will look at the notice of intent to sue filed by the two Lummi women in July 2019 and build on

Bender, who is a Western Washington University alum, said legal justifications Earth Law Center could emphasize include:

• The orca must be released and returned under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, which formed the basis of the two tribal members' notice in July.

"NAGPRA requires certain institutions to return Native American 'cultural items' to culturally affiliated Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations," Bender said. "And we believe NAGPRA mandates the return of Tokitae, who is sacred to the Lummi and has historical and cultural importance central to the Lummi People, as they consider orcas relatives and even refer to themselves as People of the Sea.'

Lummi tribal members have referred to orcas as qwe'lhol'mechen, which means "our relations under the water."

 A new approach called rights of nature that could be applied for the first time in the ongoing effort to have the Seaquarium release the killer whale.

The argument would be: "That orcas, as living beings, and Tokitae in particular, have inherent rights that we must respect, which is a reality that the Lummi People have already recognized," Bender said in an email to The Bellingham Herald.

"There is a growing global movement to recognize the rights of nature, which many believe is necessary to reverse the global environmental crisis. Our current approach of treating nature as mere property or an economic commodity has put the planet on the brink of collapse," she added.

"Rights of nature is emerging in the form of constitutional amendments, law and policies, judicial decisions and treaty agreements in over 20 countries. This is a powerful tool with precedent that has yet to be tried to free Tokitae."

- The Bellingham (Washington) Herald

Dartmouth to remove weather vane depicting Native American

HANOVER, N.H. — Dartmouth College said June 15 it will replace a decadesold copper weather vane affixed to the library tower, citing its offensive depiction of Native Americans.

The announcement follows a Change.org petition that had collected 625 names calling for the removal of the weather vane.

The weather vane depicts the college founder, Eleazar Wheelock, on a tree stump speaking to a Native American man sitting on the ground, wearing head feathers and clutching a long pipe. A spruce tree and barrel of rum are behind Wheelock.

"It is clear that the images portrayed on the weather vane do not reflect Dartmouth's values," President Philip Hanlon said in a statement published June 15 by Dartmouth

The weather vane has been on the tower since its construction in 1928. A design contest resulted in the 600-pound, 7-foot weather vane, which stands 200 feet above campus on the Baker Library tower.

College officials will consider a new design for the weather vane and other college

They will make recommendations to

Hanlon. The Change.org petition was launched in

late May. The barrel of rum is a reference to the

use of alcohol to steal native lands and found Dartmouth, the petition claims.

"The weather vane is a sad relic of white oppression that is allowed to remain on campus as though it had a historical value simply because it has been there so long in such a prominent position of respect," the petition reads.

- Union Leader (Manchester, N.H.)

California's only Native American lawmaker says removal of Columbus statue not enough

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Christopher Columbus statue will be removed from the Capitol rotunda after a growing call to have controversial historical figures taken down.

We are seeing a resurgence of issues that we have been trying to fight for since the '70s," said Assemblymember James Ramos (D-San Bernadino).

As race relations are in the spotlight, Ramos, California's first and only Native American lawmaker, hopes the call to remove some controversial historical statues is just the beginning.

Taking down the monuments are not enough if we are not going to start to change the education process and the thought process of the people in California," he said.

Ramos's comments come after the State Legislature jointly decided to remove the Christopher Columbus statue from the capitol, describing Columbus as a "polarizing figure."

In a joint statement, the legislature explained the reason for the statue's removal: "Christopher Columbus is a deeply

polarizing historical figure given the deadly impact his arrival in this hemisphere had on indigenous populations. The continued presence of this statue in California's Capitol, where it has been since 1883, is completely out of place today. It will be removed.

Ramos believes there is a more destructive symbol of oppression just feet away in the Capitol garden.

"Junípero Serra and the missionary system came in and really annihilated California Indian tribes and there is a lot more history tied to that and the correct history that needs to be taught," Ramos said.

Christopher Columbus will be the second statue taken down in the area. On June 15, the John Sutter statue was taken down at Sutter Hospital.

Former Republican congressman, Doug Ose, is concerned with what message removing historical statues across the nation "If these individuals engaged in good

or bad behavior, the answer is not to erase them. The answer is to say to the viewer 'this is the good stuff that they did and this is the stuff that we don't like that they did," he Ose does not have a problem with the

removal in the Capitol, saying that it is lawmakers' right to choose what statues are inside the capitol. However, he believes it highlights a larger issue.

"Educate the viewers of these statues of who these people were. Let's tell the good and the bad and let somebody make their own mind up, you can't erase your history, you simply cannot do that," Ose said.

For Ramos, the issue goes much deeper. The lawmaker is currently working on legislation to protect Native American artifacts and remains.

"We need to make sure repatriation continues to be paid forward," he said.

- CBS Sacramento

Judge orders Mnuchin to give **Native American tribes full stimulus** funding

A federal judge is once again ordering Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to release the full amount of stimulus funding Congress set aside for Native American

A decision June 16 from U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta was particularly critical of Mnuchin's decision to hold back \$679 million in funding set aside for tribes while waiting on a decision in another case that will determine whether tribal businesses are eligible for the funding.

"The Secretary has now taken more than twice as much time as Congress directed to distribute all CARES Act funds," Mehta wrote, referring to the \$2.2 trillion March legislation that sets aside \$8 billion for tribal governments.

"The 80 days they have waited, when Congress intended receipt of emergency funds in less than half that time, is long

The Treasury Department did not respond to request for comment.

"Sovereign Nations shouldn't have to fight for money that Congress approves, ever It's shameful that a judge has to force the Treasury to do their job," Rep. Deb Haaland (D-N.M.), co-chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus, said on Twitter.

Tribes have waged a months-long battle to gain access to the funds set aside by Congress. It wasn't until May that Treasury announced it would begin releasing the first 60 percent of CARES funding, following a decision just a week prior from Mehta blocking the department from giving the funds to Native-owned corporations in Alaska.

Mehta's decision blocked so-called Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs), which have vast land holdings and secure significant profits from timber and oil sales, from receiving funds, as they are not government entities. A form from the Department of the Interior included space for ANCs to apply for the funding.

ANCs have appealed and the case is still working its way through court, but Mehta said Mnuchin has not been directed to reserve any funding for them.

"That amount is being withheld of the Secretary's own accord," Mehta wrote. "The Secretary's withholding of \$672 million 'to resolve any potentially adverse decision in litigation' ... simply cannot be justified."

en. Tom Udall (D-N.M.), vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, accused the Trump administration of having "dawdled with this funding" while Native American communities are ravaged by the effects of the coronavirus.

"The Trump Treasury Department has inexcusably dragged its feet in getting this urgent money, which Congress specifically provided for Tribal governments, out the door. The Trump Administration has come up with excuse after excuse for its baseless delay. But now that the Court has weighed in unequivocally, there can be no more excuses," Udall said in a statement.

- The Hill

'A very powerful moment in our history': Southern First Nations take greater control over health care

MANITOBA, Canada — First Nations in southern Manitoba will take greater control over their healthcare services as part of a new agreement with the federal government.

Southern Chiefs' Organization Grand Chief Jerry Daniels and Pine Creek First Nation Chief Karen Batson signed the memorandum of understanding, which

outlines principles of equitable and culturally appropriate health care for the 34 First Nations represented by the organization.

Daniels said the moment signified move toward closing gaps in health outcomes for First Nations in the province.

'This is a very powerful moment in our history," he said at a news conference June

"There will be long days ahead, and it will take all of us to work together to make change happen."

Federal Indigenous Services Minister Marc Miller, who joined virtually from Ottawa to sign the document, said Canada has spent more than \$71 million over the past three years in First Nations-led healthcare initiatives.

Of that money, \$43 million was spent in Manitoba and \$5.1 million went toward supporting the Southern Chiefs' Organization, he said. Miller said that includes \$600,000 that came from this fiscal year's health services integration fund, which support projects aimed at meeting the health-care needs of First Nations and Inuit.

