

The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

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July 23, 2004

Brighton Students Travel to New York City

By Emma Brown
NEW YORK, N.Y. — The Brighton middle school students achieving a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for the entire school year earned a trip to New York City. The group traveled to New York from July 5-8.

Upon arrival at New York's LaGuardia airport the group was greeted by their personal tour director who loaded them all up on a motor coach to immediately begin seeing the NYC sites. A sightseeing tour of Upper Manhattan was the first tour on the agenda. The students were able to visit and see places like Times Square, Fifth Avenue, St. Patrick's Cathedral,



Emma Brown

With the skyscrapers in the background, the Brighton students enjoy the view of New York City from across the Hudson River.

See NYC, page 3

Mia Da'Wana Sapp and Whitney Tucker Graduate from Hollywood Christian High School

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — Mia Da'Wana Sapp completed ten years of dedicated study, graduating from Hollywood Christian High School on June 4. Sapp excelled at school, making the principals list with a 3.7 average, and was only one A away from a perfect straight-A report card her senior year.

Her favorite class was American government; she remembers being fascinated by such subjects as the Pentagon Papers and Watergate.

Sapp, 19, also was a singer in the school choir and played clarinet for the school band. She was once nominated for school homecoming queen and was her class's secretary-treasurer. One major accomplishment was helping to raise more than \$20,000 by organizing and participating in car washes, candy and bake sales, and other fundraising activities.

Her proud parents, Leona Tommie Williams and Jerome Williams know their daughter has the talent and determination to excel at Johnson & Wales



Michael Kelly

Proud high school graduates (L-R) Whitney Tucker and Mia Sapp hold their diplomas.

University, which she will attend in the fall.

Sapp was working as a teaching assistant at a summer job program at the Dorothy Scott Osceola (DSO) building when she had an opportunity to prepare food for the preschool department. Sapp enjoyed the experience so much that she made up her mind to become a chef.

"She wanted to be a teacher at first, but then after cooking for the preschool department, she decided she really liked it," said Leona.

Mia has always had an interest in cooking, even at an early age. "I remember she started cooking when she was around 12-years-old," added Leona.

Some of her mother's favorite dishes she prepares include lasagna, spaghetti, and of course, "Indian tacos." However, Mia's father said his favorite dish is blueberry flap jacks.

She would like to focus on developing healthy foods that

See GRADS, page 3



Iretta Tiger

Marissa Baker spent her 4th of July weekend getting in shape.

The 2004 4th of July 5K Walk and Run Marathon

By Iretta Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — On July 3rd runners and walkers from the Seminole Tribe gathered to compete for the 2004 Fourth of July 5K Walk or Run marathon. The competition was held at the Mitchell Cypress Trail of Fitness and was open to all tribal citizens and tribal employees. Runners and walkers had to complete nine laps to equal three miles. The runners were the first to compete just as the sun was rising. Jadrien Antuna and Marcus Briggs held a steady lead throughout the entire race.

All the runners stuck it out and completed the race; the results are as follows:

- Boys ages 4 to 12: 1. Catlen Tommie; 2. Trent McInturff.
Men ages 18 to 35: 1. Jadrien Antuna; 2. PJ Bluebird.
Men ages 36 to 49: 1. Eugene Roberts; 2. Allen McInturff.
Women ages 18 to 35: 1. Lenora Roberts; 2. Candy Cypress; 3. Lorraine Posada.
Women ages 36 to 49: 1. Almira Billie.

See 5K, page 4

Board Meets, Discusses Negotiating Purchase of Texas Feedlot

By Shelley Marmor
HOLLYWOOD — On Wednesday June 30, The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. convened for a regular meeting at the Hollywood tribal headquarters. All board representatives and liaisons were present, with the exception of David D. DeHass, Hollywood representative.

The most intensely discussed resolution was for the approval to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the 560-acre Hondo Creek Feedlot. The feedlot is in the Southern Texas city of Edroy, five miles north of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Don Robertson, Director of Natural Resources, informed concerned tribal citizens in the audience that he has looked into several feedlots, and believes the Hondo Creek facility will be the most advantageous for the board to purchase. He said the board has thrown around the idea of purchasing a feedlot for years, and argues "it's another step up in the cattle industry."

