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Allen Colon Chris Jenkins

Tribal Citizen Graduates from BCC

By Chris Jenkins
HOLLYWOOD — It was one of those days when all the hard work finally paid off. For tribal citizen and panther clan member, Allen Colon, graduation day from Broward Community College was special, as he received his certification as a police service aide, March 29.

As a student in the Broward Police Academy, Colon was among 19 others taking that walk into the future, to protect and serve.

The process began with six weeks of training from Feb. 20–March 29. Now that the hard part is finally over, Colon will begin a rotating shift with the Immokalee, Hollywood, and Big Cypress police departments. According to Colon, such a position gives him a foot in the door as well as an understanding into what law enforcement involves.

"It's something I have always wanted to do since high school," he said.

The decision to pursue his dream has been more than 20 years in the making and at age 39, he felt the time was right.

"I decided a year and a half ago that I'm going to go for it," Colon said.

With all the work and potential dangers in law enforcement, Colon feels having a solid support system entering in, is important. His mother, Rachel Billie, along with brother Vincent, sister Kattiria, son Joshua and girlfriend Maria continue to back him in his pursuits.

"From family members to law enforcement, the support has been super."

❖ See SERVICE AIDE, page 15



"Sneak Attack" by Guy Labree shows the Mississippi Volunteers scouting the marsh off of Lake Okeechobee. Painting By Guy Labree

Preservation of Okeechobee Battlefield

By Moses Osceola, President
HOLLYWOOD — On April 4, the governor and the state of Florida approved the purchase of 145 acres of land. This land is a portion of the site where a great battle between Seminoles and U.S. soldiers was fought on Christmas Day, 1837 in Okeechobee.

SEE PAGE 10 FOR MORE PRESERVATION NEWS

for you and me; they accomplished their mission because we are still home. Today, we carry our ancestor's efforts in the courtrooms and board rooms of America.

The acquisition of this site caps the efforts of many who have dedicated much time and effort towards the preservation of this site. I would like to thank State Representative Richard Machek, Shawn Henderson and the Friends of the Okeechobee Battlefield, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, the late Billy L. Cypress, Bill Steele, tribal historic preservation officer, Tribal citizens, Dowling Watford, Okeechobee city councilman, and others who have supported this effort.



Photo Submitted by the President's Office
Attorney General of Florida Charlie Crist, Governor Jeb Bush, State Representative Richard Machek, Shawn Henderson, Okeechobee City Councilman Dowling Watford, Commissioner of Agriculture Charlie Bronson, Seminole Tribe Historic Preservation Officer Bill Steele, Chief Financial Officer State of Florida Tom Gallagher.

The battlefield preservation memorializes our Seminole, Creek, and other Native Americans who fought against U.S. forces in order to preserve our right to stay in Florida. It gives me great pride after hearing and reading of the ferocity and determination of our people to defend our land and way of life.

I am both proud and honored to be a descendant of our ancestors who fought so hard

Tribe Supports New Educational Center at IRCC



Judy Weeks
(L-R) Emma Brown, Jessica Billie, Dr. Edward Massey, Louise Gopher, Sonja Buck, Michele Thomas and President Moses Osceola.

By Emma Brown
OKEECHOBEE, FL — Indian River Community College (IRCC) has launched a \$2.5 million fund-drive to build the Williamson Conference and Educational Center for economic, community, cultural and business development at its Dixon Hendry Campus in Okeechobee. The new center is being named after long-time Okeechobee residents, Frank "Sonny" Williamson, and his wife, Betty, for their support of the new facility.

On April 13, The Seminole

Tribe of Florida presented the college with a donation in the amount of \$50,000 to help support this project. IRCC President Dr. Edwin R. Massey accepted the check on behalf of the college and expressed his deepest gratitude for the continued support shown by the Seminole Tribe.

A portrait of the Education Director Louise Gopher, that has been mounted on the wall served as the backdrop for the presentation. Gopher is a graduate from IRCC and went on to become one of the "Outstanding Alumni" of the school.

Referring to the portrait, Louise said, "I don't know how old this picture is but I vaguely remember posing for it. It is great to be a part of this organization."

This portrait of a young Louise in traditional dress will remain mounted on the wall at the Okeechobee Dixon Hendry campus to honor her many years of dedication to the school.

Brighton Council Representative Andrew Bowers' assistant Michele Thomas attended the

❖ See IRCC, page 10

Parade of Easter Activities



Rachel Billie hunting for eggs. Judy Weeks

Preschool, Community, Seniors Celebrate

Story by Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — There was no shortage of activities for the celebration of the Easter holiday in Immokalee. The Immokalee Preschool, community and seniors all celebrated with respective parties.

Seniors Easter Party
The seniors Easter party got under way on April 12, with a variety of events. Beginning with the ever popular game of Bingo, the participants next competed in an Easter bonnet contest and the most beautiful and original Easter basket competition.

Judging the events were Seminole Police Department officers Laura Herran and Allen Colon, who found it hard to make a decision with so many fabulous entries. They were grateful that all entries remained anonymous until the results were announced.

First place in both the basket and hat contest went to Louise Motlow. The second place basket went to Rachel Billie and third was Elaine Aguilar.

The hats were not only humorous, but a creation to behold with little floppy ducks, eggs, flowers, grass, sequins, bunnies and a multitude of unbelievable items in their décor. At the completion of the contest, Elaine Aguilar was in the second slot and Rachel Billie took third.

A special thank you goes out to the department staffs, which put a great deal of thought and care into the preparation of the prize baskets which they donated. In addition to the standard stuffed animals, candy and flowers, there were gift cards, perfume, ceramics, jewelry, keepsakes and so much more. Each basket proved to be a treasure chest for the winner.

A few of the contributors were: Seminole Broadcasting, Recreation, Department of Elders Affairs, Library, Seminole Police Department, Utilities, Health and the Clinic. Seminole Tribal Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro delighted the gathering by bringing her blender and creating some very healthy and taste pleasing smoothies as refreshments during the activities.

❖ See EASTER, page 36



Florida National Guard Honors Seminole Tribe

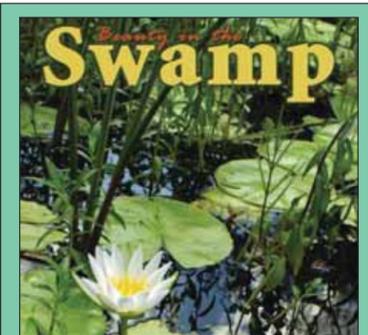
Submitted by Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
BIG CYPRESS — The Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the Seminole Tribe of Florida is presently working with the Florida National Guard (FLARNG) and the National Guard Bureau to develop the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for the Guard's lands in Florida. This is a historic preservation plan that will determine how the FLARNG will treat Native American archaeological

❖ See MEDALLION, page 5

Photo Quiz



Can you guess who these ladies are?



Swamp

Tribal citizens may pick up a complimentary copy of the 2006-January 2007 Seminole Tribal calendar at your reservation's field office.

This year's calendar features the Big Cypress reservation's Ah-Tha-Thi-Ki Museum and Billie Swamp Safari.

All others may purchase calendars for \$10 by ordering online at www.seminoletribe.com/marketplace or by calling Darline Buster at (954) 966-6300, Ext 1266.

Previous Photo Quiz



Buffalo Tiger
John Billie Jr. from the Hollywood reservation guessed the first name!

Happy Mother's Day!

A Message from the Chairman

Today is your day. I hope you will have many moments to reflect on how much you are needed and appreciated. A mother's job is not easy. It goes on and on, often without the recognition it deserves. That is why Mother's Day has always been a very important day for me.

I would like to give each and every mother recognition for her dedication to her children, family and community. You are the backbone of the Seminole people. You are what links us from the past to the future.

Your children hear your words and see the examples you set. From you they learn how to be proud, how to be generous and how to be a good person. You are critical to the continued health and prosperity of the Seminole Tribe. I sincerely appreciate each one of you.

And, to all of those whose mothers have passed, know that you are not forgotten. The wisdom, sacrifices and strength of mothers live on in each family member. A mother's love is something we never forget. It's a treasure we always carry with us.

Sincerely,
Mitchell Cypress, Chairman
Seminole Tribe of Florida

A Message from the President/Vice-Chairman

Proverbs 31 states that a virtuous woman is hard to find and her price is far above rubies and so it is with our mothers. Praise God for all mothers because as Proverbs 31 points out, they are indeed the stalwarts of the home. On this Mothers' Day, I want to thank God for my mother who has been every bit what Proverbs 31 says they are. I am sure that you think of your mother in the same way.

On this occasion of Mothers' Day, I encourage each of us to treat our mothers with all the love and respect they deserve. Let us honor our mothers always, not just on Mothers' Day. Give your mother a hug and let her know just how much you love her. I thank God that our mothers are like God in so many ways, they love without end, they are so forgiving, they are so patient, and they are always there for us whenever we need them. To all our mothers, God bless you and thank you!

President/Vice-Chairman
Moses Osceola

Survey of the Seminoles of Florida

By Roy Nash

[Editor's Note: This is a verbatim re-print of a survey of the Seminole Indians by Roy Nash conducted on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1930. This is Part 2 of a series The Seminole Tribe will re-print in its entirety. Please see the April 28 issue of The Tribune for Part 3.]

Exert 8, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his Environment

SEMINOLE SURVEY OF 1930

By Roy Nash

CHAPTER I

A TYPICAL CAMP OF 1930

SECTION 8: INVENTORY OF PROPERTY

How does this family of eight live? What do they eat? Where do they sleep? In what does their wealth consist? To understand the life of Guava Camp is to understand nine-tenths of the Seminole camps in Florida.

An inventory of the property visible to the eye in this camp revealed the following:

Livestock: 12 chickens, 2 dogs and a pup, 5 hogs about camp (probably 50 on the range), 2 oxen.

Transportation: 1 four-wheeled wagon on top, 1 ox yoke, 1 dugout cypress canoe.

Firearms: 1 double-barreled 12-gage shotgun, 1 combination 0.38 rifle and 12-gage shotgun.

Tools: 1 ax, 1 hoe, 1 machete, 2 sheath knives for skinning.

Kitchen equipment: 1 mortar and pestle, 2 large iron kettles for sofskee and stew, 2 wooden sofskee spoons, 2 basket sieves, 1 Dutch oven, 2 water pails, 1 dish for bread, 2 fry pans, 2 coffee pots, 1 kettle, 6 cups, 1 brass-bound wooden bucket, 3 five-gallon tin cans with covers.

Household equipment: 6 mosquito nets, 6 blankets, 2 movable benches, 1 foot-pedal sewing machine, 1 hand sewing machine, 1 lantern, 1 umbrella, 1 phonograph (15 records), 1 long muslin sheet (used to windbreak), 1 pair scissors.

Toilet articles: 1 mirror, 2 combs, 1 bucket for washing.

Children's toys: 1 homemade toy wagon, 12 homemade dolls (2 inches long).

Clothing: 4 bundles in addition to clothes worn, 10 yards of calico in odd lengths.

Ornaments: 50 pounds of neck beads, 2 bead chains with silver coins, 1 bead chain with gold coin, 12 silver cape ornaments, 4 silver crescents (Billy Fewell), 6 beaded hair nets.

Exert 9, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his Environment

SECTION 9: CLOTHING

I could make no detailed inventory of the quantity of clothing at Guava camp, but it was adequate. On wash day there would be as many as a half dozen complete sets of garments on the rail, dresses as brilliant as the spread of a peacock's tail, the only decorative washing I have ever seen drying in the sun. When I expressed a desire to but two or three costumes as souvenirs, the women brought out bundle after bundle of new garments to choose from. A white hunter would consider some kind of waterproof outer garment desirable, but inasmuch as the rainy season is also the warm season in south Florida, this lack is not serious.

SECTION 10: FOOD

Nor was there any shortage of food in this camp. In fact, it was a feast from morning to night, for the Seminole is superior to regular meal hours. On arising in the morning, one of the girls would kindle the fire, heat up a kettle of meat stew, a kettle of hominy grits, a pot of coffee, and bake a pan of biscuits. Dried venison was the staple meat that went into the pot; occasionally curlew, whooping crane, duck, chicken, pork, or wild turkey finds its way there. The grits are boiled as a very thin gruel, which the Indians call sofskee.

These dishes, when hot, were placed in the dining platform. At interval all day long one or another (but rarely all at once) would sit beside the pots, reach into the kettle for a morsel of meat, drink from the great wooden sofskee ladle, dip a biscuit in the gravy, and wash it down with coffee. There was a notice-

able absence of salt in their dishes, and their stock of sugar was nearly exhausted.

The only fruit available at the time I visited the Cypress family was the guavas after which the camp is named. In season, however, there is available to all these Indians sour oranges and limes, some bananas, quantities of blueberries, and wild plums.

Their table in August was noticeably void of fresh vegetables. That was from choice not necessity, because there is always available the tender bud of the cabbage palmetto, delicious either raw or cooked. In the dry season, however, their little garden yields corn, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, cowpeas, and a few shoots of sugarcane.

Exert 10, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his Environment

SECTION 11: SLEEPING

When night descended and the sand flies and mosquitoes became troublesome, mosquito bars made a fine-meshed cotton cloth were stretched over each bed. The father and mother and two older daughters occupied one sleeping platform, rather a strange arrangement, inasmuch as nothing but the thickness of two mosquito bars separated the intimacies of married life from the daughters in the other bed. The grandfather and younger children under separate mosquito bars occupied another platform. A blanket or a buckskin between the sleeper and his hard bed was all they asked. In the cold weather of winter a blanket to roll up in suffices, although a white man would experience bitter discomfort with so little in freezing weather—I fancy an Indian could stand another blanket at times. If the night were rainy, a long muslin sheet was stretched around the house between the eaves and the sleeping platform to break the wind, although it did not always keep out the rain. The dogs and the chickens and the pigs found shelter under the platforms near the fire.

Sleep was generally preceded by hours of low-voiced conversation interspersed with music from a phonograph. And so long as I was there to supply them, all—from the boy of 7 to his father, and particularly the girls and their mother—puffed with evident pleasure on cigars. The Seminole does not grow tobacco, and the camp seemed to have none on hand.

Exert 11, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his Environment

SECTION 12: CASH INCOME

It is evident that many items listed as contributing to the comfort of this household on the edge of the Everglades imply dealings with the white world of commerce at Immokalee or Fort Myers. The cash income of this family is derived almost entirely from the sale of raccoon and alligator skins, buckskin, and an occasional otter. The women make a few dollars from the sale of Seminole dolls and a little indifferent beadwork. Whitney is a unusually industrious hunter and probably takes in \$300 a year in his pelts. In addition, he may get an opportunity to guide hunters for a couple of weeks each fall in the open season, at \$6 a day for himself and oxcart, with a bonus of a ten dollar bill and a quart of liquor for killing the buck his employer could not hit.

Small as this cash income is, it would be ample if the bootleggers portion could be converted into a fund to tide over the lean months of the year.

Whoever, in North America, earns his bread by hard manual effort in the lonely spots of the earth is prone to go on a spree when he hits town. This is true for lumberjacks, of miners, of cowboys, of trappers. It is painfully true of the Seminole. I never heard of Billy Fewell getting drunk, and the daughters are too young to have begun, but it is uncommon for Whitney Cypress and his splendid squaw to come reeling into the Hendry County Reservation on their way home from Immokalee.

Immokalee. Not even a moving-picture show. Where the very pinnacle of excitement is attained by peeping in the door of the room, or watching country gawks shuffle through the figures of a quadrille to the accompaniment of a mouth organ and a discordant fiddle, where "All Indians are pigs." What else is there to do except get drunk at Immokalee?

What goes for liquor does not go for food, and it sometimes happens that they completely run out of grits or coffee or sugar? In the closed season, which is also the season of higher water, the family Cypress has been known to come into the Hendry County Reservation outward bound with empty bellies. In either case, drunk or hungry, good old Ivey Byrd, the caretaker, looks after them out of his munificent salary of \$25 a month.

The Seminole Tribune

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Letters & E-mail

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Dear Editor,

I really appreciate all of the wonderful information that is on your website. I work at elementary school in Central Florida and for our summer program we will be studying all about the state of Florida.

I am really looking forward to teaching my children about the Seminole culture and life style. By using your website I obtained a great amount of knowledge about the Seminole Tribe of Florida and can not wait to share all of the information with my children.

Thanks,
Ginny M. Sutton
Beverly Shores Elementary School
ATA Assistant Site Coordinator

Dear Editor,

Please spread the word about the

49th American Indian Boy Scouting/Girl Scouting Seminar to be held July 22–26, 2006 at Cameron University in Lawton, Okla. Our host is the Comanche Nation.

We of the American Indian Scouting Association are proud to sponsor this unique gathering that brings persons from all over the country together to explore how boy scouting and girl scouting can help develop youth. Both Indian and non-Indian youth (ages 12-17) and adults are encouraged to attend.

Please help your community learn about this great event. Visit our website at www.americanindianscouting.org to view the seminar brochure. You may print the registration form directly from the site.

Charlotte Barker
Publicity Chairman
American Indian Scouting Assoc.

Dear Editor,

I saw your article in the March 17, 2006 paper on the reenactment of the Seminole Tribe battles during the early 1900s. Being that I'm a person of a black background and that numerous black slaves that escaped and headed south into Seminole territories and fought alongside of the native Indians, I would like information on how I could possible join in the next re-enactment and contribute.

Could you provide me a name and contact information of the person(s) or group that heads up this re-enactment? Any help or referrals in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Ken Felix
kfelix@iname.com



Patrons enjoy free hot dogs.

Susan Etzebarria

Brighton Trading Post Celebrates Second Anniversary with Free Gas and Food

By Susan Etzebarria

BRIGHTON — The second anniversary celebration at the Brighton Trading Post & Campground on March 30 revealed good news. Business is better than ever. The staff turnover is almost zero. The store provided crucial services after Wilma which helped residents and neighboring communities in a time of need. They were able to pump gas when other gas stations were closed. There are new products on the

shelves. There are optimistic dreams of future growth. “Our sales two years ago was \$23,000 in April. This year we will probably close out the same month with \$230,000.00 in sales, half of that in gas sales,” said Kevin Osceola, the manager who keeps everything running like clockwork.

Osceola said they were beating the gas prices in nearby Lakeport stores except the Circle K. The Trading Post keeps their prices as competitive as the chain store. “Sometimes we don’t make much on gas, only two cents, and nothing at all when the gas is charged on MasterCard but it’s the sodas and snack the drivers buy that adds up,” said Osceola.

Cheryl Ann Bolton of Florida’s Office of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., credited Osceola’s management style for staff retention. It is most unusual to keep workers for long in most convenience stores but the work environment is pleasant, friendly, and efficient.

“We keep everything simple, laid back, and everyone is mature. They know what they have to do and they do it,” said Osceola. Osceola really wanted to commend his staff. He said Elvay Lavay keeps the place impeccably clean, Lollie Maisonet is his senior assistant. His store staff are: Debbie Spell, Loretta Young, Bill Jacobs and Colleen Carrie. He also wanted to thank his wife, Sandra and Charlene Baker who assist with management of the store.

Much has been said about how the Trading Post came to the rescue of people needing gas the first six days after the hurricane. But unknown is that people actually drove from Ft. Lauderdale and Miami to get gas at the Brighton Trading Post and quite often filling up a five gallon gas can as well. Lines of cars were out to the street.

At noon a fantastic meal prepared by Mary Jo Micco was served in the Community Center of the Brighton Campground to show appreciation to the patrons, campground residents and employees who shop at the store.

The 32 gas prizes for the drawing were donated by the Brighton Council Representative Andy Bunch. Board Representative Johnny Jones provided the luncheon meal; free hot dogs and drinks. It is most unusual for any store anywhere to thank their patrons once a year with a party! The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., shows great generosity hosting these enjoyable anniversary parties.



Kevin Osceola tastes the cake

Susan Etzebarria



Mary Jo Micco serves her delicious chocolate cake.

Susan Etzebarria

Reminder to Seminole Residents

Please be advised that STOF Animal Registration Drive ends on **MAY 15, 2006.**

If you own a dog or cat, kindly register them at your local Seminole Health Department. Registration forms are available at the front desk.

Proof of rabies vaccination is required before animal licenses are issued.

If you have any questions please call 954-965-1300 ext 126



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Shelley Marmor

(L-R) Jackie Burdette, Brenda Gan, Max Osceola, Teresa Bass, Stefanie Hunt, Jennifer McCoy, Chief Mike Floyd, Elisa Moore, Carolyn Pendleton, Patricia Robinson, Shaundra Young.

Seminole Police Dispatchers Honored

By Shelley Marmor
HOLLYWOOD — On April 13 the Seminole Police Department (SPD) hosted a luncheon to honor the 18 telecommunicators, otherwise known as dispatchers. This luncheon coincides with National Telecommunicators Week, which takes place the second week in April annually.

According to SPD Chief of Police Mike Floyd, telecommunicators are "the line between the community and the police officers." When a Seminole Tribal citizen calls 911, one of the SPD dispatchers answers the call and alerts a member of the police department, who then responds to the call.

In addition to Floyd, other high ranking SPD officers were in attendance. These persons included: Lieutenant Jerry Meisenheimer, Lieutenant Aaron Wright and Captain Bob McDaniel.

Hollywood Seminole Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. was also in attendance. He thanked the dispatchers for their services to the Tribal community.

"I want you to know I appreciate you," Osceola said. "I want you to know the Tribal Council appreciates you... Sho Naa Bish."

Immediately following appreciation speeches, event emcee and SPD Communications Supervisor Stefanie Hunt, offered invocation. She then invited the nine dispatchers in attendance to eat first.

The 18 SPD telecommunicators are:
 Hollywood: Stefanie Hunt, Patricia Robinson, Jennifer Ward, Jennifer McCoy, Elisa Moore, Catrina Williams, Wendy Hopkins, Shaundra Young; Brighton: Jackie Burdette, Teresa Bass, Brenda Gan, Mike Ellis, Stacia Steins; Big Cypress: Carolyn Pendleton, Jean Whitley, Pedro Alcantar, Danielle Dunivent, Stacey Conner.