With this funding, you will be able to continue to advance your work on health transformation in Manitoba according to your priorities and according to your needs," Miller said.

Miller said the path forward needs to include high-quality, culturally safe health systems designed by First Nations that are more accessible for people living in First Nations communities.

He said the agreement reflects the federal government and the Southern Chief's Organization's shared vision and commitment to working collaboratively to address gaps in healthcare for First Nations people.

"Those gaps need to close," he said. "We cannot shy away from that."

The initiative will create a new First health governance structure accountable to First Nation communities. the Southern Chiefs' Organization wrote in a news release on June 18. The model will be led by the community and will cover physical, spiritual, mental, economic, environmental, social and cultural wellness, it said.

- CBC News

Federal Judge rules in favor of **Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**

A federal judge ruled in favor of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe on June 5 in litigation brought against the Trump Administration's Department of the Interior

The ruling from the Washington, DC, district court found that the department's 2018 decision that the tribe did not qualify as "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934 for purposes of the Indian Reorganization Act was "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion and contrary to law."

The judge, Paul L. Friedman, ordered that the department maintain the reservation status of the tribe's 321 acres of land until the department issues a new decision on remand over whether the tribe qualified as "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934.

A March order by the Interior Department to disestablish the tribe's reservation land in Mashpee and Taunton had been held up by the Washington, DC, litigation. Judge Friedman's decision came on the last day of an agreed-upon 45-day halt to the order.

Today, the DC District Court righted what would have been a terrible and historic injustice by finding that the Department of the Interior broke the law in attempting to take our land out of trust," said Cedric Cromwell, chairman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council.

While we are pleased with the court's findings, our work is not done," the chairman's statement said. "We will continue to work with the Department of the Interior—and fight them if necessary—to ensure our land remains in trust.'

The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 lays out the rules for establishing reservation

A 2009 Supreme Court decision, known as the Carcieri decision, found that the word "now" in the act's first definition of "Indian" meant "in 1934." Therefore, to qualify for reservation lands, tribes must be considered "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934.

The 2018 decision that the tribe did not qualify as "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934 applied a two-part test known as the M-Opinion used to interpret the phrase "under federal jurisdiction."

Judge Friedman said in his opinion and order that the Secretary of the Interior in the 2018 decision "did not evaluate the evidence in accordance with the directives of the M-Opinion."

Before the 2018 decision, the tribe filed hundreds of pages of evidence to support that they had been "under federal jurisdiction" in

The M-Opinion states that "some federal actions may in and of themselves demonstrate that a tribe was, at some identifiable point or period in its history, under federal jurisdiction," while "in other cases, a variety of actions when viewed in concert may demonstrate that a tribe was under federal jurisdiction.'

"The Secretary misapplied the M-Opinion by evaluating each piece of evidence in isolation," Judge Friedman said.

The evidence includes federal census rolls from 1880, 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920 and 1930 that list tribal members as Indians, various federal reports and evidence that the tribal members attended the federally run

Carlisle Indian School. 'The conclusions about each piece of evidence evaluated in the 2018 [decision] show that the Secretary evaluated each piece of evidence in isolation," Judge Friedman

The 2018 decision dismissed a federal report known as the Morse Report as insufficient "without more," discounted the evidence of Mashpee students at the Carlisle School as not sufficient "in isolation" and discounted the census roll evidence as being inconclusive "in and of itself."

The judge further said that the Interior Department mischaracterized the Morse Report, a report from the 1820s that recommended the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe not be removed from their lands and sent westward.

"The Court finds the Secretary's description of the Morse Report as merely being a passive 'compilation of general information about tribes' is a mischaracterization that minimized the record evidence without adequate explanation," Judge Friedman said.

"The includes Morse Report recommendations that the Mashpee Tribe not be removed from their land and sent west," the judge said. "The making of a recommendation is, in and of itself, an action.'

Judge Friedman ordered that when the Interior Department reviews the tribe's qualifications as "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934 on remand that the department must view the evidence "in concert."

Though the Interior Department in March replaced the M-Opinion with new guidance for interpreting the phrase "under federal jurisdiction," the remand decision must remain based on the M-Opinion, the judge said.

The Interior Department stated in briefs and in oral arguments before the court that the new guidance streamlined the M-Opinion but did not change the analysis for interpreting "under federal jurisdiction."

"The court disagrees that the newly issued guidance does not change the 'under federal iurisdiction' analysis." Judge Friedman said. "The new test does not allow some types of evidence that the 2014 test permitted.'

The tribe argued in briefs that 2018 decision that the tribe was not "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934 implicitly applied the new analysis rather than the M-Opinion.

"The similarities between the secretary's reasons for discounting the Mashpee Tribe's evidence and the new 2020 standards are stark," Judge Friedman said. "The court does not need to opine as to whether the secretary was actually applying this new 2020 guidance, however."

The Tribe has yet to receive an appropriate determination under the twopart test that the department said it was applying," Judge Friedman said. "The court hereby directs the department to apply the two-part test in [the M-Opinion]—correctly this time—on remand."

- CapeNews.Net

Lake Powell pipeline will 'make the river angry,' Southern Paiutes warn as feds release analysis

Any potential alignment of the Lake Powell pipeline would pass through lands that hold spiritual and cultural significance to Southern Paintes, who fear the project would jeopardize their culture and upset the balance of nature.

One alternative route passes through Arizona's Kaibab Indian Reservation and the other, preferred by the water project's Utah proponents, skirts the reservation around its southern borders by following an existing utility corridor.

According to documents released June as part of the pipeline's long-awaited environmental analysis, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians sees significant problems not only with both alignments, but also with the entire project sought by Utah water officials to divert some of the Colorado River to feed the St. George area's growing demand.

The tribe's filings are attached as supplements to a draft environmental impact statement prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in coordination with several other federal agencies. These documents speak to the reverence Native Americans hold for elements of nature.