President Moses Osceola said the feedlot will benefit the tribe because fattening up the cattle means the tribe makes more money when they sell the cattle.

"The whole purpose of it is just to increase the weight of your cattle before you put them on the market for sale," he said. "Instead of just sending them out at, say 600 pounds or something, you can send them to the feedlot, fatten them up, increase their weight...

we're almost able to double the weight before [we] put them on the market."

Robinson told the board the Hondo Creek Feedlot is in a prime location, calling it "valuable for where it sits." Located just eight miles from the largest packinghouse in Southern Texas, the tribe will save money on transporting the cattle from feedlot to slaughterhouse.

Roberston said the feedlot can currently maintain 13,500 head of cattle, but can be expanded to hold 20,000, since that is what the lot is zoned for. Osceola said if the tribe purchases the lot, land may be leased out to individual cattle owners that the tribe currently deals with.

An audience member asked Robertson why the tribe does not just build a feedlot on unused land on one of the reservations. Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger said he asked Robertson the same question in the briefing the day before the meeting. Basically, Tiger said it costs too much money to open a feedlot in Florida because the foods the cattle eat cost so much money to transport to Florida.

Robinson added that there have been several attempts at running a successful feedlot in Florida, but all attempts have failed miserably. He said the hot weather and humidity in Florida hurts the cattle's ability to grow. In addition, there are no packing houses in Florida, so the cows will have to be transported to the nearest packing

See BOARD, page 2



Photo courtesy of Geneva Shore

Chicken Project—1950. This shows the first unofficial Seminole 4-H club project. Today's Seminole 4-H Club has grown. It now includes larger animals such as steer and swine, in addition to chickens, which remain a part of the 4-H club to this day.

Seminole 4-H: Bigger and Better Than Ever

By Susan Etxebarria
BRIGHTON — In the hall of the cattle and range building at Brighton hangs a large framed picture on the wall, a copy of an enlarged photo actually, showing some of the tribe's first unofficial 4-H'ers holding their pet project—chickens. The photo is entitled "Chicken Project—1950."

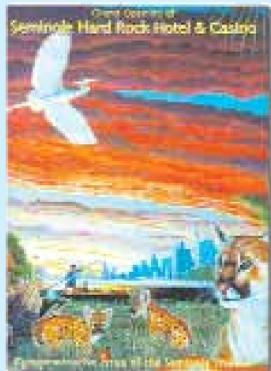
It is a reminder of harder times. It is a snapshot of the history of humble beginnings for programs like 4-H on the reservation. Times have changed and 4-H members today raise

and sell steer and swine, investing hundreds of dollars and hundreds of hours to reap big profits.

So, after all the prizes and awards were given to the excited youth at the year-end Brighton 4-H Banquet Monday June 28, and after the happy 4-H'ers received their checks from buyers, tribal elder Rosie Billie stood up and spoke words of wisdom.

See 4-H, page 7

Grand Opening of Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Commemorative Issue of The Seminole Tribune



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Culture...
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Please send check or money order in the amount of \$8 to The Seminole Tribune, Commemorative Booklet, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024. Or order online at www.seminoletribe.com/marketplace. For more information please call (800) 683-7800, Ext. 1266.

Health Department Presents: Lunch & Learn

By Adelsa Williams

HOLLYWOOD —

Lettuce wraps, steamed vegetables and cinnamon apples was the lunch menu at the lunch and learn first series held on Tuesday July 13, at the Hollywood tribal office auditorium lobby.

The health department staff coordinated this event in efforts to keep the community educated about nutrition. Tribal citizens and employees were delighted by Karen Gauci's, nutritionist and chef to the stars, educational presentation.

Gauci emphasized in the importance of setting goals before starting the journey of one of America's most discussed topic, weight control.

"Nutritional recommendations vary depending on what your goals are, what results are important to you, and what your time frame is," said Gauci.

Gauci mentioned and explained in detail five goals, which were, eating a well balanced diet, losing weight, avoiding fat, saturated fat and cholesterol, eating more complex carbohydrates and avoiding excess sugar.