Shelley Marmor

Council Rep. Max Osceola spoke on behalf of the Council and himself thanking the dispatchers.

Q & A's on Seminole Police Department

Submitted by Captain Jerry Meisenheimer
 The Seminole Police Department is a unique police force in the state of Florida. Unlike police and sheriff's departments which operate in a closed geographic area, the Seminole Police are spread out serving seven locations. We are often asked how we can do that. So, we would like to share with our readers some frequently asked questions:

Does Each Reservation Have Its Own Police Department?

No, there is one agency that covers all the locations. The main administrative office is in Hollywood. There are also stations on the other reservations. All members of the police staff work under one set of policies and procedures.

How Are Police Officers Hired?

Candidates must submit a lengthy application. They are then interviewed by a board to determine if they fit the criteria for being Tribal officers. If they do, they are given a voice stress test to verify their truthfulness.

After that a background investigator checks with their references, previous employers, neighbors, etc. and makes sure they have no criminal record that would prevent them from being certified. Their driving record is also checked. The final stage of hiring is a personal interview with the chief of police, followed by a medical examination and a drug screen.

What Laws Do The Seminole Police Enforce?

Under an agreement called Public Law 280, the Seminole Tribe has agreed to follow state law. In return the Tribe is authorized by the State of Florida to operate its own police force. In addition, the Seminole Police can enforce certain federal laws under the authority of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

What Training Do The Police Officers Get?

The officers have to be State Certified under the Florida Department of Law Enforcement Bureau of Professional Standards. They are required to complete an extensive police academy; then, they must maintain their certificates by periodically completing mandatory classes for domestic violence, crimes against children, traffic stops, human diversity, etc. The training division continually puts on in-service classes and makes sure that the officers qualify with their

services weapons and tasers. Officers are also certified in operating radar for traffic enforcement. Many of the officers have college degrees and are encouraged to continue the education.

If An Officer Does A Good Job, How Can I Acknowledge It?

Police officers often are called upon to do things that are above and beyond the call of duty. The Seminole Police in particular perform functions that many other police departments don't do. If you wish to credit an officer for doing something special you can write a letter to the Chief of Police praising the officer. The letter will be placed in the officer's personnel file. These letters help determine Officer of the Year recognition too.

What If I Want To File A Complaint About An Officer?

The police department has a procedure in place to deal with complaints. A form is available at any Seminole Police Station. The person with the formal complaint can complete the form and attest to its truthfulness. The incident will then be investigated by a supervisor or the Internal Affairs Person. The complainant will be notified of the results. If the problem is of a minor nature, the immediate supervisor can help work out the differences.

How Can I Get Involved With The Many Programs The Police Department Has For The Community?

Volunteers are always welcome to assist the police department. For instance, the department is currently setting up a Neighborhood Watch program on all the reservations. A Citizen's Police Academy is being planned for Big Cypress and Brighton. A second one is in the works for Hollywood.

This hands-on course is for Tribal citizens who want to see first hand what police officers do. A Community Safe program is being set up on all the Reservations for volunteers during emergencies and hurricanes. Tribal citizens who have ATVs, swamp buggies, 4-wheel drive trucks and any kind of special equipment are being recruited to help in times of disaster. Volunteers are also needed to help before and after hurricanes to help with evacuation and preparation.

If you want to get involved, contact any Seminole Police Officer.



Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention

Submitted by Sgt. A1 Signore, Crime Prevention Unit Supervisor

An auto theft occurs about every 26 seconds in the U.S. Add it up and that's 1.2 million vehicles each year that wind up in the hands of thieves. The math doesn't get any better when you consider how much this cost us. Vehicle theft is the nation's number one property crime, costing an estimated \$82 billion annually.

So who pays for these crimes? You do; whether your auto is stolen or not, we all pay the price for vehicle theft. You... your coworkers... your neighbors... we're all victims because we pay for this crime through higher insurance rates.

According to the Insurance Information Institute, about one-third of a typical comprehensive auto insurance premium goes to pay for auto theft claims. Add it all up and we each pay hundreds of extra dollars each year in higher insurance premiums far this crime. It's not an equation that works in our favor.

Here are some Motor Vehicle Crime Prevention Recommendations:

1. **Common Sense:** This one's simple and it doesn't cost you a thing. Lock your doors, remove your keys from ignition, close your windows completely and park in well-lit areas.

2. **Visible or Audible Device.** We find vehicle alarms annoying when they go off. Even better, so do car thieves...and they avoid autos with alarms or anti-theft devices. Consider adding an anti-theft device to your vehicle, such as an audible alarm system, steering wheel locks, steering column collars, theft deterrent decals, wheel locks and/or window etching.

3. **Vehicle Immobilizer.** Thieves can bypass your ignition by "hotwiring" a vehicle. But you can put the heat on the bad guys by installing or utilizing a vehicle immobilizer system with smart keys with computer chips that must be present to start the vehicle, fuse cut-offs or starter, igni-

tion and fuel disablers.

4. **Tracking System.** A final recommendation is a tracking system that emits a signal to the police or a monitoring service when the vehicle is reported stolen. If your vehicle has a tracking system and is stolen, it can oftentimes be recovered faster and with less damage. Put your vehicle on the radar screen by installing a tracking system.

Vehicular theft is more than a joyride; it's about big money. Vehicle theft is no longer a crime committed just by teenagers out for a joyride. It's a big business run by organized crime rings out to make huge profits at your expense. While 62 percent of stolen vehicles are found (sometimes with significant damage to them), un-recovered autos often wind up in the hands of organized criminals.

From there, the vehicles might be: shipped overseas and sold on the black market, stripped at a chop shop, with its parts sold to crooked body shop operators who then sell parts or install them on other vehicles or resold to an unsuspecting consumer.

Vehicle theft is driven by money and greed. It's a dangerous business that victimizes everyone. Take a minute to do the right thing. Protect your vehicle. And, if you suspect vehicle theft activity, call the Seminole Police Department or your local agency.

If you would like to have our Crime Prevention Unit visit your business, church group, community gathering or meeting in order to provide a free seminar; please call the Seminole Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit: Crime Prevention Unit Supervisor Sgt. A1 Signore, (813) 478-2680, Big Cypress/Immokalee, Officer Tom Faherty, (239) 657-3659, Hollywood, Officer Susie Lawson, (954) 961-7877, Brighton/Ft. Pierce or Officer Ulysses Boldin, (863) 763-5731.



Top Ten Stolen Motor Vehicles

1. Toyota Camry
2. Honda Accord
3. Honda Civic
4. Chevrolet Full Size P/U
5. Ford Full Size P/U
6. Jeep Cherokee
7. Oldsmobile Cutlass
8. Dodge Caravan
9. Ford Taurus
10. Toyota Corolla

Even a fish wouldn't get caught if it kept its mouth shut

Protect yourself from making a mistake. Practice these simple phrases!

- "No, you can't search my car."
- "No, you can't search my home."
- "No, I don't want to talk with you."
- "Call my lawyer!"

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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Guy J. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the State Attorney and Public Defenders offices in Dade and Broward County; he has been in private practice for 16 years. He graduated from Nova Southeastern University Law School in 1987, and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1988.

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Chairman Cypress Gets Surprise Birthday Bash

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — DJ Sean Paul was playing soft jazzy background music to calm the crowd gathered in great anticipation for the

Everyone in unison yelled "Surprise!" for the briefly startled 59-year-old birthday boy. He laughed and smiled broadly as he recognized all his assembled friends, which consisted



Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Council Liaison Sally Tommie arrive to a "big surprise!"

of Tribal citizens and employees and invited guests. The funny thing is, he was led to believe that there was a manager's and director's meeting at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel on the afternoon of March 31. However, it turned out to be his surprise birthday bash.



Chairman Mitchell Cypress shows Sally Tommie's birthday gift, a handsome cowhide briefcase.

grand event about to begin. Everyone waited patiently and finally Chairman Mitchell Cypress popped his head through the double doors into

ated so much of his life in helping his people overcome so many hardships.



Tina Lacey shares a funny saying with the Chairman.

Everyone in the room paid their respects to Cypress by saying kind and heartfelt words in wishing the chairman the best in birthday wishes and how honored and privileged they felt knowing and working for the chairman and the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Sally Tommie was the emcee of this wonderful milestone event for the Seminole Tribe's chairman.

Sally took the wireless remote microphone to every guest around the tables that offered everyone the opportunity to spread birthday cheer directly towards the chairman. President Moses Osceola remembered how much they enjoyed running around together growing up as kids on the rez.

One personal friend of his, Kris Lawrence, said to Mitchell, "You may be old but you ain't cold!" The chairman and everyone in the room busted out laughing over this hilarious remark.

Invited guests enjoyed dining on fine cuisine exquisitely prepared especially for this occasion by the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino staff. Mitchell opened a few gifts and shared a few more laughs with everyone, especially when he was

presented with Sally's gift of a handsome cowboy cowhide briefcase that he really seemed to treasure.

After the gifts, most guests were focused on a big square creamy white birthday cake with lots of strawberries around the outside sitting in the corner. Mitchell stood up behind the cake and blew out the candle on top to warm applause. Everyone was then ready and eager to sing the favorite number one song to him, "The Happy Birthday Song."

Mitchell had a happy smile on his face as he thanked everyone for coming out and sharing in this blissful day.



Sandy Selner celebrates birthday wishes with Chairman Mitchell Cypress.



Medallion

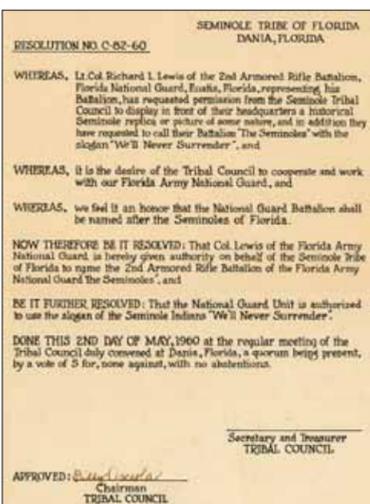
Continued from page 1

sites located on their bases. The FLARNG presently has fifty-eight installations that range from a few acres to the seventy-two thousand acre Camp Blanding facility. There are ten bases in located south of Lake Okeechobee. These include sites at Snake Creek, North Miami, Hollywood, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, Homestead and West Palm Beach. In honor of these negotiations, and the longstanding relationship between the Seminole Tribe and FLARNG, the Command of the



FLARNG had an American flag raised over the Headquarters of U.S. troops in Afghanistan, Camp Phoenix. This flag was presented by the FLARNG to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Willard Steele, who in turn presented it to the Tribal Council at the April Council meeting. It has been turned over to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum where it will be safely stored and kept for the Tribe.

In addition to the flag, a coin was presented to the Tribe by the Guard representatives. This coin was minted in honor of Desert Storm, for the Seminole Battalion of the FLARNG. The Battalion received its name and motto through a 1960 Tribal Council resolution, signed by then Chairman, Billy Osceola.



the darkly lit ballroom with Fort Pierce Council Liaison Sally Tommie by his side.

few gifts and shared a few more laughs with everyone, especially when he was



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Judy Weeks

Benny and Michelle prepare to leave the wedding reception.

Michelle Osceola and Virgil Motlow Exchange Vows

By Judy Weeks
BIG CYPRESS — The Big Cypress First Baptist Church was the scene of a fairy tale wedding on April 9 at 1 p.m., when Michelle Lynn Osceola accepted Virgil Benny Motlow's hand in marriage.

The church had been lavishly decorated with a palm covered arch and garlands of orchids in anticipation of the occasion. After the ringing of the church bell, the guests could hear the clip clop of horses' hooves on the pavement as a beautiful white carriage came into view complete with a driver in black coat and top hat.

A matched team of black horses with silver studded harness carried the bride, Michelle Osceola, and her maid of honor Nina Motlow, to the door of the church, where her father, Marcellus Osceola, waited. The bride and groom



Judy Weeks

With arms entwined the bride and groom toast their union.



Judy Weeks

The bride and groom share the first piece of their wedding cake.

future for the happy couple before pronouncing them man and wife.

A wedding reception was held in a white tent on the lawn of the church, where the guests enjoyed a generous buffet catered by Sonny's Pit Bar-B-Que. The tables were covered in white cloths with red, yellow, black and white floral and ribbon center pieces.

The newlyweds locked arms to perform the traditional toast using champagne flutes filled with iced tea to the enjoyment of their guests.

The three tier white wedding cake was frosted in a basket weave pattern with garlands of ruffles and accents of red and yellow flower buds. Between the columned layers were bouquets of orchids, fern and baby's breath. The top layer held a Seminole Bride and Groom depicting Mr. and Mrs. Motlow. The palm fiber dolls wore traditional attire in medicine colors.

With hands together the couple cut the first piece of cake which they shared before offering their guests to join them. During the serving of the cake, Pastor

had chosen Tribal medicine colors of red, yellow, black and white for their nuptials. The bride was a vision of loveliness in a beautiful traditional Seminole dress of these colors and held a bouquet of white orchids. Her maid of honor's dress continued the same color scheme with accents of turquoise and she carried a cluster of pale yellow orchids.

With the sound of the wedding march, the guests rose to watch the bride being escorted down the aisle by her father to join her future husband, Benny Motlow in front of the arch. The groom was attended by his best man Moses Jumper Jr.

Jonah Cypress was accompanied by Brenda Hummingbird and Marie Phillips in the performance of two hymns prior to the exchange of vows. Moses Jumper Jr. recited one of his poems, which had been written for just such an occasion.

Pastor Salaw Hummingbird officiated at the wedding ceremony, where the bride and groom exchanged rings as a token of their union. Quoting from the Bible, the pastor offered guidelines to the



Judy Weeks

Bride Michelle Osceola poses with her father, Marcellus Osceola, and her maid of honor, Nina Motlow, before entering the church.



Judy Weeks

Wedding party (L-R): Father of the bride Marcellus Osceola, maid of honor Nina Motlow, bride Michelle Osceola Motlow, groom Virgil "Benny" Motlow, best man Moses Jumper Jr., and Pastor Salaw Hummingbird.

Hummingbird passed the microphone around the gathering giving everyone an opportunity to toast or roast the happy couple. Several individuals took advantage of the opportunity to reminisce and offer advice for the future.

Pastor Howard Micco sang a traditional Creek song in honor of the occasion and a number of Tribal elders offered their blessing to the union.

Following the reception the newlyweds climbed into their white horse drawn carriage, waved farewell to their guests and headed down the road to their future.

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The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Family Services Department welcomes back The Summer Youth Work Experience and Internship Program!

DATES: Monday June 5 through Friday August 4.

This two-month program is designed to provide paid Internships and Work Experience for High School and College Seminole (and other Native American) Students to work within the Seminole Tribe of Florida, gaining meaningful employment experience and knowledge of the workings of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

The program provides for flexible scheduling, competitive wages, and a variety of employment opportunities! Seminars will be held during the Summer Work Program calendar on professionalism, resume building, and successful interviewing.

Applications can be found at the Tribal Headquarters Office in Human Resources, any Education Department office, and the Family Services Department offices. Application deadline is May 22. For any questions on the application, please call (954) 965-1300, Ext. 175.

Sponsored through the Family Services Department's Adult Vocational Programs. Please return all applications to Jasmine Porter, Adult Vocational Administrator, Family Services Department, 3006 Josie Billie Ave., Hollywood, FL 33024. (954) 965-1300, Ext. 175.



The Family Services Department's Adult Vocational Program Open house!

Get more information on earning a vocational certificate, working on your GED, or employment opportunities through the Work Experience Program!

Applications will be available for all programs as well as Adult Vocational Program staff to answer all your questions.

Please see the following list of dates for the reservation nearest to you:

- Hollywood Field Office 05/15/06, 9-11 am
- Immokalee Field Office 05/15/06, 1-3 pm
- Big Cypress 06/01/06, 10-2 pm
- Brighton 06/15/06, 10-2 pm

Please contact Jasmine Porter, Family Services Department, Adult Vocational Administrator, with any further questions, 954.965.1300, ext. 175.



Visiting Seminole Aquaculture

By Susan Etzebarria
BRIGHTON — Driving down the long dusty road to the headquarters of Seminole Aquaculture at Brighton reservation the world seems serene; no hubbub of activity is noticeable. You see the wide blue sky contrasting against fields of wild grasses surrounding large rectangular shaped ponds of

raise and sell turtles. The Tribe assumed operations about 15 years ago, says Valentin.

Tilapia is a wonderful edible fleshy fish that is close in taste to perch. Tilapia is in high demand.

“We have a steady flow of customers who buy our tilapia fingerlings for restaurants and especially for the Hispanic market,” said Valentin. “The turtle eggs end up in China.”

On the day of this interview one customer drops in with an unexpected order for 35,000 tilapia fingerlings and suddenly there’s lots of activity as workers hustle to harvest the fish for the customer.

Seminole Aquaculture is the largest freshwater aquaculture operation in the Southeast United States, according to Valentin who has managed the farm since 2002. The operation requires less than 11 employees to function at full force. Valentin says there is only one larger operation which is a 1,000-acre farm in Jamaica.

Workers at Seminole Aquaculture perform jobs similar to ranching and farming. Besides the many details involved in raising and tending a crop, they have grasses to mow, fences to mend, out buildings to maintain.

One female tilapia reproduces every 120 days and gives birth to 1,000 to 2,000 babies yet only 50 percent survive because of predators.

One of Valentin’s many duties is to shoo away predators, not kill them. Birds of prey include cormorants, wood storks, crane, osprey and even pelicans fly through in large flocks about once a year. Raccoons must be captured or killed. Because of the predators, including human ones, Valentin lives on the premises to protect the grounds and aqua crop 24 hours a day.

“It’s an adventure,” he said. “The winds die down and the ponds are really still.

Even though the ponds are self-aerating, sometimes when the wind dies down the oxygen gets cut off and for the fish life it is a disaster waiting.”

After many windless days six months ago Valentin was worried about the fish. Then, unexpectedly he observed a large cloud of swallows descending on a pond.

“There might have been 2,000–3,000 birds. They started to circle around the center of the pond and made a lot of wind and that made the pond aerate,” he said. “In my heart I said ‘Thank You, God!’ He sent the birds to help me.”

One swallow eats about 2,000 insects a day and on the surface of the still ponds mosquitoes had been swarming to lay their eggs.

Valentin says Seminole Aquaculture has the potential to sell \$6 million worth of product a year.

“Tilapia is the most eaten fish in the world,” he said.

Currently his biggest challenge is finding and keeping laborers, updating equipment and remodeling the outbuildings and structures in order to capitalize on the farm’s potential.

All of the tilapia raised in the ponds must be captured in 20-50 pound nets and casting the nets is hard work requiring a strong arm and back. The worker stands on the side of a bank to throw the net. It takes a certain kind of talent to throw the net so it will arc in the air opening like a parachute and spread out on the water’s surface when it lands. It is preferable to cast the

net with the wind to help carry the net and get a farther reach. The net sinks into the four-and-a-half foot deep pond. Then it is drawn back to the bank.

The net may contain as many as 20 fish weighing one to two pounds each. Or, it may be



IT IS IN THE WRIST: Arnaldo Hernandez tosses the castnet into the water.

Susan Etzebarria



Susan Etzebarria

Ray and Irma Valentin protect the grounds 24 hours a day.

tea-colored water.

But, don’t let the solitude of this 235-acre aqua farm fool you. The signature of Seminole Aquaculture is its environmentally and ecologically friendly preserve of abundant wildlife and birds unlike most aquaculture operations that are primarily built upon cement with their cemented ponds and cemented vats, says the Director of Aquaculture Ray Valentin.

Here there are more than 21

five-acre ponds, and 10 to 18 ponds 10 acres or more in size that are teeming with life hidden from view. Seminole Aquaculture’s primary crop is hundred

of thousands, perhaps millions, of fish known as tilapia and soft shell turtles; including their precious turtle eggs. Occasionally they capture, raise and sell small gators.

Despite the isolation, Seminole Aquaculture is visited by researchers, other breeders and schools wanting to expose students to farm techniques practiced in the aquaculture industry.

For the aquaculture operation, the Seminole

“when the wind dies down the oxygen gets cut off ... for the fish life it is a disaster waiting to happen”



Susan Etzebarria

(L-R) Sergio Sanchez, Ray Valentin and Paulino Garcia inspect the 2 pounder .

Tribe of Florida utilizes land that long ago was the source of shell for building and development on the reservation. When the digging was finished the pits were converted to another use. Nearly 25 years ago the Tribe originally leased the land to Chinese investors to

higher than many farm worker wages but it is still hard to attract permanent workers, says Valentin.

Fish are often located with the use of a fish finder but Valentin has done the work often enough himself to have a second sense of where the fish are swarming. Keeping the ponds in the right balance requires a lot of testing and checking water temperatures which should maintain an ideal temperature for tropical fish of 70 to 90 degrees.

Both the tilapia and turtles are fed twice a week with a fish food called Nutrena made by Cargill. Each pond gets 61 bags of feed. After the feeding of fish is the best time to cast the nets. If overfed the tilapia or turtles produce too much nitrites and the pond can become chemically imbalanced. The toxic water will then kill off newly spawned babies so the acidity levels needs to be checked often.

The turtle farm operation is fundamentally the gathering of the eggs, raising turtles from the eggs, or selling the turtles to other breeders. Digna Salmon has worked for the Tribe for many years and is very skilled at gathering the eggs.

First they have to be found and flagged. It requires five people with long sticks that line up along the bank poking for a bed of eggs.

empty. It can take many casts before the day is done. Each day the crew has a standing order to gather 400–500 pounds of Tilapia that requires four men to cast nets and pull in 100 pounds of fish. The pay is

When one is found they know they hit pay dirt. Salmon, the assistant director at the farm, picks them carefully out of the water in the exact same position in which they lie in the nest and lays them in ice.



Susan Etzebarria

Ray Valentin and Paulino Garcia check the fish from the last collection.

The eggs can not be turned upside down. They are taken back to be placed in trays of sand in the turtle incubator, a large wood building that holds shelves and shelves of trays. Proper handling of the eggs is crucial. The temperature of the incubator is 89 degrees. Unfertilized eggs are sold to be eaten and fertile eggs are hatched and then they sell the baby turtles.