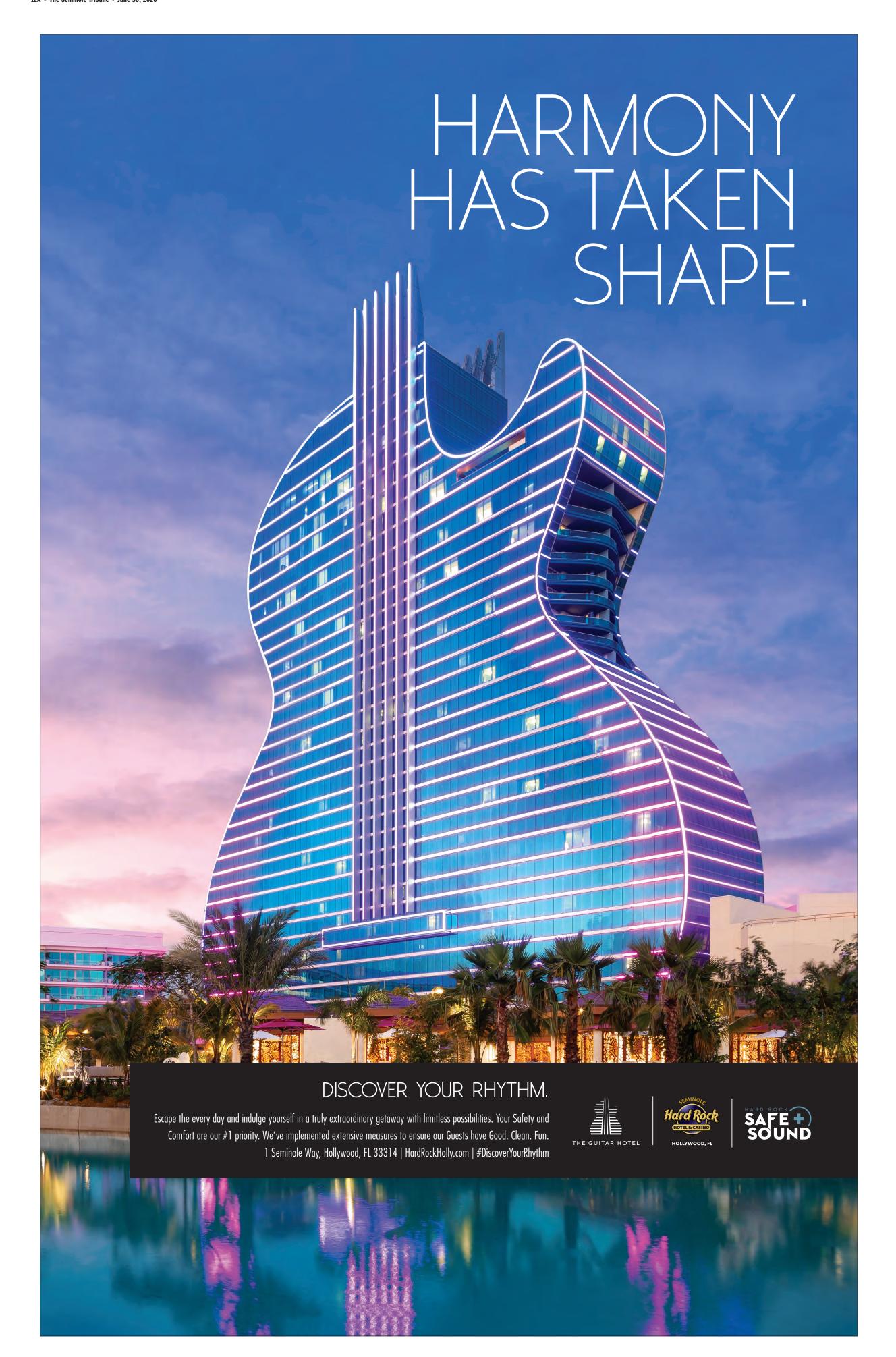
"Among these are the Colorado River, the veins of Mother Earth moving the essential element water. At creation, the Colorado River's place and purpose was defined. The [Lake Powell pipeline] project proposes to remove the Colorado River from its appropriate place and to move it elsewhere to be used in different ways," tribal officials wrote in one filing titled "Environmental Justice." "This action will make the river angry and confused, the results of which are unknown but clearly a source of imbalance in the world.'

Utah has a legal right to some of the Colorado's flow and intends to put 6% of its share to use by piping it across northern Arizona and southern Utah for use in Washington County, whose population is expected to more than double by 2060 to nearly half a million.

The Washington County Conservancy District and the Utah Division of Water Resources have spent 12 years and \$35 million designing and studying the proposed 140-mile-long pipeline, which would move up to 86,000 acre-feet of water a year through a 69-inch-diameter buried steel pipe.

The release of the EIS is an important milestone in the controversial project, opening a public comment period through Sept. 8.

- The Salt Lake (Utah) Tribune



Education



Hollywood honors its 2020 graduates

BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor

HOLLYWOOD — This year's group of high school graduates from the Hollywood Reservation is going places, and in some cases, far away places.

For example, Cachalani Frank is headed to the base of the Rocky Mountains where she'll attend Colorado State University. New York's upstate region is the next stop for two grads. Chandler DeMayo will attend Wells College in Aurora, N.Y. and Alycia Cypress is headed to Syracuse University.

For some, staying within Florida's borders doesn't mean staying close to home. Krishawn Henry will be a Florida State Seminole in Tallahassee. Destiny Diaz is bound for Lakeland's Southeastern University. Tiana Stubbs will attend Hillsborough Community College in Tampa while her sister December will be in Jacksonville at the University of North Florida, and her cousin Jessalyn Osceola will be at Jacksonville University.

Those remaining closer to home include Italia Sisto (Johnson & Wales) and Chasyn Yescas (Miami-Dade College).

Before they depart for their next level of education -- whether far or nearby --Hollywood's graduates were recognized for their hard work and accomplishments by the Hollywood Council Office, which provided gifts June 18 at the Classic Gym.

Normally, graduates are treated to a banquet with dinner and music, but the Covid-19 pandemic prevented a larger gathering from taking place.

"We're used to doing banquets for these kids, so I kind of felt they got the short end of the stick when it came to graduation stuff, but it will help them grow and become stronger people," said Councilman Chris Osceola, who greeted each graduate and had photos taken by Robert Kippenberger that were given to the students before they left.

Councilman Osceola said he hopes the graduates learn from the current health crisis about overcoming obstacles.

"My message to them would be this is one of life's many challenges, and here you are, fresh out of high school and you're already going through something that is very challenging and trying, not just for our families and the Seminole Tribe, but for the whole world, and you're only 18 years old," he said.

He urged the graduates to have fun, but also make good decisions.

"I'd like a lot of these kids to come back and help the Tribe move forward," he said.

"They are the future of this Tribe."



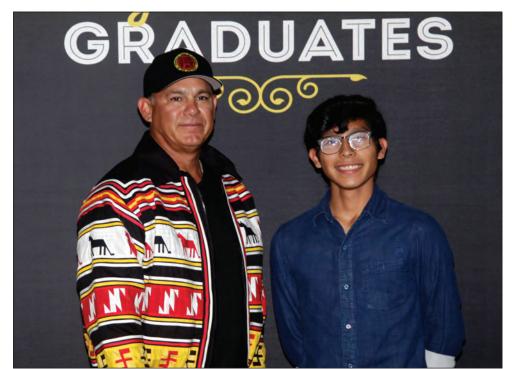
Hollywood Coucilman Chris Osceola shakes hands with NSU University School graduate Chandler DeMayo during a graduation appreciation event for the reservation's 2020 graduates. The event was hosted by the Hollywood Council Office on June 18 at the Classic Gym.



Calvary Christian Academy graduate Italia Sisto, left, and University School graduate Destiny Diaz were among the graduates honored at the event.



From left, NSU University graduate Jessalyn Osceola and American Heritage School graduates Tiana Stubbs and December Stubbs enjoy their moment in the spotlight at the graduation event.



Hollywood Councilman Chris Osceola congratulates Chasyn Yescas, who graduated from Fork Union Military Academy in Virginia.

Working hard behind the camera puts Alycia Cypress ahead of the game

BY SALLIE JAMES Freelance Writer

She was the kid with the long black hair and huge camera lens who relentlessly prowled the sidelines of American Heritage's sports fields as she worked to capture the defining moments of the game.

"Using a camera to tell a story was the thing I needed to save myself," American Heritage senior Alycia Cypress wrote in a personal statement about her love of photography.

Now the graduating senior and member of the Seminole Tribe is heading to Syracuse University, where she plans to study broadcast journalism at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. She dreams of becoming a sportscaster for ESPN after her love for visual storytelling blossomed on high school ball fields of Plantation.

"I was always trying to take the opportunities that I had. And I fell in love the first time I stepped on the field," said the 17-year-old from Weston. Once, her concentration was so focused she was toppled by charging football players because she didn't realize the action was heading her

"It was terrifying. I saw my life flash before my eyes," giggled Cypress, who routinely toted her Nikon D750 equipped with a 500 mm lens around campus.

Football games were on Fridays for six hours and baseball games were on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at five hours each. And that wasn't all.

"I would go to a swim meet and she would be at the swim meet. I don't know how she juggled it all," said Karen Stearns, athletic director for American Heritage of Plantation. "She just made sure she was covering everybody. And not because it was expected. That was on her heart. She would say, 'I want to cover whatever I can,' and she

Cypress also served as American Heritage's wrestling manager, tallying scores, shooting photos and videos and cooking "lots of food" for the wrestling team. She became a fixture at school sporting

"I don't know how she found the time. She had a tough academic schedule. And literally she was involved in everything," Stearns said. "I constantly would see her at all athletic venues. She would then go home and process her pictures and post them. It's not as if it was demanded of her to do it. Her shoes are going to be very hard to fill."