As Gauci educated attendees regarding the details of each goal, she answered questions from the audience. At the end of the presentation, the health



Adelsa Williams

Karen Gauci teaches a class important nutritional information.

department handed out folders including information on the topics discussed along with a couple of nutritional recipes.

The health department will like to invite all interested parties in participating in future presentations. Currently two

more series are scheduled for show on July 20 and 27.

For more information or to make your reservation call Shannon McKeown at (954) 962-2009. Everybody's welcome!

Attention Tribal Citizens

All tribal citizens of The Seminole Tribe of Florida who live out of state are eligible to receive a free subscription of *The Seminole Tribune*. Please fill out the information below and mail to:

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Attention Seminole tribal citizens and employees: If you would like to submit an announcement (birthday, baby, marriage, etc.) to *The Seminole Tribune*, and to insure correct spelling, please fill out the information provided below. If you have any questions about deadlines, etc., please call *The Seminole Tribune* at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1267, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Our fax number is (954) 967-3482. Thanks.

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If you would like your photos mailed back to you, please include your mailing address.

The Seminole Tribune

If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday wish or poem to *The Seminole Tribune*, please contact the editor, Michael Kelly at (800) 683-7800,

Ext. 1267. E-mail mkelly@seminoletribe.com, fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

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Greetings,

Could you please direct me to some sort of reference on clothing symbols used by the Seminole people. While visiting a friends' house they showed me a large photo of a Seminole woman with her beautiful patchwork dress. The photo is a black and white photo taken in the early-1900s. I believe some of the strips of designs are the crawfish, and another one has a small section being lightning while the rest of that strip is rain.

In particular there are two

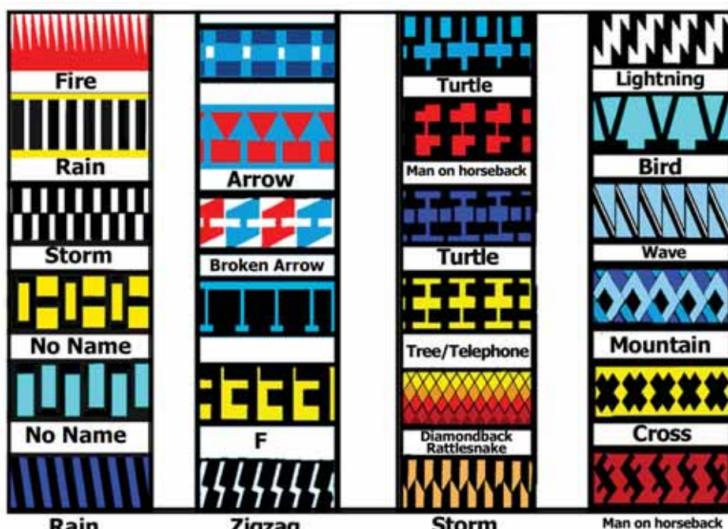
designs that I can describe. One is a large bold face H and the other is a bold face I.

Thank you for your time,
Dana Vihlen
danavihlen@cs.com

Dear Dana,

Here is a patchwork chart for your reference.

Melissa Sherman
Graphic Designer, *The Seminole Tribune*



Raulerson Thanks Brighton Parents

By Emma Brown

BRIGHTON —

The retired superintendent of Okeechobee County, Phoebe Raulerson wishes to share this letter with members of the Brighton Community to show her gratitude for her retirement gifts. She will be greatly missed by Brighton parents and education department.

Dear Louise Gopher and Brighton Community,

I've written to thank Chairman Mitchell Cypress for the way the tribe has honored me. I wear the seal, and will cherish it. The letter will always hang in my home. Both were great surprises.

I need your help in thanking the parents at Brighton. The trip to Hawaii left me speechless. You know me; I've never been speechless. I was truly humbled by this generous gift.

Please share this letter with them or tell them how deeply I appreciate what they have done. If there is ever any way I can help the tribe or its children, please call on me. It has been a pleasure working with you and everyone at Brighton. I hope I can assist you all in some way in the future.

Sincerely,
Phoebe Raulerson



We would like to thank everyone who came through for their great deal of help they gave to our family. Thank you Chairman Mitchell Cypress, President Moses Osceola, Council Representatives David Cypress and Roger Smith, Board Representative Johnny Jones, and Administrative Assistant Pat Diamond.