This one incubator holds 20,000 eggs but there was a much bigger incubator room that was destroyed by Hurricane Wilma. The Tribal Council is hoping to re-open it by August. It costs \$75,000 to remodel the room.

Since Seminole Aquaculture is a Council project, Brighton’s Council Representative Andy Bowers often visits the farm to assess the needs, problems and profits of the business, says Valentin.

“To be a fish farmer is a lot of responsibility. I have to make sure the farm is well kept. I am responsible for the production, harvesting and supervision of the people. I feel privileged to get to work with all of this and the Tribe,” said Valentin.

The ponds fan out around the buildings and many are beautiful places surrounded by trees and bushes that give shade and provide catfish, some crappie and tilapia. Often preschool children and older youth are brought to fish there.

Valentin encourages Tribal citizens to use their land at Seminole Aquaculture for fishing, camping and picnics. His mobile home sits in the midst of the commercial area where he can guard the ponds from predators. He and his family live there full time.

If anyone has any questions Valentin says he is there most of the time along with his wife, Irma, who also works for the Tribe as the secretary of Seminole Aquaculture.

“turtle eggs can not be turned upside down . . . proper handling of the eggs is crucial”



Susan Etzebarria

Turtle eggs must be extracted and relocated in the same position.

1. Sam Jones - A Very Important Figure in Seminole History - *White Chocolate & Raspberry*
2. Billy Bowlegs - Lead the Seminoles in the 3rd Seminole War - *Dark Chocolate & Caramel*
3. Remember the Clans! - All 9 Clans: Otter Bear, Snake, Panther, Big Town, Bird, Deer, Wind and the extinct Alligator - *Iced Lattes*
4. Josie Billie - One of the Strongest Medicine Men of the Seminole Tribe - *Dark Chocolate & Hazelnut*
5. Ingram Billie - Brother of Josie, also a Powerful Medicine Man - *Vanilla & Hazelnut*
6. Laura Mae Osceola - Instrumental in getting Federal Recognition of the Seminole Tribe - *Dark Chocolate & Banana*
7. Joe Dan Osceola - Youngest elected President & First Ambassador - *Almond & Dark Chocolate*
8. Fred Smith - Longest serving Tribal President - *Dark Chocolate & Mint*
9. Jim Shore - Longtime General Legal Counsel of the Seminole Tribe - *Dark Chocolate & Raspberry*
10. Betty Mae Jumper - First Chairwoman of the Seminoles - *Apple & Cinnamon*
11. James Billie - Longest Serving Elected Chairman of the Tribe - *Vanilla & Caramel*

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12. Priscilla Sayen - Long time Respected Tribal Secretary - *Irish Cream & Hazelnut*
13. Howard Tiger - First Military person Elected President, Organized sports programs for the Seminole Youth - *Dark Chocolate*
14. Mitchell & David Cypress - Brothers and Leaders from the Big Cypress Reservation - *White Chocolate & Caramel*
15. David DeHass - Hollywood Representative - Board - *Dark Chocolate & Coconut*
16. Moses Osceola - President of the Seminole Tribe - *Irish Cream & Dark Chocolate*
17. Roger Smith - Brighton Representative - Council - *Dark Chocolate & Vanilla*
18. Paul Bowers - Big Cypress Representative - Board - *Caramel & Hazelnut*
19. Johnny Jones - Brighton Representative - Board - *Dark Chocolate & Preline*
20. Howard Tommie - 2 Term Elected Chairman, Introduced Seminole Bingo - *Dark Chocolate & Honey*
21. Mike Tiger - Former Director of Indian Health Svs & current Treasurer - *Half and Half, Sugar and whipped cream*
22. Winifred Tiger - Helped Seminole Youth stay in School, graduate and go to college. - *English Toffee & Vanilla*

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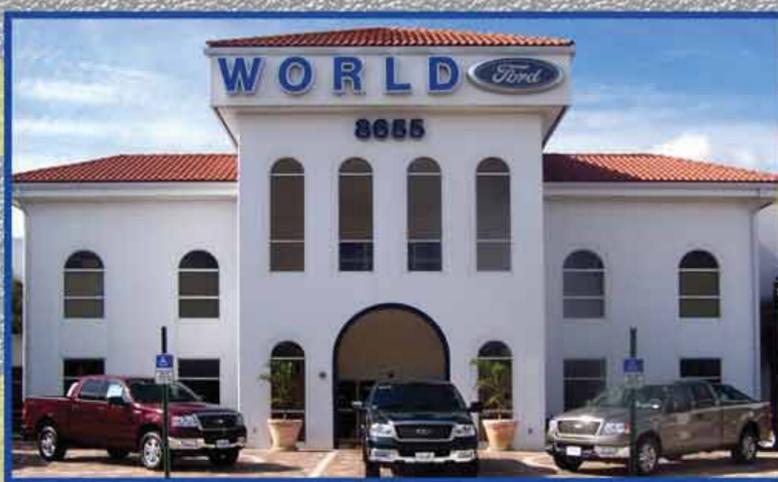
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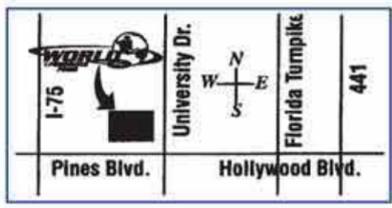
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Clint Bowers and Dewell Johns

Eric Bricker

Young Rockers Perform at 4H Show & Sale

Submitted by Eric Bricker

BRIGHTON — The sky over Brighton somehow seems larger to me than it does in other places. I was thinking about that while I watched the sun off in the distance to the west. It was burning in a perfect circle, like an orange suspended by a string. There was a slight breeze in the air, and the cool felt good against my face. There was no mistake about it, this was a perfect day, and I was grateful for that.

It was 3:30 p.m. on March 24, and there was nothing left for me to do but wait. I busied myself by

tonight was all about, young people building confidence.

Robert North and his son, RC arrived from Hollywood. Robert skillfully guided the truck and trailer around the crowds of people preparing for the sale. Robert stepped out of the truck and looked curiously at the stage.

All six of us quickly moved to the trailer and began unloading equipment including drums, hardware, RC's guitars and amplifier, and the PA sound system. Robert is the director of development and operations for the Seminole Tribe of Florida Boys & Girls Club.

He's also been a drummer since he was a young teen. He and I developed the idea of a youth prevention program that involved music, and tonight these four youth were going to have the opportunity to show the community what they could do.

RC went about tuning his guitar and adjusted the microphone to the right height. He had the acumen of a seasoned professional musician, which is basically what he is. At the age of sixteen, he's already recorded his own album and played in front of live audiences in three different states.

To me, his hallmark is in his ability write original music that he can actually bring to life through performance. He has an artist's vision and sense of perfectionism. His unassuming nature belies his extraordinary blend of depth, intellect, wit and sincerity. It's very easy to forget that he's only sixteen years old.

We had the stage all rigged up and ready to go by 5:30 p.m., supper time. All of the guests and participants were called for dinner. Moses Osceola, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., president did the invocation and blessing over the meal. Mike Bond, the extension agent for the 4H program came to the stage and announced the band to the crowd.

Mike and his boss Polly Hayes, 4-H coordinator and longtime Brighton community member, had been working with us from the beginning. They were the ones who provided us with the practice space and the opportunity to play at the livestock sale. I'd say that we had been very fortunate to have them working with us.

Our set list included classics such as "Folsom Prison Blues" by Johnny Cash, "Simple Man" by Lynyrd Skynyrd, "Bound to the Floor" by Local H,

acing nervously around the small aluminum stage, trying to picture how we were going to fit all six of us and our gear on the narrow metal planks.

The 4-H barn was brimming with activity as the young cowboys and cowgirls prepared their livestock for the evening's sale. It was surprisingly quiet as the participants expertly maneuvered their cows and pigs in and among the pens which were lined up in rows under the shelters, and on the field next to the 4H barn.

Dewell Johns and Clint Bowers were the first to arrive. Dewell wasted no time before plugging his amplifier into an outlet, tuning up his guitar, and starting to play. "Hey Eric, do you know this one?" he asked. It was the unmistakable opening riff to Joe Walsh's "Life's Been Good To Me So Far." As usual, he pretty much nailed it.

We sat for a while, tuning up and warming up as Dewell showed me some of his latest material. I smiled to myself as I was thinking that there were few things more gratifying than working with a young person who loves to learn.

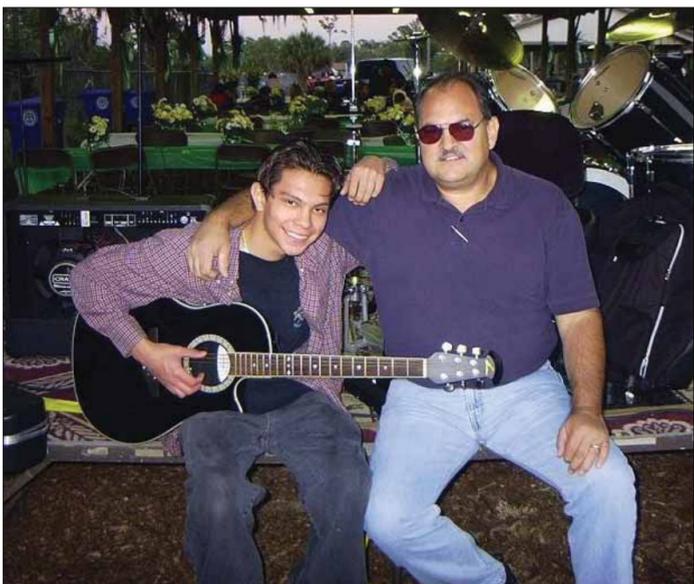
Clint laid his hard-shell case down on the stage and flipped open the two latches in a single motion. He opened the case to reveal what looked like a medieval combat weapon, but it was just his new Ibanez bass. It was stained a very cool shade of sunburst, and it had really nice hardware.

He plugged in next to Dewell and began plucking away. The stage began to vibrate from the bass amplifier's deep rumble. He sounded really good and it was easy to see that he had made some pretty substantial progress since we all started playing together in December 2005.

As usual, Troy Billie was so quiet, I never heard him arrive. "Hey Troy, are we going to hear that original song tonight or what?" I asked. Troy shook his head "no" and smiled.

Troy had already told me that he didn't feel ready to play the song in front of an audience, but I thought it was worth a try. The truth is that it's a really great song, and he wrote it. However, he's the artist and it's his choice when the song gets played.

I wondered if Troy realized how much talent and potential he really had. I remember thinking that he was definitely the kind of young person whose ability would take off once he develops more confidence in himself. After all, for us, that was what



R.C. and Robert North

Eric Bricker

"Creep" by Stone Temple Pilots, "Knock'n on Heavens Door" by Bob Dylan, "All Along the Watchtower" also by Bob Dylan, and an improvised blues jam. The young men played very well and the show went off without a hitch.

We received lots of applause, particularly when each of the young men was introduced by name. When it was all over, we shook hands and congratulated each other on the job well done. Dewell's father, Marty Johns approached as we packed up Robert's truck.

Robert greets Marty and says, "Dewell is very talented." Marty smiles with the unmistakable pride shared between fathers and sons. He nods his head in approval at the compliment and then states with authority "He ought to be, he spends enough time at it."

We stayed around for a little while talking before Dewell, Troy and Clint went off to be with their friends and families. Robert and RC got into the truck, waved goodbye, and turned the rig around to head back to Hollywood. I took off shortly after.

We all left with the same thought in mind: "I can't wait to do this again."

Memorial Jamboree Held for Junior Buster and Jimmie Roberts

By Marlin J. Billie

BIG CYPRESS — The Junior Buster & Jimmie Roberts Memorial Jamboree was a musical memorial for two men that brought their musical talents to whomever they happened to come across.

Many people have memories of when Jimmie Roberts would travel to camps and bring his guitar. Junior Buster brought rhythm along with gospel. Music brought smiles and happiness to places where people had been working hard all day. Something to keep togetherness among the families, a bond everyone can relate. Music soothes the soul.

Linda Beletso, one of Jimmie Robert's children, along with Paul Buster, Junior Buster's son, came together with the thought of bringing several different Seminole musicians to play in Big Cypress. Linda Beletso's camp is right off the main road, SR 833, which is an original home site to the family. A large opened tent, tables and chairs were brought in to help. Paul Buster brought his set up of guitars mics, etc... for everyone to use. Throughout the day, microphone time was given to several different people including Linda Beletso, Jo M. North, Andy Buster along with Paul to share some of the memories of either of these men or of their own parents and music with those attending. There were even old guitars displayed that were ownership of Junior Buster. The memory that musicians of old can create could become plenty for a song. The different types of music for the day

showed all types of uniqueness, from gospel to rock; Singers and music players were: Dan Osceola and daughter Vivian, Andy Buster, R.C. North, his father



Marlin J. Billie

Paul Buster, Jessica Buster, R.C. North, Linda Beletso, and Andy Buster.

Robert playing drums, and Paul Buster and The Cowbone Band featuring Paul's daughter, Jessica Buster. Teresa Jumper presented karaoke, bringing out more singers.

Talent wasn't just showcased with music, clothing, jewelry, and all kinds of beaded items were also there.

The musical memorial was a great way to honor men of different times and the pride that they helped generate for future generations.

Family Fun Day May 18 for Seminole Youth/Community

What: Celebrate the end of the school year with the whole family. You will have a chance to play together, win exciting prizes, listen to the youth band and meet the people who serve you and your children.

Where: At the Hollywood rez ball field, In front of the Boys & Girls Club

When: Thursday, May 18

3:00 – Games and activities for youth and families

4:00 – Concert begins with youth bands

4:00 – 6:00 Interactive community booths & prizes

6:00 – Dinner/Invocation/Brief Speeches/Concert/Raffle

Sponsored by: Boys & Girls Club, Health, Language & Culture, Recreation, Family Services, Seminole Police, Education, PAC, Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola & Hollywood Board Representative Gloria Wilson

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Okeechobee Battlefield Saved For Future Generations

By Susan Etxebarria
TALLAHASSEE, FL — Governor Jeb Bush and the Florida Cabinet agreed Tuesday April 4 to purchase and preserve 145.5 acres of land where great

this goal. For a few years a committee was formed called the "Friends of Okeechobee" and they sponsored fantastic re-enactments.



Painting By Guy LaBree
Sam Jones "Abiaka"

The first re-enactment attracted 600 people; by 2004 there were 4,000. Tribal citizen, Sandra Osceola of Brighton, sat on the Board of Directors of the Friends for several years.

"I can't believe it actually happened. This is huge step, a big step, and I hope more Brighton residents will want to get involved in this," Osceola said.

Osceola said Lorene Gopher and her family had helped a lot and she wanted to emphasize a lot of credit also goes to Shawn Henderson. She really "stayed on this and got it done," she said.

"I got involved on the Board of Directors of the Friends because I am a direct descendent of Abiaka (Alligator) and because of him I am here today," she said.

William Steele, historic preservation officer for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, was also present in Tallahassee to attend the signing of the agreement by the governor. Steele said he, and other archeologists, have been involved in the ongoing effort to save the

warriors like Alligator, Coacooche (Wild Cat) and Sam Jones (Abiaka) stood up against the U.S. Army in a violent battle to defend the freedoms of the Seminole peoples.

The site of the Battle of Okeechobee that took place on December 25, 1837, is a historically important place with much significance for Tribal citizens of the Seminole Tribe.

This acreage, located on US 441 South as you drive past Treasure Island, was becoming a juicy piece of land which developers eyed for future growth. Now, thanks to the efforts of many people over the years, especially members of the Seminole Tribe, it will become a state park. The focal point of this park's attractions will be a living history museum to memorialize the Seminole people and the great battle they fought there.

"The creation of this new park's museums and educational components will require great involvement and great input from the Tribe," said Shawn Henderson, of the President's Office of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. "We are going to have much work to do, all kinds of committees will be needed."

Henderson began working on behalf of the Tribe to help secure these lands six years ago and she was present at the signing of the agreement in Tallahassee to use funds from Forever Florida, a program designed to preserve endangered lands.

It will cost the state \$3.2 million dollars to purchase the lands. Florida State Parks will then have to plan for roads, bathrooms, campgrounds, offices, kiosks and many other features of the park.

Henderson wanted all the readers to know just how much representatives of state and regional agencies, as well as civic leaders in Okeechobee City, Fla. have worked to support this project including Okeechobee City Councilman Dowling Watford. Also, she said that State Representative Richard Macheke, D-Delray Beach, deserved appreciation for his tireless efforts to get the agreement signed in Tallahassee.

"Macheke was a major driving force and really had his heart into this," she said. "We've gotten over a huge, huge hurdle."

With land prices escalating in Okeechobee she said "in this day and age of development 145.5 acres is a miracle."

Okeechobee Battlefield for 21 years but he was quick to point out that throughout the years there have been many others.

He said Billy Bowlegs III had tried to bring



awareness of the site 44 years ago when he brought historians to see the site known to have been the camp of Alligator.

Some say who won the war is in debate. Don't buy the exaggerated claims made by General Zachary Taylor to the War Department in Washington that he won the battle, said Steele.

Like Andrew Jackson, Taylor's political ambition landed him in the White House in 1848; the propaganda he circulated about his victories against the Seminoles led to the nickname "Old Rough and Ready" referring to Taylor's boast that he was ready to encounter the rough terrain.

"The fact is he lost a lot more soldiers than the Seminoles. I don't think the U.S. Army could have afforded more victories like that," said Steele.

The battle launched by the U.S. Army pitted 1,000 soldiers against 400 Indians and their allies, as well as Black marksmen escaping from enslavement



Painting By Guy LaBree
Mississippi Volunteers who wore white uniforms were sent in across the marsh first by Zachary Taylor before his troops came.

A purchase of this magnitude takes a lot of support and there have been many people dedicated to accomplishing

ment by Southern plantation owners. Greatly outnumbered, the Seminoles succeeded in killing 26 soldiers and wounding



In "Battle of Okeechobee" Guy LaBree paint depicts the battle between Taylor's troops and the Seminoles.

112.

The U.S. Army killed 11 Seminoles and wounded 14. Once the army was pushed back from their attack, the Indians quickly and wisely retreated, eventually

Tribal fairs and festivals. He said the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and Museum Director Tina Osceola will be heavily involved. There will be opportunities for the Tribe to guide the state parks in developing appropriate programs and offer public events. "The museum in Big Cypress has

always been the main museum for the Tribe. The Okalee has always been the front door to the BC museum," Steele said. "What we would like to do is turn the Okeechobee Battlefield into the front door to the Brighton Seminole Reservation."

With the backing of the State Parks, the re-enactment may be offered once again, maybe more than once a year. "This is an economic opportunity for local communities to increase tourism. There are people who only tour battlefields," said Steele.

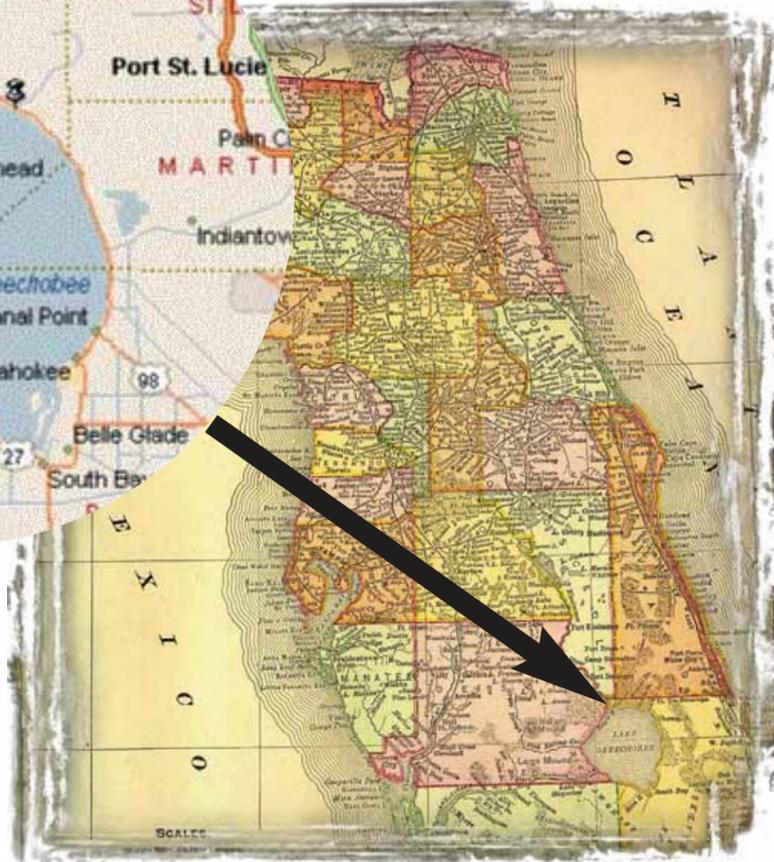
The re-enactment of the Civil War battle at Olustee, Florida, drew 40,000 people this year.

Even the federal government has a stake in supporting this kind of project and the preservation of historic sites. In 2003, President George Bush signed an Executive Order called Preserve America which Steele pointed out to his brother, the Governor.

In the executive order Section 5 reads verbatim: "To the extent permitted by law and within existing resources, the Secretary of Commerce, working with the Council and other agencies, shall assist States, Indian tribes, and local communities in promoting the use of historic properties for heritage tourism and related economic development in a manner that contributes to the long-term preservation and productive use of those properties. Such assistance shall include efforts to strengthen and improve heritage tourism activities throughout the country as they relate to Federally owned historic properties and significant natural assets on Federal lands."

This executive order helped the governor and the cabinet to preserve the Okeechobee Battlefield as well as the following words in Section 5.

"Where consistent with agency missions and governing law, and where appropriate, agencies shall use historic properties in their ownership in conjunction with State, tribal, and local tourism programs to foster viable economic partnerships, including, but not limited to, cooperation and coordination with tourism officials and others with interests in the properties."



The battlefield site is off of the north corner of Lake Okeechobee in Florida, the parcel of land that was purchased for preservation is shown above left.

moving south to find sanctuary in the Everglades.