When former NBA star Dwyane Wade showed up at American Heritage to watch his son play, Cypress finagled an interview. Her student advisor Donovan Campbell, a sportscaster at WSVN, got her the "in" with

"I asked him, 'How does it feel to watch your son play his first home game at Heritage, and if it reminded him of his younger days. He said it was great to see his son coming into his own range," Cypress recalled.

Another time she interviewed New England Patriots running back Sony Michel, an American Heritage alumni.

Cypress earned community service hours for her time but she was really there to make photos and highlight student athletes. Her photography has been featured in USA Today and a New York art gallery. She's also won numerous Florida Scholastic Press Association awards for videography.

Her extensive experience shooting high school sports, her determination to learn and her understanding of the games set her apart, Campbell said.

'She had this spirit about her that was different. She was a female photographer going to every football game and every baseball game and this wasn't even required of her. She was doing this of her own time," Campbell said. "She's a super hard worker. Some of her work is better than the stuff we

While photography is something she likes, video storytelling is what she loves.

Cypress became enamored with videography in eighth grade after winning a national film-making competition in Atlanta, Georgia. She realized then it was the medium that she wanted to pursue.

"We had to make a film in eight hours and we competed against thousands of other students," she said. "A lot of the other groups were made of like 30 kids. In my group we had four. It was pretty crazy.'

She studied broadcast for four years at American Heritage and began shooting sports freshman year after the executive director of the school's broadcast crew

invited her to give it a try. "I just kind of went for it. It's hard, especially if you don't know the sport," she acknowledged. "I would be on the field and



While covering an event for her school media, Alycia Cypress interviewed former NBA star Dwayne Wade at American Heritage School in Plantation.

there would be younger kids who didn't know the sport and they didn't know what to shoot. If the football team is on offense, they would start going the other way.'

Cypress understood sports because she grew up watching it on TV with her family. "My dad has always kind of instilled sports with me. We would watch SportsCenter and ESPN from a young age.

We were always a sports family," she said. Cypress hopes to do photography as a side hobby in college while focusing on video storytelling in school. She wants to work for ESPN, creating short documentaries and stories about athletes' lives.

She also hopes to use the broadcast platform as a means to tell stories of the Seminoles. If she becomes a broadcast journalist, she knows her presence will shine a light on her culture.

"It's really fun to be able to go out there and tell stories of my own people," she said. "I created a documentary for National History Day, a 10-minute documentary on Seminole culture and Seminole history. It gives people another point of view and perspective that they may not have thought of and I find that to be really cool."

Said Stearns about Cypress: "Oh my goodness she is incredible. She really is she is very, very special. She is very passionate, she is very driven. She is nonstop. She is going to be very missed by us."

Sallie James is a freelance writer who has been a reporter for newspapers such as *The Palm Beach Post and Sun-Sentinel.*

USF course delves into Egmont Key

BY AARON TOMMIE **STOF Executive Management Trainee**

The University of South Florida's recently offered a month-long online course that included research from the Seminole Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) with Egmont Key as the focal point. Offered through USF's Patel College of Sustainability, its purpose is to help students assess sustainability and heritage-at-risk locations through the use of visualization technologies.

"Our mission is to advance digitally-driven research in STEM fields, arts, and humanity," said Dr. Laura Harrison, one of the course's two instructors from the University of South Florida. "One of the areas that's left out is the connection between heritage sites and contemporary studies."

The course, titled "Applied Heritage and Sustainability Research," took place from May 11 to June 5 through a hybrid of live and recorded class sessions. Harrison is the director of Access 3D Lab, an onsite facility that uses advanced technology for research. Dr. Brooke Hansen, the university's director of Sustainable Tourism, has been part of sustainability research projects involved

with the City of Tarpon Springs and Egmont

Egmont Key is an island located at the mouth of Tampa Bay just off the coasts of St. Petersburg and Bradenton. It is home to the Egmont Key State Park and the Egmont Key Wildlife Refuge. Built in 1858, the Egmont Key Lighthouse is still active and is the region's oldest structure. In the early 1760s, Egmont Key was named after John Perceval who was the Earl of Egmont. In 1898, Fort Dade was built to protect the United States from potential Spanish invasions during the Spanish-American War. In 1910, the island was a small town with several hundred residents.

During the Seminole Wars, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced Native Americans west. In the 1850s, Egmont Key was an internment camp for Seminoles. In 1858, Polly Parker was one of the island's 160 imprisoned Seminoles who boarded the steamer Grey Cloud. There is documentation that there were Seminoles who died while in captivity. These historical accounts vastly differ from those usually taught in academia, which played a part in helping develop the

"We want to go the full-on interpretation about many aspects of the island because there are lots of other histories that aren't told either, but the Seminole one is so engaging and so symbolic of the injustices against

Native people in US history," Hansen said.

The University of South Florida conducted workshops with sustainability efforts that included trips to Egmont Key with employees from the THPO. These workshops developed the Applied Heritage and Sustainability Research course. It was stated that multiple students' extent of their knowledge of Native American history was limited to the Trail of Tears. This course helped them learn more about the plight of Native Americans.

"This class is really like the first time that I'm really learning so much about the history here," said Shannon Ward, a student who grew up in Canada.

The course has learning objectives that include working with archaeological sites, professional development opportunities and the use of visualization and mapping applications. The course's assignments are comprised of an analytic memo, drafting a sustainable tourism development plan and designating Egmont Key as a World Heritage Site.

Part of the course's readings includes an excerpt from "Egmont Key: A Seminole

University of South Florida instructors Dr. Brooke Hansen and Dr. Laura Harrison joined THPO Research Coordinator David Scheidecker and others on an excursion at Egmont Key.

Story," a booklet that has input from Tribal members and the THPO's research. Dr. Hansen, who has worked with tribes in New York, was very optimistic about what the course can become in the future. Her desire is to have more Tribal members be part of it. Dr. Paul Backhouse, senior director of the Seminole Tribe's Heritage and Environment Resource Office, shared her sentiments.

"We want Egmont Key to be known," Backhouse said. "It has been a great experience to see this happen."

PARADE From page 1A

The former Florida Atlantic University football player from Big Cypress provided an example of where to set priorities.

"I find if you keep your priorities simple, that's the best. My priorities are faith, family and my community," he said.

He added that the graduates shouldn't allow their boundaries to be set by others, and even in tough times – such as the pandemic – he encouraged the students to try to find joy in each day.

"In the days that have passed, we've all been kind of stuck at home or we couldn't go where we wanted to – the normal things – so finding joy might not seem so easy, but maybe you found some new sources of joy,' he said.

Alvarado provided a final farewell for the evening, which included an address to her 2020 Ahfachkee classmates, whose last few months as high school students were spent online due to the pandemic.

"Today we celebrate together, not as we dreamed of, to say goodbyes under very unique circumstances which none of us could have ever prepared for. However, this is not our final goodbyes, for the best is yet to come," said Alvarado, who was accompanied by salutatorian Leilani Gopher.

Alvarado thanked Ahfachkee "for the academic foundation I have received" and praised the school's staff.

"We thank you for being such an instrumental part in our academic journey, a journey which will impact us for years to come," she said.

In conclusion, Alvarado encouraged her classmates to continue their good work.

"My classmates, I urge you to be a role model and an example for our future graduates," she said. "Keep fighting to do the best you can do.

"We've accomplished one of the many milestones in life, and it does not stop here.



Ahfachkee Valedictorian Priscilla Alvarado, left, and Salutatorian Leilani Gopher participate in the Big Cypress Council Office's graduation celebration June 9.





Calvary Christian School graduate Abigail Tigertail, sitting in back, receives plenty of joyous support along the graduation celebration parade route.



Kevin Johnson

Kevin Johnson

President Mitchell Cypress addresses the 2020 graduates.



Jarrid Smith, who recently earned a master's degree from Nova Southeastern University, serves as the guest speaker at the celebration.



A lengthy line of cars travel on Josie Billie Highway during the graduation celebration parade.







Ahfachkee School graduate Alena Stockton gets a front row ride during a graduation parade for 2020 graduates from the Big Cypress and Immokalee Clewiston High School graduate Tash Jumper reservations in Big Cypress. Stockton will attend Florida SouthWestern State College, where she'll play basketball. participates in the graduation celebration

Brighton Reservation celebrates its graduates

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BRIGHTON — The Covid-19 pandemic altered or canceled traditional spring rituals for students throughout the country, but it didn't lessen the Brighton Reservation's appreciation for its new graduates.

This year's college, high school and middle school graduates from the reservation were honored by the Brighton Council Office on June 5 at the front of the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School. It was an opportunity to end the school year – one which has been unique for everyone – on an

Arrivals were spread out through the morning and early afternoon amid plenty of safety precautions. Students were required to sanitize their hands upon arrival and departure. They also had to wear gloves and face coverings. Each graduate received gifts from the Council Office. Photographer Robert Kippenberger took photos of the grads with Brighton Councilman Larry Howard in front of a colorful display of balloons. For the middle school grads, the photo-op also included PECS administrative assistant Michele Thomas. Some high school students wore their graduation outfits, or at least caps.

We have an opportunity to appreciate these kids that are moving up in life," Councilman Howard said. "This year's class in Brighton, we probably have the most graduates we've ever had, which speaks volumes.

More than 30 students stopped by for the honors, including college grads, those heading into high school, college or the military, and those moving on to other educational or job-related endeavors. Councilman Howard described the students as "the future of the Tribe." He wants them to be successful in their pursuits.

"I encourage them always to go on and get a higher education more than just a high school diploma," he said. "I hope they go out and pursue a career and be able to do things for themselves and their family and

A sampling of some of the high school graduates' next stops include: Clarks Summit University (Kaleb Thomas), Dental Assisting Academy of the Palm Beaches (Brienna Brockman), Haskell Indian Nations University (Justina Martinez), Indian River State College (Janessa Nunez, Julia Smith, Dante Thomas, Mallorie Thomas), South Florida State College (Ozzy Osceola), U.S. Navy (Eecho Billie) and cosmetology school (Madison Busbin, Luzana Venzor).

Sean Osceola already has a couple years of college experience. He finished up his two years at Pasco-Hernando State College in New Port Richey, where he was a pitcher on the baseball team. Osceola helped the squad reach the NJCAA Division II World Series in 2019. He said he's considering a few college options for his next step, but hasn't decided

Many of the middle school grads were back at PECS for the first time since March when the school went on spring break and didn't reopen as classes shifted to online while the pandemic spread throughout the country and the world. They brought back the school computers they used for distance learning in their final months as PECS students and picked up awards and yearbooks from the school, and gift bags from the Council Office.

In a changing of the guard, many of the middle school grads, who represent the class of 2024, will be headed to Moore Haven High School or Okeechobee High School, which are where most of the reservation's high school grads from the class of 2020 just finished.



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard congratulates Okeechobee High School graduate Ozzy Osceola during a graduation appreciation event for Brighton's 2020 graduates June 5. The event was hosted by the Brighton Council Office and held outside at the entrance of Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School.



Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School eighth-grade graduate Alton Crowell is recognized for his achievement by Brighton Councilman Larry Howard and PECS administrative assistant Michele Thomas on June 5 at the school. The Brighton Reservation's middle school, high school and college graduates



The Pine School graduate Eecho Billie, left, and Okeechobee High graduate Kaleb Thomas, are decked out in their graduation attire at the **Brighton graduation event**



Gift bags were distributed to 2020 graduates, including Pemayety Emahaky Charter School 8th-grade graduate Santana Alvarez.



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard, PECS eighth-grade graduate CeCe Thomas and PECS administrative assistant Michele Thomas



Brighton Councilman Larry Howard and Okeechobee High School graduate Dante Thomas.



Kevin Johnson

Brighton Councilman Larry Howard and Okeechobee High School graduate Brienna Brockman.

Brighton Councilman Larry Howard and Okeechobee High School graduate Madison Busbin.

Collaboration creates Indigenous screenwriters list

FROM PRESS RELEASE

LOS ANGELES — The Black List, a website that focuses on extraordinary, and sometimes overlooked and unproduced screenwriting, announced June 25 a collaboration with IllumiNative and Sundance Institute to create The Indigenous List, highlighting the best Indigenous screenwriters from both feature films and television

Filmmakers and content creators are invited to submit a script for consideration by uploading it to The Black List website. Submissions will be accepted until Sept. 27. Evaluation purchase deadline is Aug. 27. Submissions are now open for this partnership via blcklst.com. Eligible writers should be Indigenous film artists working within the United States.

The requirements for the 2020 Indigenous List are below:

Indigenous film artists

working in the U.S. are eligible to submit scripts to this partnership

• Any kind of story is eligible and will be considered • Feature film scripts, half-

hour scripts and one-hour episodic scripts will be considered for this partnership - no webseries, please • All levels of experience

considered for submitting writers • Scripts submitted should be as free from attachments as possible

• Submitting writers should be prepared to answer the following question: What is your Tribal Nation/First Nation? Please describe how your Native culture has supported your ideas and process as a screenwriter?

Writers selected for the Indigenous List will be notified of their placement in fall 2020, with a public announcement to follow.

"We're excited to work with The Black List and IllumiNative to introduce The Indigenous List, which I believe mirrors the

industry's need for Indigenous stories told by Indigenous artists and filmmakers," said N. Bird (Cheyenne/ Runningwater Mescalero Apache), director, Sundance Institute's Indigenous Program. "This opportunity allows us to elevate voices and stories that can enrich our culture at this urgent

"IllumiNative is honored to partner with the Black List and the Sundance Institute to create this opportunity to showcase and amplify Indigenous stories and creative talent. Our research has shown that 78% of Americans want to learn more about Native peoples and 78% want to see more accurate and contemporary Native representation in Hollywood," said Crystal Echo Hawk (Pawnee).

For more information contact Kate Hagen (kate@blcklst.com).





Jordin Althaus/NBC L 2020 NBCUniversal Media, LLC

Indigenous Enterprise (Navajo) performs on the NBC show "World of Dance" that aired June 2.

Meet the first Native American dance group to appear on 'World of Dance'

BY MADELINE SCHROCK

Now in its fourth season, NBC's "World of Dance" has showcased many types of

"They've had styles from Mexico, China, Africa, break dancers, salsa dancers,' said Kenneth Shirley, founder of Phoenixbased troupe Indigenous Enterprise.

But until June 2, the show had neglected to feature America's oldest homegrown dance traditions, those of Native American

"World of Dance" performances are short by nature, so in just one minute, choreographer Nathaniel Nez decided to showcase four dances seen at powwows: the fancy men's war dance, men's prairie chicken dance, men's hoop dance and grass

"Our main mission was to expose the show to as much culture as possible and not just to do one style," said Shirley.

Though the members of Indigenous Enterprise are Navajo, their dances reflect various tribes, including the Blackfeet Nation, Ponca Tribe and Omaha Tribe.

"A lot of these dances, now in present time, are borrowed—especially as powwows became more popular," said men's prairie chicken dancer Ty LodgePole. "It's more than okay for another tribe to be dancing it because a powwow is meant to be a social gathering to uplift everybody's spirits."

"World of Dance" producers discovered Indigenous Enterprise via Instagram after seeing a collaboration they'd done with The Black Eyed Peas' Taboo, whose grandmother is a member of the Shoshone Tribe. They invited the troupe to audition for the show, where they mixed tradition and pop culture

by performing powwow dances to Drake.

During filming in February, Shirley said that the importance of representing indigenous dance wasn't lost on the camera crew and producers. "When we'd walk by," he said, "they'd give us a little nudge and be like, 'It's about time that you guys are on the show. We've had four seasons and they've never had Native Americans. It's about time they honor the first people of their land.'