According to the authors of Seminole Wars by John and Mary Lou Missall "the mission of the Seminole warriors had been to slow the Americans down enough to allow the women and children to escape. The mission accomplished, it was time to go."

Many Seminoles today can trace their personal ancestry to those who fought so valiantly in the Okeechobee Battlefield. It was the last real stand up battle that ended the Second Seminole War. For years there was an uneasy silence from Washington until the eruption of the Third Seminole War which warfare strategy is better characterized as skirmishes rather than battles.

Saving this precious Okeechobee Battlefield from the bulldozer took a lot of persuasion. The National Trust for Historic Preservation joined the effort in 2000. They put the battlefield on their list as one of this country's 11 most endangered historic sites.

What sort of things will the Tribe be able to do at the new state park, and who will do it? Steele said there has been talk about building a museum, and provide living history events such as creating a cooking chickee and putting on demonstrations of traditional Seminole foods, much like the cultural exhibits at the



This recreational map of Lake Okeechobee shows the magnitude of outdoor activity around the lake.



Chris Jenkins

Members of the Seminole Police Department share in on the fun in the potato sack race.



Chris Jenkins

These two show teamwork and coordination.



Chris Jenkins

It's a race to the finish as these toddlers show the adults how it's done in the potato sack race.



Chris Jenkins

Two preschoolers accept their prizes during award presentations.

Hollywood Preschool Field Day

By Chris Jenkins

HOLLYWOOD — March 24 was a great day to motivate, encourage friendly competition and have fun, as part of the 5th Annual Hollywood Preschool Field Day. The event was held at the Hollywood baseball field for infants through age five. The games and activities lasted from 9–11:30 am.

The parent committee sponsored Field Day by raising funds through bake sales, breakfast sales, and catalog fund raising. T-shirts, tents and tables were also provided.

First Year Parent Coordinator Downa Bell was enthusiastic about the day and outcome.

"It's all positive energy, [the kids and parents] can come out and have fun," Bell said. "It's also healthy and everything is good for the kids."

This year featured seven games and activities working on eye, hand and foot coordination. The events included: funky feet, soccer, the three-legged race, the bean bag toss, mini-golf, the potato sack race and infant mats.

Everyone came out a winner, receiving a certificate, necklace, medal,

or small trophy.

Parent Sarah Muniz had two kids in this year's activities; Xiora, 4 and Mary Jane, 2. Muniz said the annual event is great and important toward language skills development and maintaining customs among peers.

"It helps to keep them within the traditions, and helps them interact with most of the kids here, and other people," she said.

The origins of the day came from parents and preschool teachers who decided to do more with the kids outside the classroom environment, and according to fifth year Preschool Director Leona Tommie-Williams, what began as a small get together involving only a few parents with only four games and activities, has blossomed more every year.

Members of the Seminole Police Department as well as the Hollywood Gym have now been involved for three years. Williams was confident about the field day's future possibilities saying, "Maybe one day in the future we might compete with other schools on different reservations."



Chris Jenkins

Two participants enjoy their medals after a great day of fun.



Chris Jenkins

In one of the Field Day's new activities, infants get in on the fun with play mats and fun balls.



Chris Jenkins

She leaves 'em in the dust!



Chris Jenkins

Ready, aim, throw!



Chris Jenkins

Showing off those soccer skills.



Jimmy Wayne Holdiness
Seminole Indian Chickee Builder

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The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Richard Castillo worked as a Public Defender in Broward County from 1990-1996 and has been in private practice for nine years. 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.

Making Healthy Changes

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

"I know I need to make some changes, but how?" This may be a question you have asked yourself or heard someone else ask themselves. Busy lifestyles, lack of exercise, fast food, or not enough sleep can all bring havoc to your health, especially if you have diabetes.

Brighton's Grace (Youngblood) Koontz has made several healthy changes over the past year and a

weeks, and she was the second woman to complete that goal. Her weight loss was a bonus!

To keep making changes, Grace joined our Lifestyle Balance Program the next January. Lifestyle Balance is a 16 week program designed to help people to eat healthier, lower fat foods, increase exercise and decrease stress.

Grace attended class, lowered the fat in her diet, exercised more, and learned some stress management. She was very successful in Lifestyle Balance and continued to shed extra pounds.

In October 2005, Grace joined the pedometer contest again to encourage her exercise routine. When Lifestyle Balance started again in January 2006, not only did Grace join but she offered to help cook the healthy meals for the lunchtime meetings.

Grace has maintained her more than 60 pound weight loss to date by continuing to exercise more, cook healthier meals for her family, make better choices while dining out and sticking to her plan. She has made many healthy changes and can see the results in her lower blood sugars and not having to take insulin anymore.

Healthy habits are attainable, and well worth it! Change takes time and patience. Start out with a goal and a plan. The goal should be something that you truly believe that you are capable of doing. The plan should be specific, small steps to get you from what you are doing now to what you would like to do.

"I want to lose weight" is a bit too general. A better example of a goal would be "I want to lose 10 pounds, so I can better manage my diabetes."

It can be overwhelming to set a goal of losing 25 or 50 pounds. So, breaking your main goal into smaller goals can really help to make it easier to do. In making a plan, saying "I'm going to exercise" is a bit vague. "I'm going to walk five days a week for 30 minutes, after dinner" is very specific and easier to follow.



Health Department

(L-R) Grace Youngblood-Koontz and Darin Koontz.

half and can feel the benefits. Grace joined our pedometer contest in October 2004 and started walking with a goal of 5.7 miles per day.

The contest goal was 200 miles in five

weeks, and she was the second woman to complete that goal. Her weight loss was a bonus!

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Seminole Children's Dental Health Poster Contest/Raffle Winners

Submitted by the Seminole Dental Program

Congratulations to Sabre Billie, winner of the Seminole children's dental health month activities raffle. Billie received a custom gift basket designed just for her including an iPod® and iPod® protective cover, a Barbie™ B Learning Laptop and two CD's.

Billie's name was chosen at random from those who completed the four designated activities celebrating Seminole children's dental health month. Activities were conducted at the Big Cypress Community Center, the Brighton Youth Center, the Hollywood Boys & Girls Club and the Immokalee Youth Center, and included the creation of a poster along with dental word puzzles, searches and games.

Children completing each activity received a special gift from the dental program including a light-up toothbrush, a tooth-shaped note pad, a school pencil kit,



Dental Program

Raffle winner Sabre Billie (center) and parents Sheila and William Bevenue.

Immokalee Dental Clinic Now Open

Submitted by the Seminole Dental Program

The Seminole Dental Program is pleased to announce that the Immokalee Dental Clinic is now open to provide dental and oral health care for residents of the Immokalee and surrounding communities.

The Immokalee Dental Clinic will be opera-

tional on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The telephone number to schedule an appointment is (239) 867-3410.

If anyone wishes to transfer their dental records to the new clinic, a records transfer form must be completed and is available at all community dental clinics.

Ask The Counselor

Dear Counselor,

My sweetheart and I have been living together for four years; we have a good relationship and plan to marry. However and there always seems to be a "however" when it comes to men—he appears to be addicted to the computer, and it goes far beyond his just working at home.

He spends all of his time and waking hours on the computer, which he has given a pet name. If we're watching a game or a movie, he has the computer in front of him. I've awakened and found him in bed—with his computer.

I've checked and he's not in the chat rooms or visiting porno sites. In fact, he only e-mails when its work related.

I care a lot about him, but I'm beginning to wonder if this love affair with his computer is going to delete me from a meaningful place in his life. Counselor, should I be worried?

Signed,
Lost



Basil Phillips
M.S. Mental Health Counseling

Letters of interest from the community

All letters should be sent to
ASK THE COUNSELOR
Family Services Department
3006 Josie Billie Avenue
Hollywood, FL 33024
basilphillips@semtribe.com

Dear Lost,

Rather than worry, develop a strategy to outwit that intruding computer so that you can get what you want and need while reeling in your partner's obsession. Make him shut down his computer and talk, face-to-face.

Don't scream, don't nag, but discuss your concerns. Tell him you need more of his time and attention, which you can't get when he's constantly glued to the computer.

With your partner, set aside a period each week when the two of you can enjoy uninterrupted time together. One week you decide what you two will do; he decide the next week. Computer-related activities should be off-limits.

In addition, you should develop your own hobbies so that you won't feel neglected when he's with his other love.

Signed,
Counselor



Dental Program

Sabre Billie (left) with Yolanda Valdez, assistant director of the Big Cypress Community Center.

and a pot and 'seeded' tooth to grow forget-me-not flowers.

Education advisors from Ft. Pierce, Tampa and Trail as well as the Field Office in Naples also distributed dental activities and gifts to the school children in their areas.

Winners of the poster contest are: Big Cypress: Bianca Acosta, Katie Bert, Eyanna Billie, Gloria Brooks, Anthony Cypress and Annabelle Whiteshield; Hollywood: Delia Harjo Tiffany Baker and Jaide Micco; Immokalee: Jon Jimmie, and Keniya Yzaguirre. There is also one name unknown winner.

The Seminole Dental Program would like to recognize and thank Yolanda Valdez, Salina Dorgan, Robert North, Thommy Doud, Gary McInturff, Emma Brown, Stephanie Johns, Ericka Cypress, Kristine Frank and all staff that assisted the Dental Program in making this year's Seminole children's dental health something to cheer.

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Anthony "Tony" Scalese
Tribal Member Pueblo of Isleta

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Wellness Conference

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The Healthy Senior

By Fred Cicetti
[Editor's Note: Fred Cicetti is a syndicated columnist who writes about issues concerning senior citizens' health. The opinions he expressed are his own. If you would like to ask a question, please write fredcicetti@gmail.com. All Rights Reserved © 2006 by Fred Cicetti]

Q. I've been told I should exercise more, but I'm afraid that at my age (73) I might damage something. Am I safer as a couch potato?

All the current scientific evidence shows that geezers should exercise, even though many older people think it could harm them. Study after study demonstrates that seniors hurt their health a lot more by being sedentary.

If you're inactive, you deteriorate. Physical activity can help restore your capacity. Most older adults, regardless of age or condition, will benefit from increasing physical activity to a moderate level.

Warning: If you want to begin a new exercise program, you should consult your physician and request a list of exercises that are best for your age and physical condition.

Four types of exercise are important for your health. These are exercises for strength, balance, stretching and endurance.

Strength exercises build muscle and raise your metabolism. Doing these exercises will help to keep your weight down.

Balance exercises help prevent falls and, therefore, will keep you from breaking yourself and losing your independence. Each year, U.S. hospitals have 300,000 admissions for broken hips; many of them are the result of falls.

Stretching exercises give you more freedom of movement. And endurance exercises raise your pulse and breathing.

Here are 10 tips to make any exercise program safe:

1. Don't hold your breath during strength exercises. This could affect your blood pressure.
2. When lifting weights, use smooth, steady movements. Breathe out as you lift or push a weight, and breathe in as you relax.

3. Avoid jerking or thrusting movements.
4. Avoid locking the joints of your arms and legs into a strained position.
5. Some soreness and slight fatigue are normal after muscle-building exercises. Exhaustion, sore joints, and painful muscle pulls are not normal.
6. Always warm up before stretching exercises.
7. Stretching should never cause pain, especially joint pain.
8. Never bounce into a stretch; make slow steady movements instead.
9. To prevent injuries, use safety equipment such as helmets for biking.
10. You should be able to talk during endurance exercises. Measuring your progress can motivate you. Test yourself before starting to exercise to get a baseline score. Test and record your scores each month. The following are some tests you can use, if your doctor approves.
 - For endurance, see how far you can walk in exactly six minutes. For lower-body strength, time yourself as you walk up a flight of stairs as fast as you can safely. For upper-body strength, record how much weight you lift and how many times you lift that weight. For balance, time yourself as you stand on one foot, without support, for as long as possible. Have someone stand near you in case you lose your balance. Repeat the test while standing on the other foot.
 - Remember, above all, exercise should make you feel better.

Nutrition and Dental Health

Submitted by the Seminole Dental Program

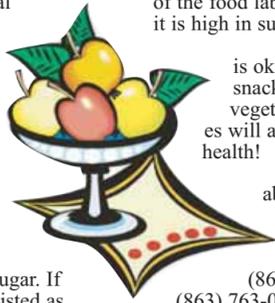
March was National Nutrition Month. Good nutrition plays an important role in good dental health. Frequent snacking of sugary goodies and drinks increases the risk of developing tooth decay.

Some snacks have "hidden sugars." Corn syrup, high fructose corn syrup, modified cornstarch, and maltose are all sugar. If you see one of these terms listed as one of the first ingredients on a food

label—be cautious. Many snacks claim to be low in fat, or have no fat. But a review of the food label will probably tell you that it is high in sugar and calories.

One or two snacks a day is okay, but choose tooth friendly snacks such as fresh fruits and vegetables or cheese. These choices will also be better for your overall health!

For more information about Nutrition and Dental Health, please contact the Seminole Dental Program: Big Cypress: (863) 983-5151, Brighton: (863) 763-0271, Hollywood: (954) 964-3411 and Immokalee: (239) 867-3400.



Attention Tribal Women Age 35 and older:

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Computer class at Immokalee Library (L-R): Michelle Ford, Rosa Garcia, Amy Clay, Judy Weeks, Jasmine Porter, Tushka Hill, Instructor Roger Fabel, and Juanita Martinez. Submitted by Judy Weeks

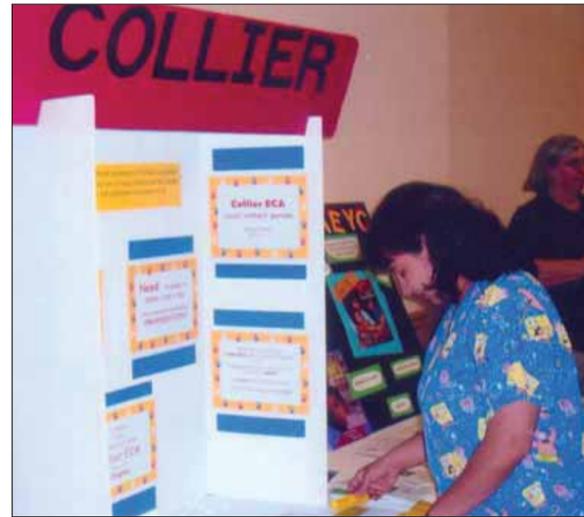
Computer Classes on the Rez

By Judy Weeks
Education has been called the key to the door of the future, and this old adage has been proven true over and over again. A wise elder once said, "I learn something every day and when I stop learning my life will be over."
With these thoughts in mind, the Seminole Tribe of Florida attempts to provide its members with every possible opportunity to help them succeed in the fast paced world of the 21st Century.
Currently computer classes are being offered on some of the reservations through the Family Services department. Adult Vocational Administrator Jasmine Porter can be contacted in her Hollywood office by calling (954) 965-1300, Ext. 175; to locate the class closes to you.
The classes are free to all adult tribal members, but you must be at least 18 years of age to attend. The small, friendly groups meet for two four-hour sessions each month giving you an opportunity to absorb and put into use what you have learned before trying to take on more information.
Instructor Roger Fabel of Protech Computer Systems has an extensive background in teaching computer skills as well as their engineering and construction. He presents the information in a very laid-back and easily comprehended manner during his discourse and willingly answers questions and helps to solve your computer issues.
A group in Immokalee have just completed a four month series attending Computer 101 through 401. The program was so well received that applicants

have requested that the classes be offered again for those who started late or would like to refresh their memories.
Whether you are a beginner to the world of technology and have never touched a computer or have considerable experience, the classes will definitely be of benefit.
In Computer 101, you will learn about the instrument itself, its components and capabilities. By the time you have completed 401, you will know how to prepare spread sheets, format and program your computer to your individual needs.
Have you ever felt that your computer is smarter than you? Now is the time to even the odds and take control. Have you had to ask for assistance when your computer seems to lock up, sent messages you don't understand or taken forever to compile and print forms and data sheets? Even the most experienced individual will be surprised by some of the short cuts and benefits that can be derived by simply pressing a key or using the mouse as an extension of your hand and mind.
Many people remark, "I have lived a whole lifetime without a computer and I am doing just fine." They probably will continue to do so, but by learning about this modern technology, they can open the door to a whole new world and broaden their horizons. There is no limit to the information and entertainment that will be right at their fingertips.
Don't miss out on this opportunity of a lifetime! Call today to reserve a space for you in the next session. You will find it very rewarding.

Education Preschool Staff Attend Ooey, Gooley Lady Seminar

By Judy Weeks
ESTERO, FL — Immokalee Preschool Manager Michelle Ford and two members of her staff, Elva "Bay" Montez and Rosa Garcia, took advantage of a golden opportunity when they attended a workshop with the "Ooey, Gooley Lady."
The Early Childhood Association of Florida brought Lisa Murphy to Lee and Collier Counties and scheduled her presentation at the Three Oakes Conference Center on Feb. 22.
Murphy has been an early childhood educator for more than 15 years and has worked with children in a variety of environments including Head Start Programs, private preschools, family child care and kindergartens. She acquired her nickname, "Ooey-Gooley Lady," when she was asked to give an impromptu presentation at a convention. With no subject in mind, she quickly saved the day by introducing a child craft idea, which proved to be extremely beneficial in developing childhood skills.



Preschool cook Elva "Bay" Montez looking at booths. Submitted by Judy Weeks

Tom and Lisa Murphy created an educational consulting firm in 1997 to bring high-energy, exciting and informative hands-on workshops to teachers, directors, parents and family childcare providers. They promote environments where children are actively engaged in real,

importance of early experiences and how play is kindergarten readiness. The discussion revolved around seven things that care providers need to do with children each day and how to introduce them into the schedule: create, move, sing, discuss, observe, read and play.



(L-R) Preschool Teacher Rosa Garcia, Preschool Cook Elva "Bay" Montez, "Ooey, Gooley Lady" Lisa Murphy, and Immokalee Preschool Center Manager Michelle Ford. Submitted by Judy Weeks

As a speaker, Murphy was very well informed, humorous, interesting and captivated her audience. The participants were given an opportunity to get information about educational degrees from Florida Gulf Coast University and the benefits of membership in Early Childhood Association of Florida (ECA) and National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
While this was not a required class, all three members of the Immokalee Preschool staff welcomed the opportunity to attend. They enjoyed the workshop immensely and learned a number of things that they can use on the job. In addition, they were able to earn

meaningful experiences, not "cute" fluffy time fillers. The subject of her presentation was the

continuing education units to renew their child development associate credentials and director's credentials.

Students Excel in School Public Speaking Competition

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — Everett Youngblood, Acealyn Youngblood and Steven Johns-Ashley are all students at Seminole Elementary who recently participated in their classroom 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking competition where each of them earned first place. This contest is held district wide for fourth and fifth graders to help sharpen their public speaking skills.
By placing in their classroom competition they earned a spot to compete in the school wide competition held on April 13. Everett Youngblood is the fourth grade son of Kelly and Kim Youngblood from Brighton. His speech was about "his people," the Seminoles and their culture.
Acealyn Youngblood is the fourth grade daughter of Robert and Brenda Youngblood of Brighton. Her speech was titled "My Native Life" and expressed her feelings on what being Native American means to her.
Steven Johns-Ashley is the son of Amy Johns of Brighton and Ray Ashley of Arizona. He gave his speech on the life of a wolf. Not only did Steven earn first place in his classroom competition, but he went on to win second place overall in the school wide competition earning him a spot at the county

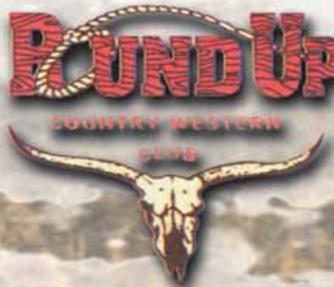
wide competition coming up in May.
Each of these students are to be commended for their confidence that enabled them to speak in front of their peers, which is not easy for many students. Congratulations go to each of them and good luck to Steven at the upcoming county competition.



Everett Youngblood Emma Brown

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Saturday - Line Dance Lessons, 7 pm - 8 pm
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Broward Police Academy graduate, Allen Colon (third from left) poses with officers from the Seminole police department and new co-workers (l to r- Sgt. Laura Herron, Deputy Chief William Latchford and Lt. Phil Gonzalez). Chris Jenkins

Service Aide

Continued from page 1
The specific duties involved with his job are to serve on traffic and crash scene investigations, respond and answer delayed emergency calls and enforce ordinance and parking laws.

Colon says this is just the first step in his climb up the ranks, his plan is to grow and gain experience for one year as a police service aide, then begin the five month process of training to become a sworn police officer. Thereafter, Colon wants to maintain at least a 15 year career on the squad. Once his bad guy chasing days are behind him, he wants to pursue a career in tribal politics and administration.

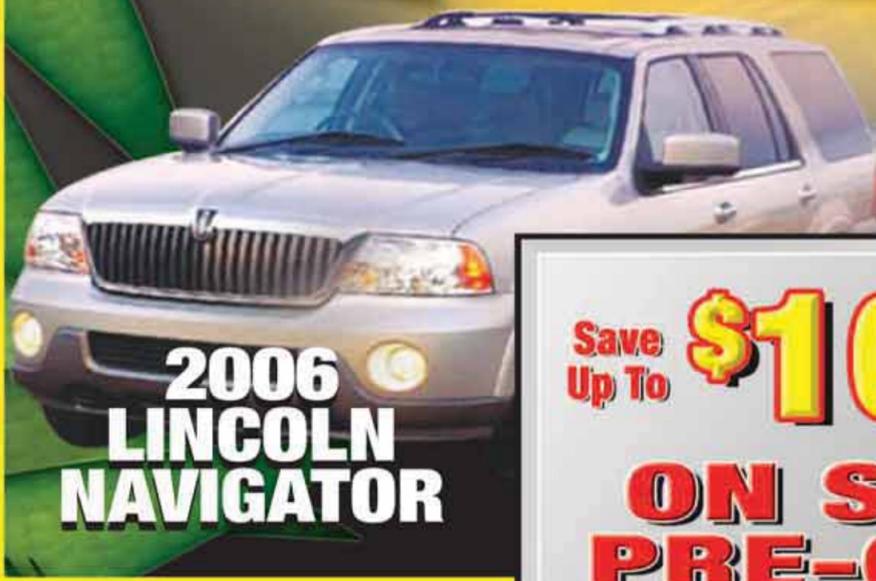
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| 1997 PONTIAC SUNFIRE | 2005 KIA OPTIMA | 2003 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 2002 CHRYSLER 300M |
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| 2001 OLDSMOBILE AURORA | 1992 JEEP TRUCK WRANGLER | 2002 FORD TRUCK F150 | 1993 FORD TRUCK F250 | 2005 CHRYSLER 300 |
| 1998 OLDSMOBILE BRAVADA | 2001 JEEP CHEROKEE | 2000 FORD TRUCK F250 | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 2005 CHRYSLER 300 |
| 1993 OLDSMOBILE CIERA | 2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2005 FORD TRUCK F350 | 1998 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2005 CHRYSLER 300 |
| 1986 OLDSMOBILE DELTA 88 | 2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2002 FORD TRUCK F-450 | 2002 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2004 CHRYSLER SEBRING |
| 2005 NISSAN TRUCK PATHFINDER | 2004 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 1999 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 2003 CHRYSLER CONCORDE |
| 2005 NISSAN TRUCK MURANO | 2000 JEEP CHEROKEE | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2004 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2003 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER |
| 1998 NISSAN TRUCK PATHFINDER | 2001 JEEP CHEROKEE | 2002 FORD TRUCK F150 | 1997 FORD TRUCK F250 | 2002 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER |
| 2002 NISSAN ALTIMA | 2001 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2003 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 1999 FORD TRUCK WINDSTAR | 2003 CHRYSLER SEBRING |
| 2003 NISSAN ALTIMA | 2002 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2001 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2003 FORD TRUCK WINDSTAR | 2002 CHRYSLER CONCORDE |
| 2005 NISSAN ALTIMA | 1993 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2002 FORD TRUCK EXPEDITION | 1995 FORD TRUCK WINDSTAR | 2002 CHRYSLER SEBRING |
| 2004 NISSAN SENTRA | 2002 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE | 2005 FORD TRUCK F350 | 2000 FORD TRUCK F150 | 2005 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER |
| 2004 NISSAN SENTRA | 2003 JEEP LIBERTY | 1986 FORD TRUCK F250 | 1999 FORD TRUCK WINDSTAR | 2004 CHEVROLET TRUCK SILVERADO 1500 |
| 2000 MITSUBISHI MONTERO SPORT | 2002 HYUNDAI SONATA | 1999 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2004 FORD TAURUS | 2002 CHEVROLET TRUCK TAHOE |
| 2004 MITSUBISHI LANCER | 2004 HYUNDAI ACCENT | 2004 FORD TRUCK EXPLORER | 2005 FORD FOCUS | 2000 CHEVROLET TRUCK SILVERADO 1500 |
| 2003 MITSUBISHI GALANT | 2002 HYUNDAI SANTA FE | 2004 FORD TRUCK F350 | 2002 FORD FOCUS | 2000 CHEVROLET TRUCK S10 PICKUP |
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2006 Seminole Tribe Sports Festival

Thursday, May 25, 2006

Banquet

Bonaventure Resort
Global Ballroom A
6:30 pm

Friday, May 26, 2006

Pool

Bonaventure Resort
Global Ballroom C & D
Men's/ Women's 8-Ball
\$10 Entry Fee
Register 10:00 – 11:00 am
Shoot @ 12:00 pm

♦

Bowling

Pembroke Pines AMF
Bowling Lanes
Teams – 12 – 9:00 p.m.
\$64.00 per 4 Person Team

♦

Co-Ed Slow Pitch Softball

Hollywood Recreation Softball Complex
To Register a Team Call (954) 989-9457.
Registration Fee \$250.00 per team

Saturday, May 27, 2006

Pool

Bonaventure Resort
Global Ballroom C & D
Men's/ Women's Team 8-Ball
\$10 Entry Fee Per Person
Register 10:00 – 11:00 am
Shoot @ 12:00 pm

♦

Bowling

Pembroke Pines AMF
Bowling Lanes
Singles – 12 – 9:00 p.m.
\$16.00 per Person

♦

Co-Ed Slow Pitch Softball

Hollywood Recreation Softball Complex
To Register a Team Call (954) 989-9457.
Registration Fee \$250.00 per team

Sunday, May 28, 2006

Pool

Bonaventure Resort
Global Ballroom C & D
Men's/ Women's 9-Ball
\$10 Entry Fee
Register 1:00 – 2:00 pm
Shoot @ 2:15 pm

♦

Bowling

Pembroke Pines AMF
Bowling Lanes
Men & Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles
12 – 9:00 p.m.
\$32.00 per Team

♦

Golf

Bonaventure Country Club
4 Man Blind Draw
Register 8:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - 18 Hole Shot Gun Start
\$20 Entry Fee Per Person

Monday, May 29, 2006

Golf

Bonaventure Country Club
3 Person Teams
Bring Your Own Team!
\$20 Entry Fee Per Person
Register 8:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - 18 Hole Shot Gun Start
See Map For Directions
Have a Safe Trip Home!



Seminole Youth Basketball players washing cars.

Marlin J. Billie

BC Youth Basketball Team Car Wash & Cookout

By Marlin J. Billie

BIG CYPRESS — During the Ahfachkee School's Spring Break the youth basketball players set their sights on fundraising.

Coach Eddie Redd, led the group as they huddled at the gym and started the car washing. First, they had to get cars and trucks to pull in. Signs were made and the traffic in front of the gym was being stopped and asked "To earn money by washing their car or truck, or a donation would also help."

The community came to the call of the youth and their desire to get out and put in a little hard work for the good of the rest of the team.

Justin Osceola coaches one of the four youth teams that range in age from 10 years old and younger, 12 years old and younger, and a girls and boys 14 year old and younger.

"Even though the youth basketballers carry the Seminole Big Cypress name to all the tournaments around the state, not all of the players and volunteers

are Seminole Tribal members," said Osceola. "This is one of the ways we share and spend time with them to let them know that their hard work is appreciated."

William Lee Jumper coaches the 14 year and younger girls team, and Bronson Hill coaches the 14 year old and younger boys team. Not all of the teammates come from Big Cypress either; they come from all reservations and non-residents.

Everyone meets at the place of the tournament, whether it's Tampa or Jacksonville or North Carolina these players and parents arrive in time to play—and play they do. Most of the time all teams place either first or second, trophies to prove it too!

There are many people who the coaches want to thank for helping out with the groundwork that made this possible, including the many volunteers who donated hours to cook, bake and barbecue. Also, volunteers who helped transport when players need to be at different gyms or when someone is sick and all that needs

attending to that no one thinks about.

The pressure machine that was loaned to the kids to wash the cars and the space at the gym was greatly appreciated. Thanks to Seminole Tribal leaders for their support during the basketball season and during this fundraiser, such as Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Councilman David Cypress, Board Representative Paul Bowers, Councilman Max B. Osceola Jr. and Councilman Andy Bowers Jr. Also, thanks to everyone who showed some kind of support is greatly appreciated.

The youth basketball teams are currently in the traveling mode these week-ends. They bring home trophies from different parts of the state, these are open youth tournaments with AAU and other qualifying credentials.

If anyone wants more information about these teams or wish to travel with them as they continue their dominance call Eddie Redd, (863) 983-9659, at the Big Cypress Recreation department. He can give out information about schedules or the next game or even trying out for the team.

Relay For Life in Immokalee

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — The Immokalee High School Track was the center of activity on March 10-11. At this time the community joined together in the Relay For Life in support of the American Cancer Society.

Started in 1985 by Dr. Gordon Klatt, a Tacoma, Wash., colorectal surgeon, it has become an annual fund raiser to support cancer research and education as well as a celebration for cancer survivors. Communities throughout the U.S. have become involved and offer their overwhelming support of the mission of the American Cancer Society.

This is Immokalee's first year of participation in the Relay for Life and they have entitled it the Harvest For Hope. Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro of the Seminole Tribe was instrumental in forming Team Seminole and helping to put the relay together. A booth was set up by Team Seminole and manned by Porcaro both days to offer information to the community about cancer prevention, early detection and treatment.

bounce house as well as aerobics and organized laps around the tract.

A luminaria ceremony took place at 9 p.m. followed by Nightspiker™, a glow-in-the-dark volleyball game. In between laps around the tract throughout the night, several diversions were planned: Campsite contest, crazy pajamas, crazy hats, Limbo®, Trivial Pursuit®, reverse laps and bad hair contests.

A pancake breakfast hosted by the Immokalee Ministerial Association took place at 7 a.m. and



Michelle Ford made several laps during the relay.

Submitted by Judy Weeks



Chelsey Ford (center) participating in the aerobics class at the Relay for Life.

Michelle Ford

The Seminole Tribe's Massage Therapist Tracey Delarosa, was on hand with her chair to offer free therapy to the participants and encourage them to develop a healthy and safe exercise routine. Knowing and caring for your body can go a long way toward prevention and detection of some types of cancer.

Immokalee Council Liaison Ralph Sanchez made a generous contribution on behalf of the Seminole Tribe of Florida to kick off the donations.

Edna McDuffie, captain of Team Seminole, was on hand Friday evening at 5 p.m. for the registration and opening ceremonies. Immokalee High School Principal Manny Tourn offered opening remarks, led the Victory Lap and the Caregiver Recognition.

Numerous activities were planned for the event which lasted until noon on March 12. These included a kids area with coloring, story time, scavenger hunt and

the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile gave growth and development screening for children. Various contests were organized to occupy participants throughout the morning, with a Ceremony of Hope and the Closing Relay at noon.

Team Seminole distributed red T-shirts to each of its members and celebrated a very good turnout. Michelle Ford of the Immokalee Seminole Preschool walked for over an hour and a half, while one of her teachers, Rosa Garcia, took first place in the number of laps walked. She completed 30 laps which totaled more than seven-and-a-half miles on March 11.

A special thank you to each of the relay teams who provided the amenities which made this such a success: bounce house, pins, bracelets, necklaces, ice cream, sweets, games, smoothies, breakfast burritos, subs, hamburgers, popcorn and other refreshments.

At the conclusion of the Relay for Life, Immokalee participants had raised a sum total of \$22,000 in support of the American Cancer Society.



Members and employees of the Seminole Tribe of Florida proudly participated in the Cancer Society's Relay for Life in Immokalee.

Submitted by Judy Weeks

Attention All 2006 Rez Rally Participants

Below is a list of participants who need to contact Melanie Wells of the Health department at (954)962-2009, Ext. 161

- Elisa Moore
- Dwayne Hughes
- Ashley Parker
- Shamy Tommie
- Tasha Osceola
- Nupa Twoshoes
- Jessica Osceola
- Jim Russell
- Levi Battiest
- Alexander Tommie
- Kowak Billie
- Darryl Billie

EIRA Rodeo Event in Brighton

By Susan Ettebarria
BRIGHTON — The Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) season is about midway to finals in October. Brighton hosted an EIRA event on April 8 at the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena featuring Seminole cowboys and cowgirls and visit-

vided by Marki Rodeo, a superior stock owned and managed by Seminole Tribal citizen Marti Johns. It was a challenging night for the contestants with the majority getting bucked off angry horses and bulls before their time limit. No one scored in the bull riding event.

him a fun contestant to watch. There were no contestants who placed in steer wrestling; the bulls just got the best of them. Warbonnet's brother, Cort Herrera, placed first in calf roping barely beating out Josh Jumper who came in second.



Naha Jumper

Susan Ettebarria

Although most entries were from Brighton and Big Cypress, there were five entries that traveled from states as far away as Washington, Oregon, and New Mexico—members of the Navajo, Navajo-Shinnecock and White Swan/Yakima Tribes. One family drove down from New York so their son, Adam Phillips, could participate in junior bull riding.

The evening started off with non-sanctioned events for the youngsters. There were remarkable first place 10 point performances by Ahnie Jumper in the mutton bustin, Blevins Jumper in calf riding, Andre Jumper in pony riding and steer riding, Calgary Johns, Henry Anuthkee and Janae Braswell in barrel racing; Seth Randolph in junior bull biding, Dalton Boney in junior breakaway and Jacoby Johns in junior bareback.

These and all the youngsters who competed in junior events are the ones to be watching for future champions.



Pauletta Bowers and Alfonso Tigertail

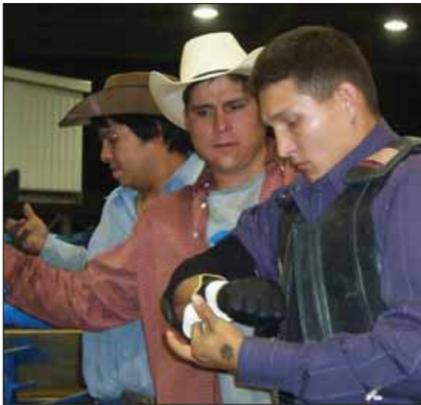
Susan Ettebarria

ing rodeo riders from as far away as New York, Oregon and Arizona.

"It was a smaller rodeo this month, but a good one," said EIRA Secretary Jo Leigh "Boogie" Jumper.

By this time of year Florida rodeos have fewer entries as Western states start to kick off Indian rodeo when the weather gets milder.

That left most of the field open to Seminole contestants. The faithful turned out. Jumper said the Tribe has dedicated competitors.



Paul Bowers Jr., Naha Jumper, and Justin Gopher.

Susan Ettebarria

"When it comes to winning rodeo you know if you got what it takes, and if you do, it's in your blood," she said.

The stock Friday night was pro-

took first place in the bareback riding event Warbonnet is a White Swan Yakima Indian who now lives in Pendleton, Ore. He has a showman's kind of flair making



Perrie Whidden

Susan Ettebarria

in women's breakaway and her nine points in barrel racing.

An upcoming star in the arena was Brighton Rodeo Queen LeAnna Billie. This high school senior is really showing some amazing skills in barrel racing. She rode a new gray horse she

has never rode in competition.

"She really had to work with it, ride it many hours, and she brought it around," said Boogie Jumper.

The 10 point winner in team roping headers was Josh Jumper. Naha Jumper won 10 points in the team roping heelers.

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Miranda vs. Eastman on Friday Night Fights

By Chris Jenkins

HOLLYWOOD — One of the best entertainment venues for the money was on display Mar 24, as Warriors Boxing Promotions, Inc., and the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino teamed up again to feature seven great bouts on the slate as part of ESPN2's Friday Night Fights coverage.

The main bout featured Edison "Pantera" Miranda at 25-0 (23 KOs) facing Howard "The Battersea Bomber" Eastman at 40-3 (34 KOs). This match was known and hyped as "the eliminator" with the winner laying claim to the number one spot in the 160 pound middleweight rankings, and a shot at current International Boxing Federation (IBF) middleweight champ, Arthur Abraham.

As a young and hungry upstart, and newest addition to the Warriors Boxing family, Miranda put on a show for the Hard Rock crowd in his last action, making short work of Sherwin Davis in a third round KO in a scheduled 12 in Sept. of 2005. Eastman lost a hard fought 12 round unanimous decision to the aforementioned champ, Abraham, last July.

So, it was young lion versus old as Miranda, 25, faced the seasoned veteran Eastman, 35, which proved to be a hard fought dogfight through seven rounds. After feeling one another out early, both fighters established a surge of momentum in the third with good jabs and flurries.

The action picked up toward the end of round five however, and Eastman was in trouble from a few hard rights by Miranda, one which caught him in the back of the ear. Eastman countered in the sixth, and by the end of the round, the tide turned as Miranda was saved by the bell, wobbled and weary.

The seventh was the climax, as both traded hits, in the end though, Miranda gained the edge cornering Eastman and letting loose with a blast of jabs and overhands wearing him down. The fight was stopped at the 2:33 mark.

Miranda received the win by TKO and is slated now to face the champ Abraham in September. Warriors Executive Director Leon Margules said he was excited and enthusiastic about Miranda's performance.

"A star was born tonight," said Margules. "One guy's going down the mountain, the other guy's going over him."



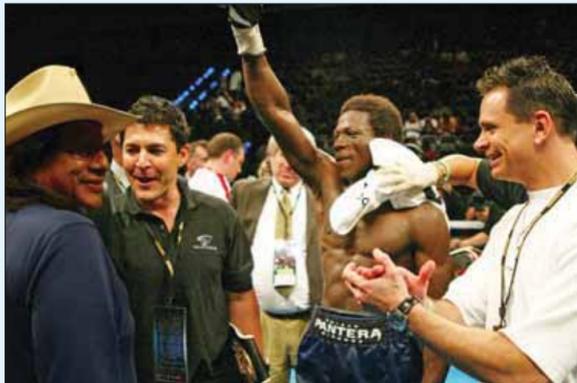
Darnell Wilson gets a right handed jab to the cheek of NABF champ, Felix Cora Jr. in the co-featured bout.



Edison Miranda catches opponent Howard Eastman with a left jab en route to his 7th round TKO win.



NABF champ, Felix Cora Jr., gets in a left jab to the face of opponent, Darnell Wilson.



Edison Miranda and training staff celebrate after his 7th round TKO win versus Howard Eastman.



Edison Miranda and Howard Eastman square off in the early rounds of the main event.



Seminole Tribe of Florida Chairman Mitchell Cypress poses with a victorious and exhausted Edison Miranda and training staff.

The co-featured bout was an North American Boxing Federation (NABF) championship match-up, as the champ, Felix Cora Jr., faced Darnell Wilson in cruiserweight action. Cora Jr. defended his title winning a very competitive, evenly matched 10 round unanimous decision.

This became the replacement bout for the original co-feature as former world champ and future hall of famer, Hector "Macho" Camacho was to face super middleweight Keith Sims. Camacho was forced to pull out of the fight due to a strained Achilles heel injury from a sparring session. Camacho expressed deep regrets about his condition.

"I apologize to the fans... I want to come out here and perform," Camacho said. "This type of injury you have to give it time and wait and see what happens. I want to do this to have fun, I'm not here to prove anything, I might have, what, maybe one or two more years left, and then I'm done."

Both Warriors Boxing and Camacho hope to have a makeup match for him, possibly in May.

The celebrity scene saw appearances by Miami Dolphins Jason Taylor, Randy McMichael and Kevin Carter. Others in attendance were English heavyweight contender, Audley Harrison and Hector Camacho who addressed the crowd regarding his inability to fight.

Seminole Tribal leadership showed their support and enthusiasm as well, including Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Big Cypress Representative David Cypress, among others.

Other bouts on the schedule were: Jesus Pabon over Marcus Breshears in a unanimous four round decision for lightweights, Warriors heavyweight Timur Ibragimov winning by TKO versus Ken Martin Craven in two rounds, Matthew Thirlwall over Moises Martinez in a scheduled six rounds, which was stopped at the 1:40 mark (of the sixth) in light middleweight action, Jean Baptiste over Eric Batista in light middleweight action in a unanimous six round decision, and Danny Jimenez over Jean Petit Homme in a unanimous decision in four rounds of lightweight action.

The next scheduled action set for the Hard Rock and Warrior's is May 18.

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Spring Senior Trikefest

Submitted by the Health Department
BIG CYPRESS — The Spring Senior Trikefest, held March 30 at the Big Cypress airfield, was a rousing success. Competing seniors from all reservations arrived dressed up, geared up and ready

citizens and staff sat down to a delicious, healthful meal provided by Cleve Baker and the Renegade Barbeque Company.

Following the meal, Chairman Cypress joined emcee Stan Frischman of Big Cypress Recreation, in

drawing special attention to the "Best Decorated Rez Trike" category. All the hard work and creative effort put into each bike design could be seen in the finished piece. First place was awarded to Immokalee for an inspired "Culture Trike" which featured intricate patchwork, dolls and baskets hand sewn in medicine colors by several seniors. Second place went to the Tampa seniors for their "Leather and Beadwork Trike" complete with majestic Seminole dolls depicting a culturally attired man and woman. The judges gave Big Cypress the nod for third place for their "Bunny Trike" decorated in the spirit of the



Nery Mejicano

Tampa's leather and beadwork trike.



Health Department

The Hollywood Constitution trike.

to ride, eager to take the prestige, trophies and prizes back to their own reservation. Last year Brighton took the team trophy. This year there was no stopping Hollywood as they pedaled their way to victory and first place in the point standings for 2006.

The program opened with fashion and flair as the judges chose the "Best Dressed Triker". First place went to Nancy Frank of Tampa for her black leather Harley® style attire. Next on the agenda was the much anticipated main event. It was here that the previous five months of practice since the Fall Trikefest in November was evident. Contestants pushed their endurance and skill to meet the challenge of the newly designed spring course. The 2006 program included a fast paced rez team relay, followed by the ball toss, the maze and figure 8 categories. These events demanded agility, coordination and intense concentration. Each category was divided into senior, super senior and golden senior divisions and awarded prizes for first through fifth place.

Competition was fierce, but healthy enjoyment was the main goal. Laughter echoed throughout the hangar as the elders pedaled through the course and pulled off their best moves on wheels. The Trike Program was initiated and sponsored by the Chairman's Office in conjunction with the Senior Center on each reservation. "Some people are not capable or comfortable walking,

the trikes are an enjoyable way to get some exercise", commented

Chairman Mitchell Cypress, who participates in the Big Cypress Senior Center rides weekly. The chairman was on hand for the Trikefest and could be seen strategizing with his team in an effort to achieve the best time and win the relay contest. President Moses Osceola, Big Cypress Representative David Cypress and Brighton Representative Andrew Bowers were also present to join in the festivities and cheer for their teams. As the morning came to a close, competition was put to the side as the Tribal

Easter holiday. The bunny was dressed in Tribal clothing complete with a basket of Easter goodies. An honorable mention was given to both Brighton and Hollywood for their trike decorating efforts. Hollywood reservation's "Constitution Trike" was most distinguished in it's commemoration of the original Seminole Tribe of Florida's Constitution Committee. Chairman Cypress offered words of praise for this group of leaders who helped to set the stage for the success and independence the Seminole Tribe enjoys today. Along with its riveting black and white photo of the Constitution Committee, the Constitution Trike, also included a basket loaded to the brim with historic Seminole staples including fruits and vegetables,



Health Department

The Hollywood trike had meals on wheels.

tobacco, corn and grain for Sofkee. Mabel Doctor joked that Hollywood's design team had thought about including Spam in the basket as a Seminole staple.