'Because we filmed in Los Angelesthat's the Tongva people's lands—it was only right that they included some indigenous culture," said Shirley.

Though Indigenous Enterprise didn't advance in the competition, their appearance was a win for authentic portrayals of Native Americans in popular culture, exposing many viewers to their dances for the first time. (Even Shirley remarked how surprised he was that judge Jennifer Lopez, whose career has taken her around the world, had never seen Native American dance.)

"I want people to see that we're still alive and we're passing on our culture," said Shirley, who works with his fellow dancers to dispel stereotypes through educational performances at schools, festivals and events as far away as Australia. "Oftentimes we're seen in the media and Hollywood with this picture of 'cowboys and Indians'—those old movies where they paint us looking like savages with Clint Eastwood.'

When we come out performing and dancing, it lets people know we're real Native Americans and we have real cultures. All the dances we're doing are from way, way before Christopher Columbus came to

This article is from Dance magazine at dancemagazine.com.



The dance group Indigenous Enterprise listens to judges' comments on"World of Dance."

Book review: 'Unworthy Republic: The Dispossession of Native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory'

BY CHRIS HEWITT Star Tribune

"Removal" or "relocation" are terms commonly used to describe what

happened to more than 100,000 Native Americans in the 1830s, but Claudio Saunt doesn't think those words cut it. In "Unworthy Republic," he prefers "deportation," "expulsion" or, in the case of thousands of people, 'extermination.'

Saunt's book is both thoroughly researched and quietly outraged. He focuses on the 1830s, the years leading up to and including the Trail of Tears. That's when, with the support of all three branches of government, we forced bands of people in the South on an arduous, diseasefilled journey to uncharted lands west of the Mississippi River.

These events have been well documented but Saunt puts them in broader context. He argues that the deportation of Native Americans was tied to slavery — and, specifically, to the fear that Native people might organize an uprising that included African-Americans. But Saunt also connects it to the Holocaust, family memories of which inspired him to write "Unworthy Republic," as well as to what's going on in our country today, when politicians still meet in Washington, D.C., dreaming up ways to keep classes of people out.

'George Washington had even spoken of building a 'Chinese wall' between the United States and the Cherokee," Saunt writes. And the father of our country was not alone. Under Andrew Jackson's notorious watch, plans were drawn up for a "twelvehundred-mile military cordon [that] would eventually run from present-day northern Louisiana, but Saunt's well-

Minneapolis to the Gulf Coast."

The scope of "Unworthy Republic" is enormous, given that the Seminoles of southern Florida had little in common with, for instance, the Chickasaws of

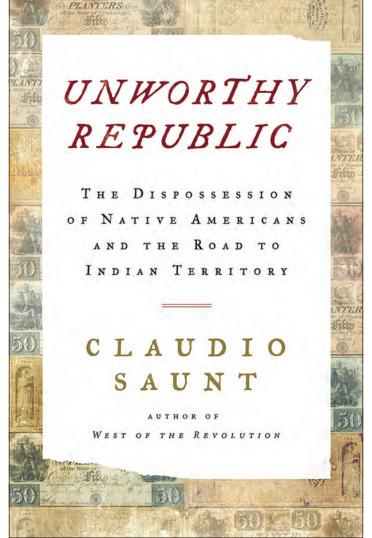
organized, readable history keeps track of the miscarriages of justice being perpetrated throughout America and its territories (Florida was not yet a state). Vivid portraits of those who supported and opposed "Indian

removal" anchor the book, including generals tasked with leading it and Native people and government officials who opposed it. (Twenty years before the start of the Civil War, John Quincy Adams ominously called it "among the heinous sins of this nation, for which I believe God will one day bring them to judgment.")

Saunt also has the receipts. While untreated cholera raced through people on death marches to the West, the U.S. government was taking not just their lives, but their property and household goods, with promises of scant repayment often broken. At one point, the pile of stolen property and goods was so enormous that the U.S. had to hire extra clerks to keep up with the paperwork that detailed what it was stealing.

There are indications in "Unworthy Republic" that the Trail of Tears led to the Civil War and Saunt points out that issues of citizenship and statehood were key to both stains on U.S. history. Intriguingly, he rarely uses the term "Trail of Tears." Although it's a common way to refer to his subject, it is conspicuous by its absence, perhaps because Saunt so persuasively makes the case that events of the 1830s cost Native Americans a whole lot more than

This article is from the Star Tribune (Minneapolis, Minn.) and was posted on startribune.com on



Norton, W.W. & Company, Inc.

'Unworthy Republic'

Explore the music, history, cultural identity of Native American rock band Redbone

FROM PRESS RELEASE

You've heard the hit song "Come and Get Your Love" in the movie "Guardians of the Galaxy," but the story of the band behind it is one of cultural, political, and social importance. This September, IDW Publishing presents "Redbone: The True Story of a Native American Rock Band" an intriguing, historically accurate telling of the high-flying career of rock 'n' roll pioneers and talented brothers Pat and Lolly Vegas, as they influenced The Doors, jammed with Jimmy Hendrix before he was "Jimi," and took the 1960s Sunset Strip by storm.

Written by Christian Staebler and Sonia Paoloni in cooperation of the Vegas family and illustrated by Thibault Balahy, Redbone uncovers key pieces of American history and the powerful story of the Native American civil rights movement, from the creation of the first rock 'n' roll band made up of all Native Americans, to the incorporation of tribal beats into chart-topping rock music and popular culture, to the members of the band taking a stand for their ancestry over continued commercial reward.

"I'd like to thank this book's creators for such a fantastic piece of work. It's an honor for me to be depicted in a comic and to have my story told," said writer, vocalist, bass guitarist, producer, and Redbone co-founder

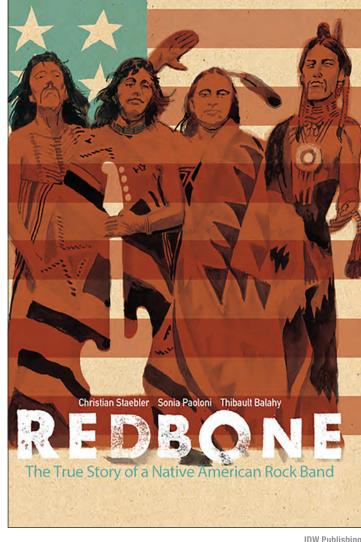
"I hope you enjoy this flashback journey into the history of my family. It's rich in knowledge, wisdom, truth, love, originality, and strength," said Frankie Vegas, daughter of Pat Vegas.

"This graphic novel collaboration between Redbone co-founder Pat Vegas with authors Christian Staebler and Sonia Paoloni makes for an inspired telling of the group's storied origins, itself serving as a window

into a riveting and often obscured history of Native American civil rights past and present," said editor Justin Eisinger. "I could not put this book down.'

Timed with the English language release in September, IDW welcomes the Redbone graphic novel into the company's comprehensive language Spanish publishing initiative with the release of Redbone: la Verdadera Historia de una Banda Rock Nativa Americana, expanding the accessibility of culturally and politically important story to Spanishspeaking communities throughout the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

The book "Redbone: The True Story of a Native American Rock Band" will be released in September. Orders can be placed at Amazon, Penguin Random House, Barnes & Noble and other bookseller sites.



'Redbone: The True Story of a Native American Rock Band'

Grants awarded for return of Native remains, sacred objects

FROM PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Park Service announced June 10 \$1.9 million in grants to 12 Indian tribes and 18 museums to assist in the consultation, documentation and repatriation of ancestral remains and cultural items as part of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

Seven grants will fund the transportation and return of 50 cultural items, more than 24,000 funerary objects, and human remains representing 3,483 ancestors.

The Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation of Smith River, California, will carry out the Naa-ghee-xvlh (They Have Returned Home) Project. Tribal representatives will travel to the San Diego Museum of Man to take physical possession of nine funerary objects, as well as 50 cultural items considered to be sacred or tribal cultural patrimony. At the request of tribal elders and culture bearers, a conservator will conduct nondestructive testing to determine if the items were treated with any hazardous materials. The tribal delegation and museum staff will

then prepare the items and construct appropriate containers for transport.