The Spring Trikefest evolved through the dedicated effort of many people. Vicky Barogiannis, Fitness Director, was happy to see so many seniors get involved in the event, "I would like to thank Chairman Cypress for sponsoring the Trikefest and all the other

❖ See TRIKE, page 21

Best Dressed Triker

- 1st - Nancy Frank
- 2nd - Mary Sanchez
- 3rd - George Billie
- 4th - Rachel Billie
- 5th - Nancy Motlow



Health Department

BEST DRESSED TRIKERS: (L-R) Linda Henry, Rachel Billie, Mary Sanchez, Nancy Motlow, Betty Osceola, Nancy Frank and George Billie.

trike (trīk) n: a vehicle with three wheels that is moved by foot pedals.



Health Department

Joe Osceola Jr. leads the group.

Best Decorated Rez Trike

- 1st Place Trophy Immokalee
- 2nd Place Trophy Tampa
- 3rd Place Trophy Big Cypress



Health Department

(L-R) The Cypress brothers and Ronnie Doctor.



Health Department

Helene Buster and Charles Billie Hiers.



Nery Mejicano

The Tampa trike basket toting Seminole dolls.



Nery Mejicano

The Immokalee Culture trike.





Contest Results

Ball Toss
 Seniors: 1. Nancy Motlow, Immokalee, 2. Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress, 3. Alice Sweat, Brighton, 4. Cornelia Osceola, Hollywood, 5. Peggy Cubis, Tampa; Super Seniors: 1. Joe Billie Jr., Big Cypress, 2. Ronnie Doctor, Hollywood, 3. Ruby Osceola, Big Cypress, 4. Maydell Osceola, Hollywood, 5. Martha Jones, Brighton; Golden Seniors: 1. Betty Osceola, Hollywood, 2. Onnie Osceola, Brighton, 3. Jimmy Hank Osceola, Hollywood,

Hollywood; Golden Seniors: 1. Jimmy Hank Osceola, Hollywood, 2. Mary Gay Osceola, Hollywood, 3. Howard Micco, Brighton, 4.



Health Department
George Billie

4. Linda Henry, Tampa, 5. Mary Moore, Hollywood.

Jack Micco, Brighton, 5. Wonder Johns, Brighton.

Double Figure 8

Seniors: 1. Joe Osceola Jr., Hollywood, 2. Maydell Osceola, Hollywood, 3. Mabel Doctor, Hollywood, 4. Lawanna Niles, Hollywood, 5. Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress; Super Seniors: 1. Ronnie Doctor, Hollywood, 2. Ronnie Doctor, Hollywood, 3. Martha Jones, Brighton, 4. Mabel Doctor, Hollywood, 5. Martha Jones, Brighton; Golden Seniors: 1. Onnie Osceola, Brighton, 2. Jack Micco, Brighton, 3. Betty Osceola, Hollywood, 4. Jimmy Hank Osceola, Hollywood, 5. Mary Moore, Hollywood.

Maze:

Seniors: 1. Joe Osceola Jr., Hollywood, 2. Jenny Johns, Brighton, 3. Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress, 4. Alice Sweat, Brighton, 5. Jack Smith, Brighton; Super Seniors: 1. Lawanna Niles, Hollywood, 2. Ronnie Doctor, Hollywood, 3. Martha Jones, Brighton, 4. Mabel Doctor, Hollywood, 5. Maydell Osceola,



Tampa's Pink Panthers share a laugh with the chairman.

Nery Mejicano



Spring Trike Fest 2006 Traveling Trophy

- 1st Place Hollywood - 73
- 2nd Place Brighton - 47
- 3rd Place Tampa - 16

Trike

Continued from page 21

departments for helping to make this a success". Health department staff was on hand assisting whenever needed, as BC Clinic Manager Cindy Ledbetter kept a watchful eye to insure participants did not over-exert them selves. The Big Cypress Senior Center was the perfect host providing a continental breakfast and plenty of staff on hand to be sure everybody had whatever they needed to stay comfortable and happy. Recreation's Stan Frischman summed it up by commenting how nice it was to see the seniors enjoy each others company as they gathered together from each reservation. Stan also thanked the Seminole Aviation Department for their help and the use of their facilities.

Look for the next Senior Trikefest to be held in November.



Brighton Culture trike.

Nery Mejicano



The trikers lined up for competition.

Nery Mejicano



Health Department

The back of the winning trike.



Chairman Cypress presents the trophy to BC's Kool Seniors.

Health Department



Health Department
Lawanna Niles



Health Department
President Moses Osceola takes a break.



Nery Mejicano

The Immokalee traveling trike chickee.



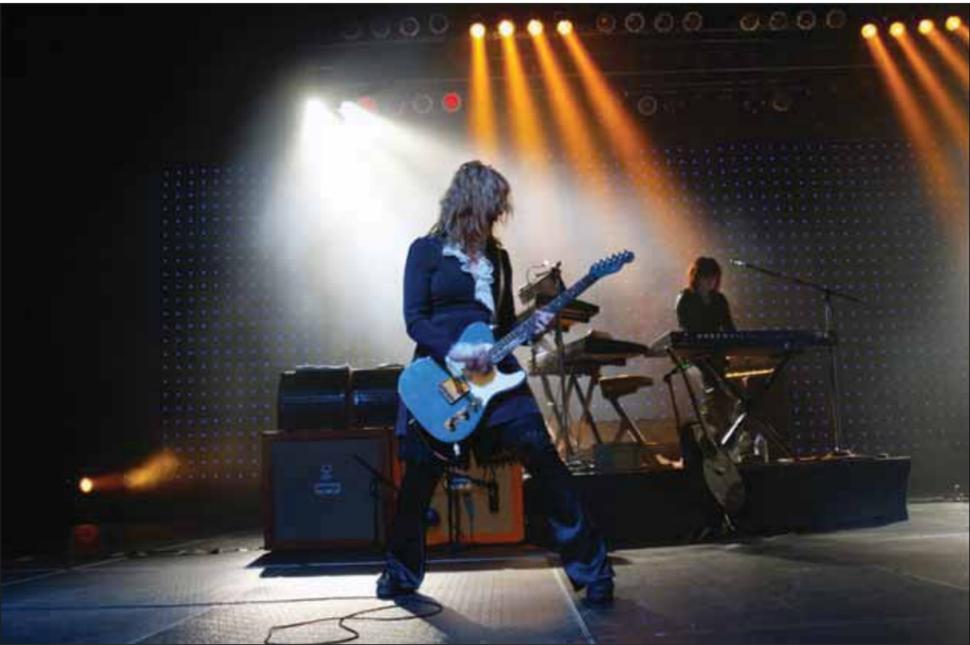
Relay Race Competition Winners

- 1st - Hollywood 28.44
- 2nd - Brighton 30.47
- 3rd - Big Cypress 32.25
- 4th - Immokalee 35.44
- 5th - Tampa 44.88



Health Department
 (L-R) Barbara Akin, Linda McCarthy and Cindy Ledbetter.

Casino ❖ Esh-te-may-bee Cheke ❖ Setenpokvcuko



Felix DoBosz
Nancy Wilson of the legendary rock band Heart jams on her guitar at the Seminole Hard Rock Live.

Bob Dylan, Merle Haggard at Hard Rock Live



Submitted by Julianne Carelli, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino

HOLLYWOOD — Bob Dylan and Merle Haggard will be performing on May 11, the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's second anniversary, at Hard Rock Live at 8 p.m. Tickets went on sale March 31 at noon.

Tickets cost \$60, \$100, \$150 and \$200; all seats are reserved and available at the Hard Rock Live Box Office or through Ticketmaster. Hard Rock Live Box Office is open daily from noon until 7 p.m. Tickets purchased in-person at the box office will not incur a service charge.

Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets



online at www.ticketmaster.com or charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, and Palm Beach (561) 966-3309. Doors open one hour prior to show start time.

Eighth Annual NAMMYS at Hard Rock Live

Awards Show Presented By Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino

Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR
HOLLYWOOD — The Eighth Annual Native American Music Awards, or NAMMYS, will make its highly anticipated return to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida on June 8.

This year's awards are being held in Hard Rock Live, quickly emerging as the entertainment capital of South Florida, showcases national and international acts, boxing, sporting events and more. Tickets go on sale April 7 at 5 p.m.

Hosted by Native American comedians James & Ernie, special guests include: Rita Coolidge, Felipe Rose of the Village People and John Densmore of The Doors. Both Rita Coolidge and John Densmore of The Doors appear on recordings submitted for nomination consideration this year.

Scheduled performers include: violinist Arvel Bird, flautist Douglas Blue Feather, pianist Gil Silverbird, Pura Fe' (Ulali), Randy Wood (Northern Cree Singers), Wade Fernandez, Eagle & Hawk and Puppeteer Buddy Big Mountain, with more to be

announced

More than 150 national recordings were submitted for nomination. Registered advisory board members are selecting the final nominees which were announced on April 15. With native roots from Alaska to New Zealand, more than 25 awards categories display the depth and diversity of this year's growing Native American music scene.

Awards categories include: best rock/pop recording, jazz/blues recording, gospel/Christian recording, instrumental recording, traditional recording, pow wow recording, rap/hip hop recording and spoken word among others.

An estimated one million people are expected to participate in the national voting process through the NAMMYS' website, www.nammys.com.

Tickets are \$20, \$35 and \$50; all seats are reserved and available at the Hard Rock Live Box Office, open daily from noon until 7 p.m. Tickets purchased in-person at the box office will not incur a service charge.

Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at www.ticketmaster.com or charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, and Palm Beach (561) 966-3309. Doors open one-hour prior to show start time. The show starts at 8 p.m.

1970s Band Heart Comes to the Live

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — On the night of April 6, the female-fronted hard rock band Heart's tour showed up to perform live at the Seminole Hard Rock Live. Fans came to see and hear this legendary rock group perform at this nearly sold out show. Heart's classic hits have spanned more than 30 years and sold millions of record albums.

Sisters Ann and Nancy Wilson have remained remarkably true to their music after all these many years, at one time punching out one hit after another. They incorporated some early rock influences from their favorites, namely British legendary rock band Led Zeppelin.

Using her tremendous power pop-scream, Ann Wilson looked possessed as she got into the band's classic rock hits while Nancy's backup harmonies easily enhanced her sister's inflections when they performed the following songs: "Bebe LeStrange," "Magic Man," "Barracuda," "Crazy On You," "Kick It Out," "Never," "Heartless," "Straight on," "Even it up," and Sir Elton John's big hit, "Mona Lisas and Mad Hatters."

Heart also included some big jammers from Led Zeppelin "Rock'n' Roll" and "Misty Mountain

Hop", and that's just to name a few in the short 72 minute set.

The crowd was comprised of mainly mature rockers who sometimes had a hard time getting up out of their seats to that rockin' beat. Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. enjoyed this rockin' show from his VIP seat along with many other prominent Seminole citizens and Tribal employees.



Felix DoBosz
Ann Wilson used her power pop scream pleasing the crowd.

Dynamic guitarist Nancy Wilson full of energy and looking youthful at middle age, jumped in the air while doing a sort of wild pixie dance still strumming her guitar in style. Wilson encouraged her fans when she exclaimed, "I see you've got super glue on your seats," which got a lot of people's attention and they rose to the occasion.

With this gesture, Wilson out-manuevered and bewildered security guards' constant and futile pleas to sit back down as hoards of frenzied fans mounted a frontal assault to close in on the stage. Only a 2 1/2-foot wide metal barrier separated the group Heart from the swarms of ecstatic fans, they got their money's worth at this Heart show.

Heart has 16 new songs on their new CD "Jupiters Darling" that they are busily promoting nationwide while on tour.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Mandatory Animal Registration Drive

COMMUNITY MEMBERS—BE ADVISED THAT A NEW ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE HAS BEEN ENACTED FOR THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA. THE NEW ORDINANCE WILL GO INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 01, 2006.

STARTING ON **FEBRUARY 15, 2006**, THE STOF HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL BE SPONSORING A REGISTRATION DRIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE.

ALL DOGS AND CATS ON RESERVATION MUST BE REGISTERED BY **MAY 15, 2006**.

IN ORDER TO BE IN COMPLIANCE YOU MUST FIRST OBTAIN RABIES VACCINATION THROUGH YOUR COUNTY, VETERINARIAN, OR TRIBAL SPONSORED RABIES CLINIC. PLEASE BRING PROOF OF RABIES VACCINATION TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEAREST YOU AND OBTAIN A SEMINOLE ANIMAL LICENSE TAG APPLICATION. AFTER SUBMITTING THE COMPLETED APPLICATION WITH PROOF OF VACCINATION, YOU WILL BE ISSUED A SEMINOLE ANIMAL REGISTRATION TAG .

ANIMALS IN NEED OF RABIES VACCINATIONS WILL RECEIVE A VOUCHER FOR THE UPCOMING RABIES CLINIC THAT WILL BE OFFERED ONCE A YEAR ON EACH RESERVATION.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL UNTAGGED DOGS AND CATS WILL BE PICKED UP BY ANIMAL CONTROL.

THE DRIVE IS TO PROMOTE A SAFER ENVIRONMENT AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR BOTH ANIMALS AND RESIDENTS

Please contact the Environmental Health Office if you have any questions about this ordinance or for more information:
954-962-2009 ext 126 or 125



Felix DoBosz
Little Steven Van Zandt from his syndicated radio show at poolside of the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel said, "it's about having a fun time with rock music...you gotta love it."

'Underground Garage' Tunes-Up at Hard Rock

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — On a beautiful April 2 afternoon, Little Steven Van Zandt brought his popular syndicated rock radio show, "Underground Garage," poolside at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel. Little Steven is also known as the actor that plays Silvio Dante in the HBO hit series "The Sopranos" and he's also a founding member of the world famous Jersey shore band Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band.

Rock fans and the curious stood around and swam around to get a better view of the five rock bands assembled to perform on an outdoor stage erected in the back poolside area of the hotel. The five bands which performed were: The Romantics, The Fleshtones, The Forty-Fives, The Charms and The Shazam.

The sun-worshipping small crowd was standing or sitting around to the beat drinking cool beverages. Between sets pretty neon clad go-go girls in flashy vinyl boots danced to late 60s style groovy rock classics pounded out from huge loud speakers in front and around the stage. The Romantics headlined the show with their wild party anthems, "What I Like About You" and "Talking In Your Sleep."

Master of ceremonies Little Steven would banter back and forth between the acts and tell the fans in his distinct cool Jersey accent to get up close to the stage and tell all the young people to stop sitting around and dance.

He asked the crowd, "Where's are all the bikinis?" And responded jokingly to his own question "...Not you sir sit down!" That was worth a huge

laugh from the crowd while bringing in the next dynamic band on his rockin' show.

The big man, Clarence Clemons a band mate of Little Steven's and saxophonist from Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, was spotted hanging out in one of the chickee cabanas near the stage area. Clemons tirelessly signing autographs for well wishers and most of all hanging out with his buddy Little Steven.



Felix DoBosz
Pretty neon clad girls danced '60s fun style to the garage band's rock music.

Van Zandt obligingly also signed a few autographs and posed for quick photos with some of his admiring fans during the jammin' sets.

He said, "it's about having a fun time with rock music, and we're going to be here again at least three more times in the next couple of months", you gotta love it."

The Underground Garage is now in more than 200 markets and has more than one million weekly listeners. Visit www.undergroundgarage.com for more info.

Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkērkēcetv

Happy Birthday



To paleepefeekie my little tomatto, I am very proud of you and how you handled the hard times and brought yourself up! You are an inspiration to me and I am happy God blessed me with you! Stay strong and always stay focused and be a positive influence in life. I love you and stay who you are and God will make you who he wants you to be!
Happy belated birthday.
Love,
Mommy



Happy birthday and happy mothers day to Pa to okee, my best friend and my butterball. I want to thank you for being there for me when I needed someone. You have been there for me through the tough times and the happy times.

May God bless you and keep you and make you who he wants you to be in life. I just want you to know you are very much appreciated and I love you very much. May life smile on you.
Love,
Mommy



Happy belated birthday to Barbara Butera on April 7 and **Roy Butera** on April 12.

Love,
Joe and Ciara Guerue

Anniversary



Joe and Ciara Guerue celebrated their **one year wedding anniversary** on April 15, 2006. Ciara is a Tribal intern specializing in marketing at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood and Joe works for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in the Seminole Paradise.



In Memoriam

Oralee Adrianna Elise Dixon
(December 2, 2005 – March 25, 2006)



Even though Oralee was only with us a short time, she brought tremendous joy to her parents Orald and Angela Dixon, and her loved ones and friends. Angela Dixon is a Tribal employee in the Human Resources department.



*There is a home for little children
Above the bright blue sky
Where Jesus reigns in glory
A home of peace and joy
No home on earth is like it
Nor can compare with it
For everyone is happy
Nor could be happier there*

Happy 8th birthday Luke Baxley Jr. Hope your birthday was blast!
Love,
Mom (Janine Cypress), Dad (Luke Baxley), Daija, Amyer, Aden James, Grandparents Regina and Ned Thinn and Carl Baxley, Helen Billie

Happy 4th birthday Aden James "Tuna" Cypress. We love you very much.
Love,
Mom (Janine Cypress), Daijer, Amyer, Luke Jr., Grandparents Regina and Ned Thinn

New Kids



We are happy to announce the birth of our daughter **Kateri Lynn Smith**, Otter clan. She was born at Memorial Regional Hospital in Hollywood on March 28, 2006 at 10:25 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces, and was 18 3/4 inches long.

Mother: Tommie Jumper Smith, Father: Derrick Smith, Brother: Derrick Smith Jr., Grandparents: Larry Smith, John & Tracy Tanner, Stephan & Karen Hawk, Alana Glover, and the late Thomas Hawk.



Introducing the new kid on the block, **Kassiah Wade Robbins**, born on March 28, 2006 at 9:15 p.m. He weighed five pounds and 12 ounces and measured 18-and-a-half inches.

His proud parents are Erika and Seth Robbins, and grandparents are Mary and Bernard Robbins and Alicia and Bobby Tigertail. His big brothers and sister are Kyle, 13, Natalia, 8, and Dylan.



Congratulations to Pittman and Justa Sampson on the arrival of your baby girl, **Quincy Maree Sampson**.

Quincy Maree Sampson was born Jan. 9 at Palms west Hospital in Loxahatchee, Fla. Quincy weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

Quincy has four brothers: Austin, Dylan, Jason, Kaiden, and one sister, Lindsey. The proud grandparents are Shirley and Gary Sampson of Brighton and Katherine Snook of Okeechobee.

We all wish you the best life possible!!

XOXO "The Sampson Bunch"
We love you munchkin,
Mom & Dad

Poems

Seminole Girl

When night unfolds her tender veil of blue,
My arms will hold you Seminole Girl
Beneath the stars we'll pledge our love a new,
The moon will lend us its spell.
When shadows fall across the closing days
My lips will find yours, Seminole Girl
Than with the dawn the shadows steal away
A kiss must seal our farewell.
O winds that hurry by

Pause in your silent flight.
O tell my love that I wait here tonight
Stars up above the world
Shinning so merrily
Keep my Seminole Girl safe, safe for me.
Stars up above the world
Shinning so merrily
Keep my Seminole girl
Safe for me.

—Alex Tucker
Otter Clan

The Great Hunt

I cannot tell you now
When the wind drive and whirl
Blow me along no longer,
And the winds a whisper at last
Maybe I will tell you than-
Some other time
When the roses flash to the sunset
Reels to the rack and the twist,
And the roses is a red bygone,
When the face I love is going
And the gate to the end shall change

And it's no use to beckon or say, "So long"
Maybe I will tell you then-
Some other time.
I never knew any more beautiful than you
I have hunted you under my thoughts
I have broken down under the wind
And into the roses looking for you.
I shall never find any
Greater than you

—Alex Tucker
Otter Clan



The Sorrow of Fort Marion

Ancient coquina shell and coral fortress,
On the margins of Florida forests, and swamps,
On the threshold of Seminole homeland-
Oh, anguished plight, weathered prison,
Sacred link to Seminole history,
Sorrowed feeling encapsulated in time.
I was there to find a closer kinship to my ancestors,
In search of myself,
To discover where I'd come from.
I have felt the morning air on the timeworn parapets of yesterday,
As cold as when the Seminoles imprisoned there

Long ago must've felt it,
Chained, deprived of freedom,
In deep pain and hurt,
They gazed out across those same shores,
Across the endless bay and yearned
For the golden sunrise of a better day
And still only deep blue rain and hail,
Silver wind and darkness.
Troops housed them in daily misery,
Behind bars, under the gun,
But the Seminoles never lost their dignity,
their courage,
In that mean place of Seminole woe.
You can still feel the profound sorrow to this very day.

It's there, it doesn't play.
A feeling so overwhelming!
Imagine a prison amidst the black implements of war:

Cannons, mortars, muskets, bayonets, sickness, hunger.
And what ancient tribes flourished on that spot
Long before the invaders came?
Never have I beheld such solemn sacredness,
My sad heart goes out to them:
War-Leader,
Osceola;
Chieftain,
And Royal Prince of the Forest: King Philip
And
"Wildcat";
and all the other Chiefs,
Warriors,
And women,
And children,
Captured under a white flag of truce,
And yet ruthlessly imprisoned there during the Seminole wars

Seminole patriots one and all in the truest sense of the word
Stolen, locked away, to never appreciate the shade
Of the pine, the live oak, the cypress
With their venerable gray-beards of swaying Spanish moss,
To never smell the warm-scented canopy of green meadow
Breath of air, so that vicious heartbreak and immediate death
Was the only respite for the severest storm.
Yet now I see were it not for them this poem may very well
Have been written out west, instead of here in Florida.

—Elgin Jumper
March 26, 2006



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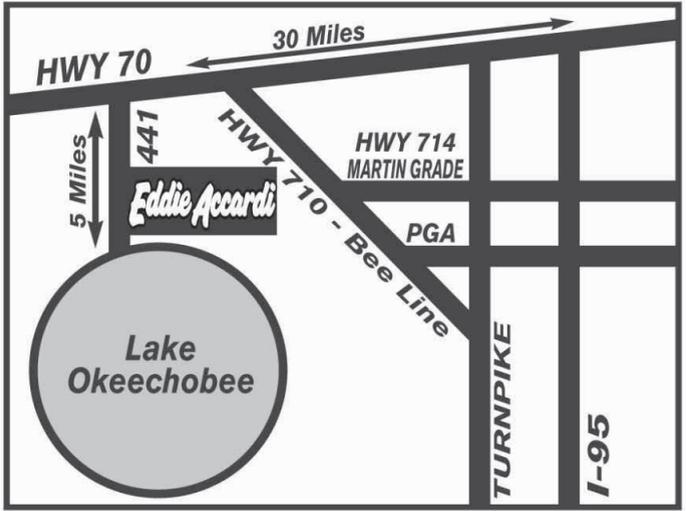
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Place: Quail Creek Plantation
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Date: May 13, 2006
Time: 8:30 a.m.

Costs:

Station Sponsor: \$100.00 (A sign at a Station)
Single Shooter: \$75.00 (Includes 100 targets and lunch, ammo not included)
Team: \$360.00 (A team consists of four shooters with lunch and a sponsor sign at a station, ammo not included)
Lunch: \$12 (Lunch will include a steak dinner with all the fixings)

Awards:

Top three teams and top three individuals and top youth will receive a plaque.

Call for information: Dianne Spann (863) 634-3327, Melissa S. Montes DeOca (863)634-7712, or Quail Creek Plantation at (863)763-2529. More information is available at www.flagri-women.org.

Registration Form

Sign me up for

<input type="checkbox"/> Station Sponsor (\$100.00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Team (\$360.00)
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Contact Name _____	
Address _____	
Phone _____	Fax _____

Contact Quail Creek Plantation to reserve a gold cart at (863)763-2529.
Mail registration to: Dianne Spann, 8668 SW 2nd St., Okeechobee, Fla. 34974, or e-mail to President@flagriwomen.org.

Chupco's Landing Key Presentation and Luncheon

By Chris Jenkins

FT. PIERCE — The crowd was definitely smaller on April 10 compared to September 2005's ceremonial ribbon cutting, but the impact was just as huge. Two more grateful and eager Ft. Pierce Tribal citizens received keys to their new homes, as part of presentation ceremonies at Chupco's Landing.

In a presentation which began with nine home and key exchanges, 27 total thus far, Dean Stokes and Shamy Tommie Sr. were among the most recent to be provided with the dream of a custom built home.

Both homes were four bedrooms with three and a half baths along with other features such as the ability to withstand hurricane winds up to 140 miles per hour, recessed lighting, ceramic tile, carpeting, oak cabinets and build-in backyard propane tank generators.

The days activities began with Director of Utilities Susie Kippenberger's,



Chris Jenkins

Director of Utilities Susie Kippenberger (far left), Shamy Tommie Sr. (middle), Bessie Tommie and Sally Tommie pose together after Chupco's Landing key presentation ceremonies.



Chris Jenkins

New homeowners and key recipients, Dean Stokes and Shamy Tommie Sr. give a smile for the cameras.

will just give you a house everyday."

Tommie will be sharing the house with his wife, Sandy, and their two grandchildren.

Also in attendance were Bessie Tommie, the last surviving child of 13 from parents Jack and Sally Chupco Tommie, founders of the Ft. Pierce Seminole camp. Seminole Police and Fire Departments were also in attendance to offer their support.

Tommie Sr. summed up his emotions best.

"I'm proud to be one of the Tribal members to get one of these houses and it's been a long time waiting for this, and I think it was worth the wait," he said.

There are three more house presentations and key exchanges scheduled upon completion.

opening remarks and defining of the housing and community rules, regulations, and owner policies. Ft. Pierce Liaison Sally Tommie was formerly introduced and continued the activities with a prayer and key presentations.

Tommie reflected on the honor and mood of such an opportunity.

"Owning a home or having the ability to have a home period, new or pre-owned, is one of the greatest prides and joys that anyone could ever have," said Tommie.

Shamy Tommie Sr., the eldest grandson in the Tommie household, reflected on the day and admitted to being anxious.

"The dream is here and it's a nice home and I'm proud of it," Tommie said. "It's not that somebody



Chris Jenkins

Shamy Tommie Sr. and wife Wanda happily pose after being presented with their new home keys.



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News From Indian Country



Daniel Romero Jr., chairman of the Lipan Apache Band of Texas, begins the restoration ceremony by saying a few of his own words and also a prayer that his father wrote.

Restoring Ancient Remains: Corporate America Helps Return Ancestors To Their Homes

By Patrick Brendel, *The Victoria Advocate*,
Reprinted with permission

VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS — Before the ceremony began that would restore ancient human remains to one of the oldest burial sites in the world, the chairman of the Lipan Apache Band of Texas explained to visitors that they were about to take part in a ritual that had been passed down continuously for more than eight millennia.

He asked that the men be anointed with ash and the women with pollen before beginning the burial rites because his people believe that ash and pollen prevent spirits of the dead from returning to this world.

Chairman Daniel Castro Romero Jr. said that the restoration on the morning of April 1 at the Buckeye Knoll site in south Victoria County validates the model of "joint stewardship" between Native American Tribes and corporate America whenever remains and artifacts are found on a company's land.

"As chief of the Lipan Apaches, I am forever humble with Invista for helping to return our ancestors to their homes," he said.

Romero said he was thankful to avoid the kind of controversy that is still swirling around the 1996 discovery of 9,200-year-old "Kinneweck man" in Southern Washington State. Because of his age, no one knows where the ancient being's remains should be restored or if should even be considered a Native American.

The Buckeye Knoll site was discovered in 2000 on property belonging to Dupont, now Invista, and yielded artifacts never seen in this part of the country, as well as the remains of about 70 human beings.

Archaeologist Bob Ricklis said that a crew of about 12 people conducted the dig, which took place over a period of about nine months and stopped when they had excavated about one-third of the area at the site. He said the work was like a pregnancy, "but the labor was harder."

Remains were found at Buckeye Knoll that dated as far back as 8,500 years, and artifacts were found that dated as recently as 500 years ago, he said, with the majority of the remains being between 6,300 and 7,000 years old.

For comparison, the remains at Buckeye Knoll site are at least 4,000 years older than the remains returned to Invista's Blue Bayou site in 2004.

However, Ricklis said he found that the culture of the people of Buckeye Knoll was in some ways at least as complex, or more so, than the people at Blue Bayou.

If the Buckeye Knoll site had been discovered in the 1950s, Ricklis said that scientists would have immediately "excavated the whole thing because of its scientific importance" and the remains would have been put on display or stored for long-term study.

Ricklis said he prefers to use the term "complex" rather than "advanced" because "advanced" implies that he is passing judgment.

Nevertheless, "the restoration is a sign of advancement in communication," he said. Although scientists would have learned more about the past by digging up the whole site and keeping everything for study and display, it is important to accommodate the people who presently have a connection to the dead.

By restoring the remains, "We are giving the proper respect to our forefathers," said Anita Anaya, secretary of the Lipan Apache band.

Larry Running Turtle Salazar of the Gulf Coast Indian Confederation in Corpus Christi said that the most important thing about the restoration "is to keep tradition as it always has been, from generation to generation."

"Our children will know how their ancestors

lived and died," he said.

Salazar said that his group, composed of eight nations, provided to the Lipan Apaches the deer-skins in which the remains were wrapped before the ceremony.

Himself a Mescalero Apache, Salazar said the restoration was a sign of different Tribes "working together - politically, spiritually - we're trying to come to terms economically."

"The old customs are beyond us," said Tommy Bolton, principal chief and tribal chairman of the Choctaw-Apache Tribe of Ebarb, in Louisiana. "As time goes on, we lose more and more."

Bolton said that Tribes share pieces of culture to combat this loss. For example, he said, most of the dances performed by Tribes nowadays were actually taught to them by people from the Northern Plains.

"We adopted them because we lost what we had," he said.

Bolton, whose Tribe contains four families who claim relation to the Lipan Apaches, said, "They



Lucila Maestas carries a rock to place on top of the restored Buckeye Knoll burial site. Because of Apache spiritual beliefs, only black-and-white photographs could be taken at the restoration.

are our distant kin. We also learn a little."

And although the people found at Buckeye Knoll are not related to the Lipan Apaches or any current Native American Tribe, according to Ricklis ("There is no archaeological link at all. Seven thousand years ago, from an archeological point of view, Tribes didn't even exist," he said), the Buckeye Knoll people "possessed the origin of many parts of Native American culture," anthropologist Enrique Maestas said.

"This was here before any building was built that is on this planet," said Maestas, who is Colorado Apache (or Chi'en Nde, in his words). "This is probably the oldest burial ground in North America."

"The remains were placed before the pyramids were built," Romero said.

When the people were first interred at Buckeye Knoll, "No one ever imagined we'd be able to put them back home and learn from them."

"I hope my people will take care of me in the traditional way," he said, motioning toward the restored burial site, "and this is the traditional way."

Patrick Brendel is a reporter for *The Victoria Advocate*. Contact him at (361) 580-6535 or pbrendel@vicad.com, or comment on this story at www.VictoriaAdvocate.com.

AIFI's Tribal Touring Program to Travel Cross-Country Summer 2006

Submitted by Cindy Benitez, AIFI

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — The American Indian Film Institute (AIFI) is proud to announce the summer schedule for the 2006 Tribal Touring Program. The Tribal Touring Program is designed to expand AIFI's media services to California and Western states tribal and rural communities.

The Tribal Touring Program, presented in the summer, uses media as a tool for cultural and economic development. It is structured around media empowerment and literacy, digital training workshops, community film festival and, months later, youth-to-media maker dialogue at the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco, Calif.

AIFI Host-Partners during the Tribal Touring Program's highly successful 2001-2002 pilot phase included:

Robinson Rancheria, Santa Rosa Rancheria, Sycuan Reservation, Soboba Reservation and Bishop Paiute Tribe in California, and the Yakama Nation in Washington.

The Tribal Touring Program has traveled to California, Washington, and Nevada reservations offering Native youths, ages 14-19, the opportunity to participate in this intensive 10 day media academy.

According to AIFI President Michael Smith, the Tribal Touring Program is "a bridge to our communities—especially bringing media technology to our reservation/Rancheria youth. Our youth retain their tribal stories—by placing digital video cameras, sound, lighting equipment and computers/Final Cut 5 in their hands—we empower youth to embrace media and continue to create a wider perspective, content, and marketplace for shaping and defining our contemporary Indian lifeways."

The 2006 Tribal Touring Program will be traveling to five communities cross-country, including: Salt River Pima Maricopa

Indian Community, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California and United Auburn Indian Community. One tour date is available for this summer program. If interested please contact the American Indian Film Institute.

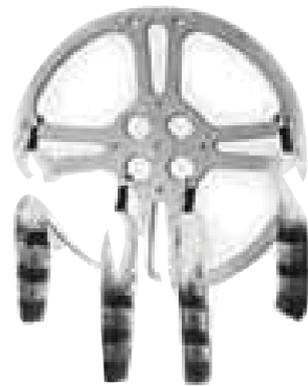
The 2006 Tribal Touring Program promises to be an educational, fun, and career-directed experience

for all Native youth participants who are taught by award-winning Indian media professionals experienced in digital video production. At each tour-stop, four to six short films of four-10 minutes each, are scripted, shot, edited, and premiered at each Tribal host site.

A 3-Nite "Best of the American Indian Film Festival" precedes the premiere of youth films. All youth films created at each Tribal Touring Program community will also be screened in a special program

at the 2006 31st annual American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco.

For further information regarding AIFI's Tribal Touring Program or annual Film Festival please contact the AIFI at (415) 554-0525, or e-mail aifi@aifisf.com.



aifi/american indian
film institute
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2006 AIFI Tribal Touring Program Dates:

June 1 - June 10: Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community, Scottsdale, AZ

June 22 - July 1: Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, Mashantucket, CT

July 6 - July 15: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Native TANF Program, Sacramento, CA

July 20 - July 29: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, Gardnerville, NV

Aug 3 - Aug 12: United Auburn Indian Community, Rocklin, CA

Aug 17 - Aug 26: Open TTP dates

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Hollywood Students Train to be Good Drivers

By Felix DoBosz

HOLLYWOOD — On April 13, four Hollywood students gathered in a small classroom at the Boys & Girls Club. Richard Smith, Training Instructor with the Seminole Police Department, instructed these fine young Seminole students on the basic laws related to driving privileges in the state of Florida.

What first time driving students 15-17 years of age should know in order to earn a license to drive in the state of Florida was one of the topics covered during the power point slide presentation. Student training consisted of lectures on the vehicle state laws while focusing on prevention of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence. The Driving Under the Influence, or DUI, penalties in the state of Florida are very severe. DUI offenses often lead to accidents, which cause destruction, injuries and sometimes even death.

Austina Motlow requested a class for first

time drivers and everyone thought it was an excellent idea. Attending and participating in the four-hour class at the Boys & Girls Club was Audrey Osceola, Jack Turtle and Legus Bowers.

The four young students were given a written test after the course was completed. The written test is produced by Driver Training Associates, Inc. The S.T.A.R.T. Course (Student Training Alcohol Related Topics) consisted of the following topics: your Florida driving privileges, suspension of license, revocation, Florida traffic point system, responsible driving strategies, pertinent alcohol facts, guide for detecting impaired drivers, consequences and penalties for drivers in the state of Florida.

This was the first time this program has been implemented for students in this community and will be scheduled again for the other Seminole reservations. This class was sponsored by the Seminole Tribe of Florida and SPD.



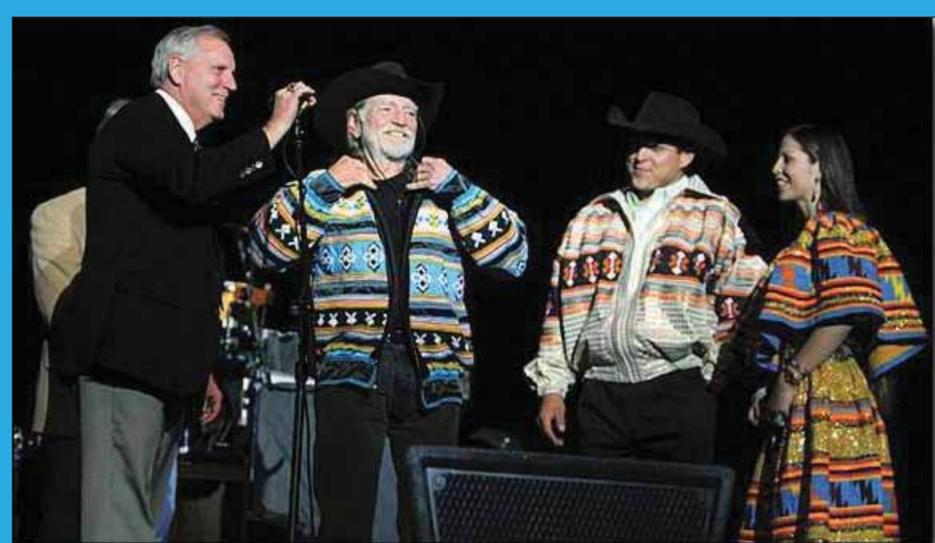
Felix DoBosz

S.T.A.R.T. course students (clockwise from left): Austina Motlow, Jack Turtle, Instructor Richard Smith, Legus Bowers and Audrey Osceola.

The brochure handed out to the class contained the following information:

- Some of the objectives in this driving course are:
 - Inform students of the significance of the driving privilege
 - Describe the laws pertaining to youthful drivers, including zero tolerance and other alcohol laws
 - Educate students regarding various drugs and their effects on the body
 - Assist students in learning how various drugs affect driver behavior and performance

- Inform students of the various attitude states within a personality
 - Assist students in developing responsible driver attitudes and behavior
 - Prepare students for driving in various conditions and demonstrate proper ways to handle emergencies
 - Enable students to examine risk areas in their lives goals
 - Develop an action plan for future responsible driving
 - Develop a personal commitment to staying alcohol and drug free



Mark Wallheiser / Tallahassee Democrat

As FSU president T.K. Wetherell stands at the microphone, Willie Nelson shows off the traditional Seminole jacket he was presented by Naha Jumper, second from right, and Jo Leigh Jumper, right, with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Happy Mother's Day to Ms. Lena D. Tiger. I would like to give thanks to a God-sent woman. You took me in and took care of me and you showed me love, patience, understanding, all of the things to help me grow. I just want you to know you were appreciated for being you.

Mommy, you have showed me how to laugh and smile through the hard times and good times. I want to thank you for teaching me how to love and be a mother when you never beard your own fruits! You have taught me many things in my life that I can teach my children to carry on your love to others thank you for loving me mommy you were my best friend!

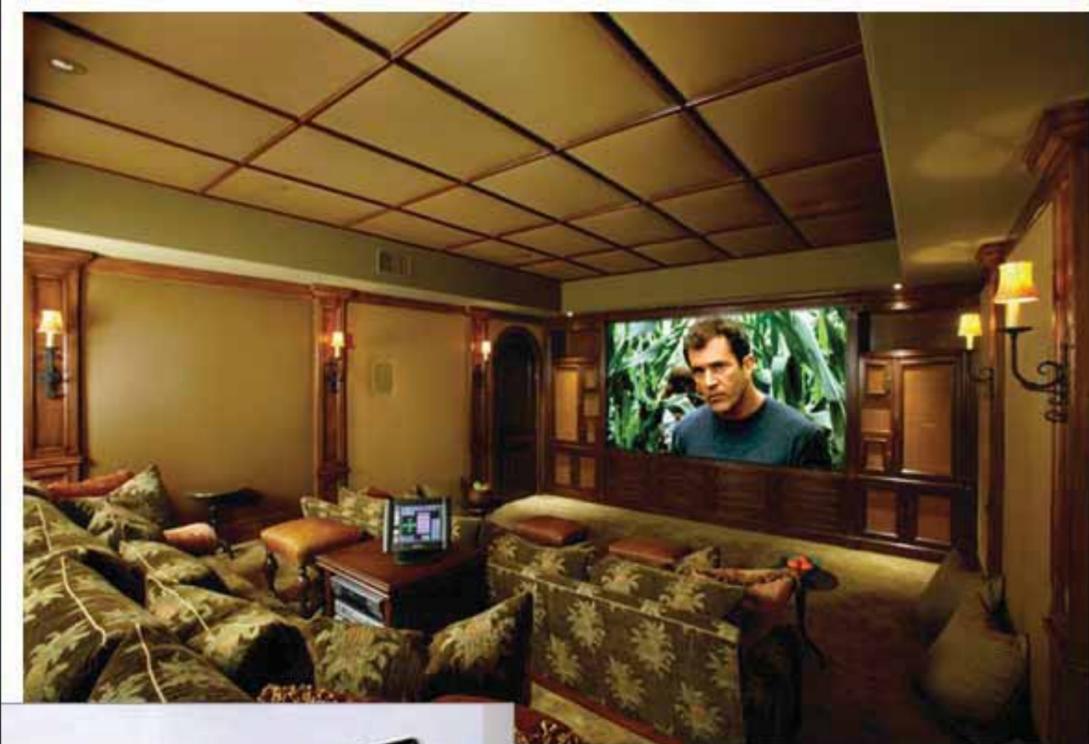
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 By Shannon Cory, President ASHI—Georgia

Introduction to Radon
 By Dr. Andy George, Director Analytical Operations,
 Radon Training Center Associates

This groundbreaking event is being held in coordination with the Seminole Tribe Housing Authority and is open to Seminole tribal members, employees and families. All others must R.S.V.P by May 1st as space is limited, NO EXCEPTIONS!
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Senior High Achievers in Immokalee

Story by Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — Since the opening of the new Senior Hot Meals facilities in Immokalee, the senior residents have been kept extremely occupied.



Judy Weeks

Immokalee seniors producing ceramics in their workshop.

Not only are they taking advantage of the fine meals that are being served, but have made the building a place for their social gathering and workplace for numerous projects.

The craft area is abuzz with activity from 10

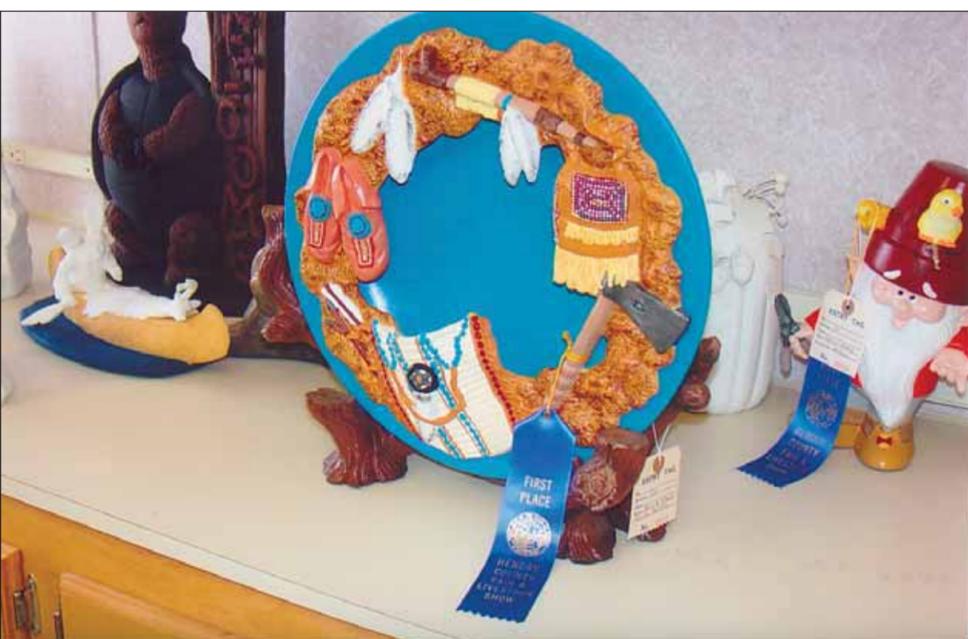
a.m.—2 p.m. nearly every day as the group has been hard at work turning out some very special ceramic pieces. The regulars are comprised of five to seven ladies who have learned to prepare, paint and finish various types of ceramic. Instructors are on hand to help them get started and answer any questions that may have arisen since their last meeting.