Twenty-four consultation and documentation grants will fund museum and tribal staff travel, consultation meetings, and research, all in support of the repatriation process.

In Kodiak, Alaska, the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository will undertake the Angilluki (Return Them) Project in collaboration with the Kodiak Alutiiq/Sugpiaq Repatriation Museum Commission. staff will research the collections of 32 institutions to gain more comprehensive information on NAGPRA-eligible Alutiiq remains and cultural objects.

NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections, and to consult with Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding repatriation.

Repatriation grant recipients Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation (CA), University of the Pacific (CA), Field Museum of Natural History (IL), Ball State University (IN), Osage Nation (OK), Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (OK), The Chicksaw

Nation (OK).

Consultation/Documentation grant recipients

Musuem Alutiiq Archaeological Repository (AK), Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes (AK), Arizona Museum of Natural History Foundation (AZ), Hopi Tribe (AZ), Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (CA), San Diego Museum of Man (CA), Shingle Springs Rancheria (CA), Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians (CA), Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MI), University of Central Missouri (MO), University of Missouri System (MO), Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MS), Regents of New Mexico State University (NM), Cincinnati Museum Center (OH), Ohio Historical Society (OH), Gilcrease Museum Management Trust (OK), Miami Tribe of Oklahoma (OK), Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma (OK), University of Oklahoma (OK), Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (OR), High Desert Museum (OR), Utah State University (UT), Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (VA), Northern

Arapaho Tribe (WY).

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Sports*

Ahfachkee's Alena **Stockton signs with Florida SouthWestern in Fort Myers**

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BIG CYPRESS — Dreams do come true. Just ask Alena Stockton.

"I've wanted to play college basketball ever since I started," she said. "It's been a dream.

Stockton grew up on the Big Cypress Reservation and played high school ball the past two years for the Ahfachkee School. She is ready to take her game to the next level, which she'll do at Florida SouthWestern State College, which offered her a scholarship.

"It's good. I couldn't believe it at first,"

The Fort Myers school built the 3,300seat Sun Coast Credit Union Arena that sold out its first game in 2016. It didn't take long for Stockton to appreciate her new home.

'I love the gym," she said. And that's not all. She said she likes the dorm rooms, especially because they have kitchens.

FSW has a new head coach. Jerald Ellis, who served as an assistant for the team the past four years, will lead the squad for the 2020-21 season. He is a former head coach in the region, having guided Immokalee and Island Coast high schools.

FSW is coming off a strong season.

The Buccaneers, who play in the Suncoast Conference, finished 24-7. They reached the National Junior College Athletic Association tournament, but it was canceled due to

FSW scouted Stockton at her senior night game in January. She made a good impression with a game-high 15 points.

"Florida Southwestern came to the game today. I think they liked what they saw,' Ahfachkee coach Jarvis Jones said after the game. "She's a really solid player. One of the best players I've ever worked with. She works hard. She's a straight-A student which is the best thing I like about her. She's a student first, great in the classroom, great with her siblings, great with her teammates. She's awesome.

Before deciding on FSW, Stockton said she had about a dozen offers from other colleges throughout Florida to consider.

Stockton plans to study sports medicine. She said her goal for basketball is to play two years at FSW and then transfer to a Division

Regardless of what path she takes, she won't forget her reservation, and the younger players behind her.

"I want to come back and do little camps and tell them to keep pushing in school," she



with Clarks Summit University on May 30 at Lightsey's restaurant in Okeechobee.

Brighton's Kaleb Thomas signs with NCAA Division III college in Pennsylvania

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

BRIGHTON — Kaleb Thomas has been a third baseman, an outfielder and a pitcher. His ultimate goal is to be a pastor.

Describing it as "probably the biggest moment in my life so far," Thomas signed an NCAA Division III letter May 30 to play baseball at Clarks Summit University where he'll be able to focus on the Bible and

Surrounded by friends, relatives and family - including his parents Gene and Michele Thomas - the Okeechobee High School senior from the Brighton Reservation capped off an eventful day by signing with the Christian college tucked in the hills of northeast Pennsylvania during a signing celebration at Lightsey's restaurant in Okeechobee. Clarks Summit is about a two-hour drive from both Philadelphia and New York City.

'It was huge for me and my family because I am the last son to leave [home]. My brother and I are both graduates of OHS that went on to play college baseball from the Thomas family," Thomas said in an e-mail to the Tribune. His older brother Trevor plays for Warner University in Lake

In addition to his parents and brother, the proud moment for the family and the Seminole Tribe was shared by Thomas's grandparents Andy Buster, Helene Buster, Lynn Thomas and Connie Whidden as well as several aunts, uncles and cousins, including many from the Johns, Pearce and Trammel families.

Before he put pen to paper, Thomas turned his tassel earlier in the day with his classmates from the class of 2020 as they were honored in a graduation ceremony at the Agri-Civic Center. Thomas was in his second year at Okeechobee after transferring from Moore Haven High School. He saw action on JV and varsity teams for both schools.

Thomas and senior teammate Ozzy Osceola, who will be headed to South Florida State College, were the only players from the Seminole Tribe on the Brahmans baseball team this season, which ended abruptly in mid-March due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Really tough," Thomas said. "I was super sad it had to end the way it did because I won't be able to get it back, but I do get to look back at all my memories and achievements while playing high school

Okeechobee was 4-4 and headed in the right direction when the season was halted. "I felt like we could have had a winning

season this year and we could have probably

been district champions and even went to

states if it wasn't for Covid-19," he said. To get a feel for what it would be like to attend college in the Northeast, Thomas opted to see Clarks Summit in the heart of winter rather than a warmer season. Along

with his parents, he visited in January. "As a Floridian, it was all new to me,"

That one trip was all it took to realize Clarks Summit would be an ideal college for

"My parents and I absolutely fell in love with the college. My mom felt reassured because the college felt like a family and not some college that tells you to go and figure it out on your own," Thomas said.

Summit's Clarks undergraduate enrollment is less than 700. Its total enrollment is close to 1,000, which is fewer than Okeechobee High School. All undergraduates earn a double-major in Bible and the major of their choice. Thomas, who also had offers from Webber International in Florida and Crowns College in Minnesota, said he plans to earn a degree in counseling and will pursue a master's degree in pastoral studies with the hope of becoming a pastor for the First Indian Baptist Church on the Brighton Reservation and More 2 Life in Okeechobee.

"I had a calling to become a pastor at a young age and to become a Christian," said Thomas, who was baptized by Pastor Matthew Tiger, of Oklahoma, on Jan. 17, 2016, at First Indian Baptist Church.

Thomas appreciates that his family has guided him along the path he's taken in many areas of his life.

"One thing I will always remember was my mom telling me, 'You have a ton of opportunities that other kids only dream of. If you put in the work then you will be rewarded.'Then my dad said, 'We will give you all the chances and the tools to be a big success whether it was in the classroom or on the field, but you have to be the one to put in the work and to push yourself every day to your best ability because we can't do it for you; it all has to come from you and what you are willing to put in to be the best athlete and student," he said.

Thomas said his brother Trevor has also been an inspirational figure along the way.

"My brother was a big motivation to me in my baseball career because I wanted to be just as good as a baseball player as he was as well as a hardworking and determined young man," he said.

Thomas's hard work is evident in the classroom, too. He earned two scholarships as a senior: the Florida Bright Futures Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship and the Devon Venables Memorial Scholarship.

In addition to baseball, Thomas also ran for the cross country teams at Okeechobee and Moore Haven. He was among the top runners on the OHS team as a senior. He's unsure if he'll try to run cross country in

Clarks Summit baseball, a member of the Colonial States Athletic Conference, plays most of its games in Pennsylvania, but for the past few years has added spring break games in South Carolina. Most of the players are from Pennsylvania and bordering states. The team is coached by Devin Raven, who is in his second year at the helm.

"I hope to teach the players lessons that this great game has to offer," Raven said on his bio page on the team's website. "Baseball can be much more than a sport; it teaches lessons that can be used throughout a player's life. I want each individual player to learn and grow in their abilities and skills. Most importantly, I want each player to grow in their walk with God, and I want them to be able to use their time as baseball players to develop for their next step in life, whatever that may be."

Thomas started playing baseball in T-ball. His first team was called the Holiday Inn Express in Lake Placid, Florida. He later played for Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School on the reservation before high school. He has plenty of coaches and others to thank for his journey.

"I would like to thank all of my family who has supported me over the years and all my teammates I have played with over the years including Moore Haven Middle/High School and Okeechobee High School, as well as Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School and my coaches Harry Tewksbury, Cameron Tewksbury, Aaron Suarez, Logan Kindall, Dylan Tedders, my dad Gene Thomas, Max Manin, Pedro Navarro, Brian Prowant, Julio Rodriguez, Eric Kindall and Brian Morgan. They have been a huge contribution to my success on the baseball field as well as my brother Trevor," Thomas said. "I am blessed to have been adopted from the Thomas family. I am proud to be a member of the Johns family and Thomas family. I give all my credits to my mom and dad for bringing me to every baseball game and every tournament over the past 10 years and I will always love them and call the Brighton Reservation forever home.'



Alena Stockton drives toward the basket for the Ahfachkee School during a game against Immokalee in January 2020. She will attend Florida SouthWestern State College in Fort Myers.

Eager to play again, Tiana Stubbs signs with Hillsborough

BY KEVIN JOHNSON **Senior Editor**

HOLLYWOOD — If anyone deserves good news, it's Tiana Stubbs, and this spring has been full of bright spots for the basketball player from the Hollywood Reservation whose high school career was derailed due

to a serious injury.

Recently, Stubbs graduated from
American Heritage School, received a scholarship to play at Hillsborough Community College and has been invited to play in a tournament in Spain next year.

After she received graduation gifts and photos from the Hollywood Council Office at a small event for the reservation's 2020 graduates in the Classic Gym on June 18, Stubbs said she is excited and eager to play for Hillsborough, which is located in Tampa next door to the New York Yankees spring training facility and across the street from Raymond James Stadium.

Stubbs said she hadn't yet visited the school, but is looking forward to starting her college career there. She plans on studying sports medicine. The school's athletics department posted a congratulatory tweet April 30 welcoming Stubbs to the family.

Stubbs is an athletic 5-foot-10 shooting guard who excelled from beyond the arc during her career at Heritage. She was part of three state championships with her sister December, although an injury robbed her of playing in the last two finals.

As a sophomore, Tiana scored nine points in just 12 minutes of playing time in the 2018 Class 5A state title game against Ponte Vedra, but that turned out to be her final appearance in the finals. The following season she suffered a torn ACL and meniscus late in the regular season. As her teammates were winning their second consecutive title in Lakeland, she was having sugery back in South Florida. The injury forced her to sit out all of her senior year, except for the first minute of the senior night game when she was allowed to make a 3-pointer in a thoughtful prearranged deal between the

She said she is healthy now. She has returned to practicing, but only at the reservation's outdoor airnasium because the two indoor gyms have been closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



Tiana Stubbs, shown here in game action on Nov. 20, 2018, missed more than a year of basketball due to an injury, but she's ready to play again. She will play for Hillsborough Community College

While Stubbs heads north to the state's west coast, sister December will also go north for college, but on the east coast. She will attend the University of North Florida in Jacksonville and plans to study exercise science. December, a point guard who blossomed into a big-time leader on the floor for Heritage, was a key part of the state championship runs. She said she may try to make the UNF team as a walk-on.



Courtesy photo

Former Choctaw Central star Kyarrah Grant transfers to NSU

BY KEVIN JOHNSON Senior Editor

DAVIE — A few years ago Skyla Osceola and Kyarrah Grant teamed up to win a Native American Youth Organization (NAYO) basketball championship in New York

Now the pair of guards will be teammates again, this time in Davie.

The Nova Southeastern University women's basketball team announced June 24 that Grant has transferred to the school, where she'll join Osceola who has been with the team since 2017. Osceola, one of the Seminole Tribe's all-time top women's players, was a standout for the Sharks in her freshman year in 2017-18, but has battled injuries since then.

Grant (Navajo/Choctaw) is a 5-foot-7 redshirt-sophomore who spent the past two years at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she played 18 games and scored 35 points as a freshman. She redshirted last season. In high school, Grant helped Choctaw Central win two consecutive state championships in Mississippi.

"Kyarrah is a very skilled guard with great three-point range and a very high basketball IQ," NSU coach LeAnn Freeland-Curry said in a statement. "Her endurance is evident when watching her compete and she is a relentless competitor. She demonstrates a willingness to be a team player on the floor and knows how to make her team better in order to win big games."

Grant is familiar with the Osceola



Skyla Osceola, center, and Kyarrah Grant, second from right, will be teammates in the 2020-21 season on the Nova Southeastern University women's basketball team. The photo shows when they were teammates in 2017 on a NAYO championship team that was coached by Skyla's father Marl, far right, and brother Hunter, far left.

family. She and her sister Kyannah had just won a state championship as juniors when they joined Osceola on the championship NAYO team that was coached by Osceola's father Marl and brother Hunter.

"Just knowing I'm not going to be by myself and that her family is around that area, too, it gives me a lot of assurance," Grant told the Meridian Star.

Grant is a biology major and plans to earn an advanced degree in the medical field.

Skyla Osceola earns SSC academic honor

TRIBUNE STAFF

DAVIE — Nova Southeastern University women's basketball player Skyla Osceola, of the Hollywood Reservation, made the Sunshine State Conference 2020 Spring Commissioner's Honor Roll, the conference announced June 24. To be eligible for the honor roll, a student-athlete must post a minimum grade-point average of 3.20 on a scale of 4.00.

Osceola, who will be a redshirt-junior in the 2020-21 season with the Sharks, is majoring in exercise and sports science. She was one of 128 NSU student-athletes who made the honor roll.

Last season injuries limited the playing time for Osceola, who appeared in 15 games. As a freshman guard in 2017-18, she led the Sharks in assists and defensive rebounds.

The Big Cypress Reservation/ Seminole Tribe of Florida Environmental Resources Management Department hereby gives notice of the intent to revise the floodplain hazard information generally located in Hendry and Broward County, Florida. Specifically, the flood hazard information shall be revised within the entire Big Cypress Reservation, along the Feeder Canal, L28, L28Gap Basins. The downstream limits of the L28 Interceptor Canal approximately 2000' south of the intersection of S.E Canal Road and Ceremonial Road (southern boundary of Big Cypress Reservation). Upstream limits of the North Feeder Canal approximately 875' north of the intersection of Cat's Claw Lane and NW Canal Street (northern boundary of Big Cypress Reservation)

As a result of the revision, the 1% annual chance water surface elevations will be established and the 1% annual chance floodplain will be established, increase and decrease.

Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed at the Environmental Resource Management Department, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 31004 Josie Billie Highway Clewiston, FL 33440. Interested persons may call Mr. Kevin Cunniff, Director at 863-902-3200 ext 13411 for additional information from Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm.



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The deadline to file a claim is June 30, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. If you do not file a claim by the deadline, you will lose the right to file a claim against Purdue, and you will lose any right to seek payment or compensation you may have had. Proof of Claim Forms, a list of opioids produced, marketed or sold by "Purdue," and instructions for how to file a claim are online at **PurduePharmaClaims.com**. You can also request a claim form by mail, email or phone:

Purdue Pharma Claims Processing Center c/o Prime Clerk LLC 850 Third Avenue, Ste. 412, Brooklyn, NY 11232 Email: purduepharmainfo@primeclerk.com - Phone: 1.844.217.0912

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