Beginning with the simple basic procedures, they have progressed to some very technical projects. While the subject for each class has made use of the various holidays and season, the group has taken a special interest in Native American pieces. In this category they have really excelled.

The completed art objects depict not only clans, but a variety of traditional items such as canoes, moccasins, beadwork, baskets, work and hunting utensils. Some of the statues of Native Americans

have been so well crafted, that they take on a human quality.

All of their hard work paid off when they were given an opportunity to enter the ceramics competition at the Hendry County Fair. Competing against



Judy Weeks

First place winning plate by Louise Motlow.



Judy Weeks

Immokalee seniors and staff pose with their winning entry in the Trike Fest and the 2006 trophy.

approximately 100 other entries from communities all around Lake Okeechobee, Fla., they took many of the top honors.

Triumphing in numerous divisions, they garnered five first place awards and two second places. Louise Motlow received three first place ribbons, while Mary Sanchez and Rachel Billie each had one. Two second places went to Elizabeth Oleo.

Following the return of their entries to Immokalee, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, President Moses Osceola and Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress joined the group for lunch and congratulated them on their success. Scrutinizing each piece, they complemented the ladies on their choice of colors and the great care they took in attending to each detail in decorating their entries.

Rachel Billie's statue of Osceola drew the special attention of David Cypress, who wished to purchase it. He insisted that the first place ribbon must accompany the piece of art to his home.

Ceramics are not the only competition entered by Immokalee's seniors. They all participated in designing and creating their entry in this year's Trike Fest at Big Cypress which brought them a first place win in the best decorated trike category.

Everyone contributed something to the project and they all worked on putting it together. The

seniors did enlist a little outside help from Bill and Johnny at Utilities, who assisted in taking pieces loose from the bikes and then reattaching them after decoration was complete. Victor Billie supplied the know-how in the construction of the small chickee frame and helped them to stabilize it.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Seniors Louise Motlow, Elizabeth Oleo, Rachel Billie and Mary Sanchez show off their winning ceramic entries from the Hendry County Fair.

In the best dressed bike awards, Mary Sanchez came in second place and Rachel Billie was hot on her heels in third place. Meanwhile Nancy Motlow took first in the ball toss.



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VNEA Pool Players Compete at Hard Rock

Tribal Citizen Theresa Nunez Takes First in Women's Division

By Eydie Romano, AzBilliards.com

TAMPA — With big money and bragging right up for grabs, players flocked to the Tampa Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino the week of April 13–16. This Valley National Eightball Association (VNEA) friendly event was open to all VNEA players in the Florida region.

What a class act this VNEA event was. OB Osceola, Naples liaison, went all out to make this one of the best events in VNEA history. Everything from the smallest attention to detail was paid to this event. It was a non-stop class act with top shelf clothing for the staff, laminated postcard stock score sheets and four foot high trophies for all the winners.

Additional guaranteed added money was up for grabs in the Pro/Master round robin tournament. This tournament included such notable players as Troy Frank, Glen Olson and Steve Frost. Troy Frank went undefeated throughout the event only missing nine games out of 40 and bringing home the grand prize. Second place went to Glen Olson and Dan Briggs took third place. In The Sportsman Division, "Dolly's Big Dogs" from Deland, FL defeated "Motown Boy's" from Immokalee, FL. This was the closest match of the championship rounds.

There were 22 players in the women's division. First place went to Seminole Tribal citizen Theresa Nunez. Elishia Huson came in second and third place went to Amy Poulter.

The women went head to head all weekend long. Theresa Nunez went head to head throughout the



Theresa Nunez

Tribune Archive Photo

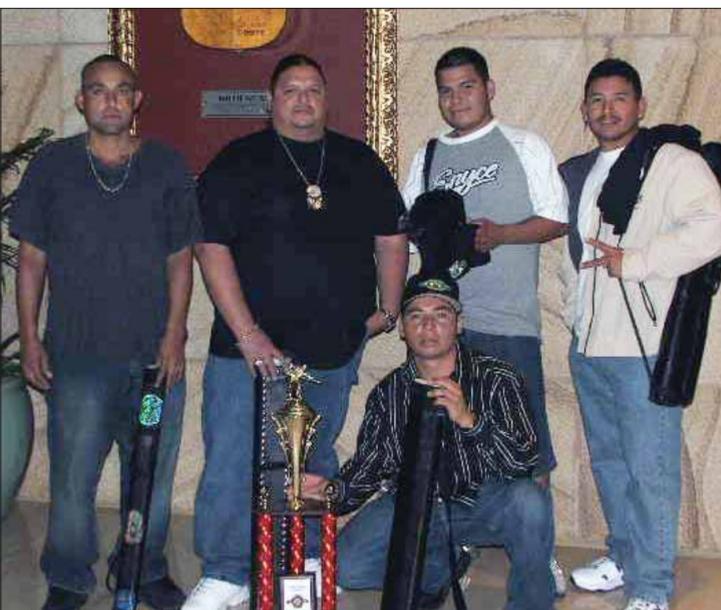
tournament until being knocked into the losers bracket by Elishia Huson. She came back after forcing Amy Poulter into third place and also defeating Elishia twice for the grand prize.

Theresa Nunez, 35, lives on The Brighton reservation with her four children, ages five–12. She has been playing pool for the past 10 years. In addition to playing, she operates a floral business called Best Buds, which serves The Seminole reservation exclusively.

Last year, she took second in the Seminole Sunshine Tournament. Within the past several years she has also placed first at The Valley State Tournament and is in the Top 20 in VNEA.

Theresa's love for the game and dedication to the Tribe inspired her to put together an elders team for this tournament. The team, called Native Natives, consists of five team players all over 60 years of age who never competed before in tournament play. She led them through the ins and outs of team play competition, with the highs of victory and the agony of defeat.

This was certainly the place to be in Tampa this past weekend for action, action, and action.



Second place "Motown Boys"

Health Inspiration Publication

The Health Department invites any Tribal citizen interested in being included in a health inspiration publication to contact Suzanne Davis at the Health Department. This publication is the first in a series of collections of community interviews, photos and stories.

Suzanne can be reached at (954) 962-2009 ext. 120

Women's Wellness Health Fair 2006

Join the Seminole Health Department and its' special guests as each reservation celebrates women's health with our annual Women's Wellness Health Fair.

For more information:

Big Cypress
Tuesday, May 23
@ the Big Cypress Gym
Contact Linda McCarthy
863-983-5798

Brighton
Thursday, May 25
@ the Brighton Clinic
Contact Barbara Boling
863-763-0271

Hollywood
Wednesday, May 17
@ the Tribal Office Auditorium
Contact Tina Mennella
954-962-2009

Immokalee
Thursday, May 25
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Contact Charlotte Porcero
239-867-3400



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❖ IRCC

Continued from page 1

presentation on behalf of Bowers who fell ill and was unable to attend. Thomas expressed Bowers' regrets for being unable to attend the presentation



The Tribe's donation check (bottom, center).

Emma Brown

and went on to share that Bowers is very excited to support this project because he feels that Brighton's educational roots are tied to the Okeechobee community and that education for his people is one of his top priorities.

President Moses Osceola also attended the presentation and shared the following, "It gives us pleasure to present this check to Dr. Massey and IRCC. The Seminole Tribe is very supportive of education for our people and Indian River College is one of the institutions of higher education that many of our tribal members have attended and still attend. We are pleased to support this new center."

It is obvious that the Seminole Tribe supports education by the support they have shown to the local college that has provided higher education to many Seminoles. Every dollar donated for the new center will be matched by state facilities matching funds. We hope to have many Seminole students benefit from this new state of the art facility.

Seminole Children Receive Awards

Submitted by Public School Academy
WILSON, MI — The children of Seminole Tribal citizen Catherine Tommie Alexander and husband Charles Alexander were honored with several awards in recent months.

Christian 10, Christopher 9 and Cassandra 5, attend the Nah Tah Wahsh Public School Academy in Wilson, Mich.

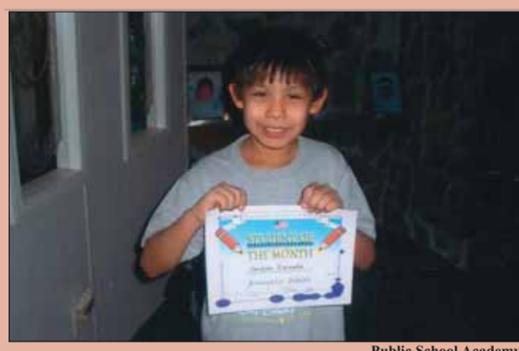
Christian received the student of the month award in January.

In September 2005, Christopher was honored as the student of the month. He also received the humility award.

Cassandra received an award for honesty. The award is named Honoring the Seven Grandfathers. She is the youngest student to receive this award



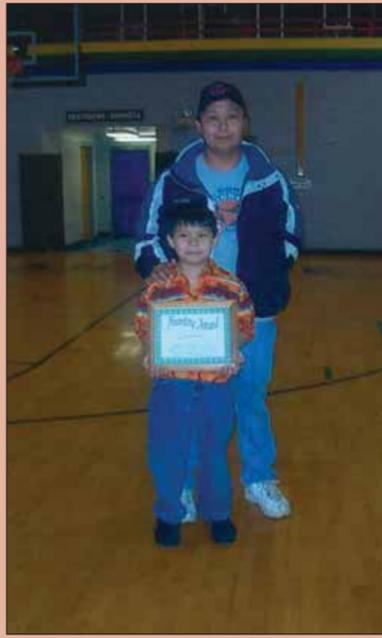
Cassandra Alexander
Public School Academy



Christian Alexander
Public School Academy



Christopher Alexander
Public School Academy



Christopher Alexander
Public School Academy

Happy Mother's Day from the Seminole Tribune

"We only have One Mom, One Mommy,
 One Mother in this World, One life.
 Don't wait for the Tomorrow's to tell Mom, you love her"
 ~Author Unknown~

Mothers are fonder than fathers of their children because they are more certain they are their own.
 — Aristotle:

WONDERFUL MOTHER

God made a wonderful mother,
 A mother who never grows old;
 He made her smile of the sunshine,
 And He moulded her heart of pure gold;
 In her eyes He placed bright shining stars,
 In her cheeks fair roses you see;
 God made a wonderful mother,
 And He gave that dear mother to me.
 — Pat O'Reilly~

No matter how old a mother is, she watches her middle-aged children for signs of improvement.

— Florida Scott-Maxwell:
 Before you were conceived I wanted you
 Before you were born I loved you
 Before you were here an hour I would die for you
 This is the miracle of life.
 — Maureen Hawkins:



The most important thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother.

M-O-T-H-E-R

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
 "O" means only that she's growing old,
 "T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
 "H" is for her heart of purest gold;
 "E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
 "R" means right, and right she'll always be,
 Put them all together, they spell "MOTHER,"
 A word that means the world to me.

— Howard Johnson

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Community Easter Gathering

By Emma Brown

BRIGHTON — The Brighton rodeo grounds and facility resembled a beautiful rainbow on Friday April 14. The colorful blanket that covered the ground was made out of literally hundreds of Easter eggs for the community Easter egg hunt.

The hunt began at 10 a.m. with sections of eggs divided by orange tape to clearly mark the boundaries. The hunt was divided into groups according to current school grades. The groups were as follows: K—first, second—fourth, fifth—eighth and ninth—12th.

At 9:59 a.m. the kids were lined up eager for the hunt to begin. At 10 a.m. they were given the green light and it was each kid for themselves. Kids were scurrying everywhere trying to gather as many eggs as possible, hoping to either gather the most eggs or find one of many golden prize eggs the lay amidst the others.

After each egg had been found it was time for the prizes to be awarded. Prizes were awarded in each age group to the kids with the most eggs and to the kids who had found a golden prize egg. After the hunt, the kids could visit with the Easter Bunny or enjoy the recreational activities that had been set up for them.

At 12 p.m. a cold cut lunch was served for the entire community to enjoy. Following lunch it was time for the ladies and gentlemen of Brighton to put their egg hunting skills to work. There were nearly as many adults hunting eggs as



Joshua Boromei, Destiny Nunez, Breanna Billie, Korvette Billie.

Emma Brown



Caroline Micco, Elana Micco, Peter Cottontail and Mason Micco.

Emma Brown

there were children, which is always an exciting event to witness. Adults were awarded with the same prizes as the children, so in this group as well, it was each person for them self.

It was another fun and exciting Easter for the community of Brighton. Thank you to each department that supported the Tribal Council and Board office in making another holiday a success.



Emma Brown

And they are off!



Emma Brown

Danyelle Boromei



Emma Brown

Erik Garcia

FIBA Hosts Festive Easter Program

By Susan Etxebarria

BRIGHTON — The students at First Indian Baptist Academy (FIBA) put on a wonderful 40 minute performance of song and scripture recital held in the church on April 12 for the enjoyment of parents and guests.

School Director Darlene Holmes, opened the Easter program by introducing the first ever FIBA school choir. The 18 students sang 10 Christian songs to the accompaniment of the piano.

They had memorized the songs and showed so much enthusiasm for performing on the stage and sharing the message of Easter that it was very enjoyable to listen and to watch. The parents should be proud of their kids.

“Praise the Lord,” said Pastor Johns. “That was something to see and I am glad everyone came out today to experience this. I didn’t know this was going to happen. I sit in my office and I heard some music and I am amazed to see how far they got in just a short time.”



Susan Etxebarria

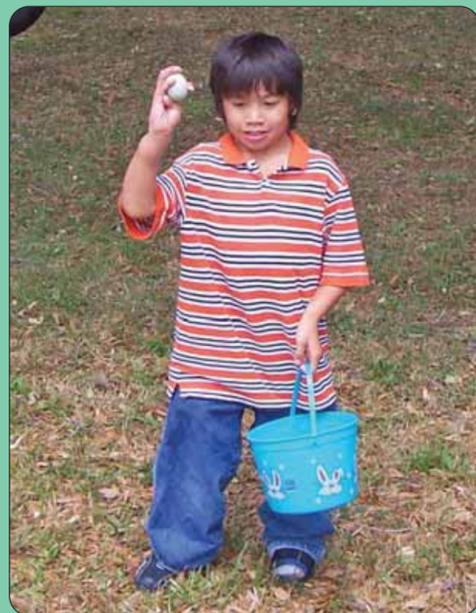
Reese Bert Jr. reciting scripture.



Susan Etxebarria

Choir singing: (back row, L-R) Huber Leon, Ty Pierce, Chris Olivarez, Shae Pierce, Deliah Carillo, Samuel Osceola and Kaley Riley; (front row, L-R) Joseph Osceola, Burgundy Pierce, Tavis Jumper, Viviana Martinez, Robert Harris and Isaac Osceola.

Also performing was the new high school band made up of three guitarists who call themselves the “Brighton Boyz Band.” They sounded really good and show a lot of promise. Especially if they keep up their practices with their unofficial music coach, Michael Bond, the Seminole 4-H extension agent who also plays a guitar. The vocalist is Dewell Johns and his band mates are Tory Billie and Clint Bowers.



Susan Etxebarria

Good egg finder Samuel Osceola.

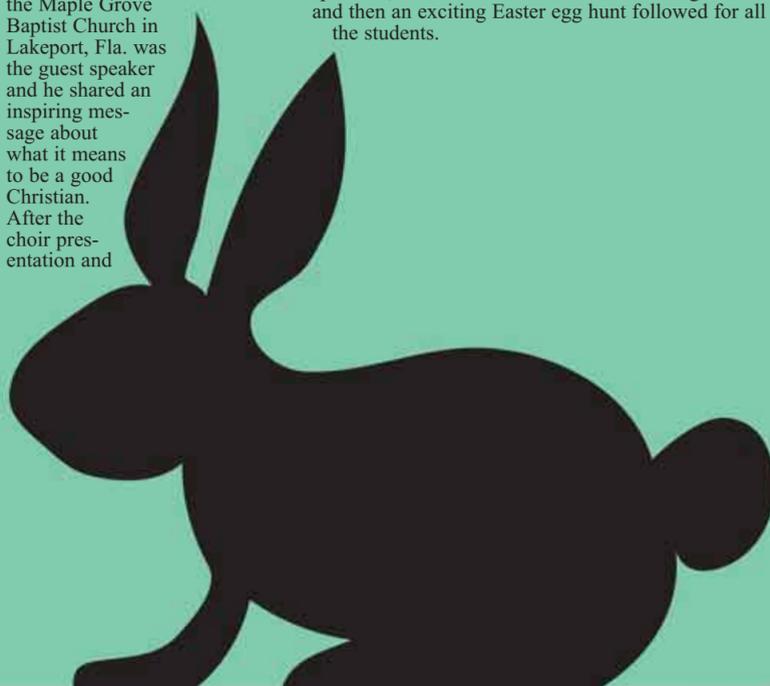


Susan Etxebarria

(L-R) Samuel Osceola, Shae Pierce, Teanna Garcia, Deliah Carillo, Kaley Riley, Moses Garcia, Jaden Puente and Huber Leon.

Pastor Garvin Scott of the Maple Grove Baptist Church in Lakeport, Fla. was the guest speaker and he shared an inspiring message about what it means to be a good Christian. After the choir presentation and

speeches, a luncheon was served for all the guests and then an exciting Easter egg hunt followed for all the students.



Non-Residents Celebrate the Easter Holiday



Janice Billie

The Seminole Tribune's Editor in Chief Virginia Mitchell and grand-daughter Jewel.

By Janice Billie

HOLLYWOOD — On the evening of April 6, Hollywood non-resident Tribal citizens gathered together for fun and food. The location was Dave & Busters, a popular eating and arcade establishment often selected as a venue for Tribal festivities.

Hosted by Hollywood's non-resident liaison Holly Tiger the occasion was a casual and fun filled affair.

Tiger stated at the start, "We don't have an agenda tonight; we're here to celebrate Easter and have an evening of enjoyment."

The activities of the night included raffles, musical chairs for the youngsters and a visit from the Easter bunny. Some of the raffle prizes were the ever popular I-Pods® and PSPs®. The bunny was a big help in handing

out prizes and graciously took photos with the children.

There was no shortage of entertainment for the kids as they were treated to tickets for all the games in the facility. The food was great and the children were quite high spirited throughout the evening

There was a good turnout for the occasion. It was an opportunity for the non-residents to check in with their liaison about reservation event schedules and events pertaining exclusively to non-residents.



Janice Billie

The Easter Bunny was a big hit with the kids.



Janice Billie

Riley Jumper takes a nap during the Hollywood non-resident festivities.



Janice Billie

Natomah Robbins smiles with the Easter Bunny.



Janice Billie

Raymond Osceola and the Easter Bunny.

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Seniors sporting their Easter bonnets (L-R): Elizabeth Oleo, Elaine Aguilar, Louise Motlow and Rachel Billie.



Foot races drew a happy bunch of contestants.



Tara Boone successfully caught the water balloon for a first place win.

❖ Easter

Continued from page 1

Senior Joseph Billie fired up the old barbecue grill and turned out some of the most mouth watering ribs and chicken ever. Accompanied by potato salad, beans, hard boiled eggs and a tossed salad, prepared by Connie Gray, Gayle Greer and Angie Arreguin, it was a meal fit for kings and queens.

Dessert was a beautifully decorated homemade cake with Easter colors and characters. Each one of the seniors received an individual bunny cake with jelly bean eyes to take home for an evening snack.

Moving to the front lawn, the party goes participated in an Easter egg hunt with cash prizes concealed in each egg. At the end of the party each senior received a beautiful centerpiece for their dining table comprised of a ceramic pot with an assortment of Easter florals.

Preschool Easter Party

The staff of the Immokalee Seminole Preschool put together a fantastic party for their students on April 14.

The little tykes gathered in the school yard for their annual Easter Egg Hunt armed with their baskets and high expectations. It is a joy to watch their enthusiasm grow as they locate each egg and run for the next, hoping to fill their baskets to overflowing.

Following a series of games, they enjoyed a chicken dinner with their friends and family members before diving into the long awaited Easter cake. Each student received a basket loaded with treasures: toys, stuffed animals, chocolate bunnies and candy eggs, crayons and little games.

By far the highlight of the day was the bounce house and inflated Slip-n-Slide® where they played to their hearts content.

Immokalee Community Easter Party

Gathering at the Ball Field at 10 a.m. on April 15, the Immokalee community members celebrated the Easter holiday. Their Recreation department had planned a full day of activities which began by popular demand with the Easter egg hunt.

Divided into age groups, separate areas provided an equal opportunity for each individual to participate. Giant Easter baskets were awarded to the winners with the most eggs in each category from first through third place.

A great deal of care went into the basket preparation to insure that they were age appropriate. In addition to chocolates, candies, and small toys, there were bubbles, coloring books, crayons, markers, jewelry and little cars for the younger set.

Games such as Yahtzee®, Scrabble®, Monopoly® and Trivial Pursuit® joined black lights, music and Walmart gift cards in the baskets of the older winners.

A picnic lunch was served under the big chickee with hamburgers and hot dogs hot off the grill, potato chips, cold drinks and Easter cupcakes.

A waterslide proved to be a popular gathering place as the heat of the afternoon set in with a promise of a hot summer ahead. There were never less than 10 to 15 people taking advantage of its cool, refreshing atmosphere, at any one time.

Other activities included foot races, egg toss, water balloon toss, egg relay and horse shoes with cash prizes awarded through third place.

Everyone received one raffle ticket and as the numbers were called, the winner was given an opportunity to select a plastic egg from a basket which contained prizes ranging. Before the afternoon was over, everyone had an opportunity to draw a winning egg.

Several community members donated their time to put this party together and make it the wonderful success that was enjoyed by all. A special thank you to Sylvia Marrero who coordinated the event.



Cheyenne McInturff with her prize Easter basket.



Louise Motlow shows off her Easter basket.



Bess Bowlegs cradles a raw egg after a careful catch in the egg toss.



Joseph Billie was chef for the senior Easter party.