To my brother Moses Jumper Jr. for his help emceeing, and the beautiful poem he wrote for Roger. To June and Junior Battiest, and the master touch for the songs of inspiration and love from God and his son Jesus Christ.

To Nettie Stewart, my sister, for the help making flyers for the event. Thank you travel department for their assistance.

Once again, I would like to thank you all and may God bless you.

Thank you,
Boettner "Ruggy" Jumper and the family of Roger B. Jumper
In memory of Roger B. Jumper (November 16, 1981-June 30, 2003)
He will be in our hearts forever.

Board

Continued from page 1

house-located in Southern Texas.

"I don't even want to think about starting one here; that's out of the question," Robinson said. "It's a losing proposition since day one."

Vice President Mitchell Cypress said he agreed with Robinson, arguing that building a feedlot in Florida will untimely hurt the tribe financially.

"I don't think you can make any money with a feedlot in South Florida," Cypress said. "Even big cattle companies don't have a feedlot around here."

As Robertson suggested, the board unanimously approved going into negotiations to purchase the Hondo Creek Feedlot.

The board also discussed, and unanimously passed, two resolutions approving new homesites to be built on pasture land in Brighton. One new home-site will be for Aaron Billie, and the other is for Todd Kevin Osceola and Sandra Kay Osceola.

In addition, the board members unanimously approved a resolution to change the tribe's purchasing policies. Jim Talik, the board's executive administrator, said the policies currently used have been in place since 1992, and they are being changed so the tribe is in compliance with National Indian Gaming Commission's newly implemented policies.

The next regular meeting of The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., is scheduled for August 13.

Mark your Calendars Today:

18TH ANNUAL IAC SYMPOSIUM

November 1 - 6, 2004

Hard Rock Resort & Casino
Hollywood, Florida



This year's host Tribe is the Seminole Tribe of Florida who will be hosting this year's symposium at their newly built Hard Rock Resort & Casino.

LOOK FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON

THE IAC WEBSITE:

www.IndianAgLink.com

AND IN THE SUMMER NEWSLETTER.



Seminole Princess Pageant Welcomes You

Submitted by Wanda Bowers

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Princess Pageant committee would like to invite you to the upcoming Florida Miss Seminole and Florida Jr. Miss Seminole Princess Pageant, scheduled for August 11-15.

The Seminole Princess Pageant will be held Saturday night, August 14, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the executive tribal office building on the Hollywood reservation. The Seminole princess committee will host a community dinner that afternoon at 4 p.m. in the lobby of the auditorium.

Anyone interested in obtaining an application to run for Florida Miss Seminole or Florida Jr. Miss Seminole 2004-2005 can pick up an application from any the following Seminole Tribe



Princess Committee Members: Wanda Bowers (Hollywood), Priscilla Sayen (Hollywood), Salina Dordan (Brighton), Terry Haun (Brighton), Alice Billie (Big Cypress), Mary Jean Coppedge (Big Cypress).

Here are the requirements to compete in the pageant: a completed application, color photo of self (three-by-five bust shot), current school report card, talent, answer all parts of question one on the bottom of the application page and attach it to the princess application.

If you are a Jr. Miss Seminole contestant, you need a chaperone to accompany you during the pageant, short Seminole skirt (cotton or shiny), one cotton traditional long skirt and long sheer cape, one modern outfit with short cape, and one non-Seminole casual evening outfit.

The Board's General Counsel Travis Trueblood

By Shelley Marmor

HOLLYWOOD — Travis Trueblood began working for The Seminole Tribe of Florida in December 2000. He is the general counsel for The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., and referred to himself as "the Jim Shore of the board."

On June 1, he was sworn into the U.S. Supreme Court Bar. This means that he is now eligible to practice law in the Supreme Court. According to Trueblood, this is an honor he has wanted since getting into law.

"I have always wanted to tell someone 'I can take your case all the way to the Supreme Court,'" he said. "Now I can."

To be a member of the bar, a lawyer must be nominated by two lawyers who are current bar members. Trueblood said he was lucky to personally know two lawyers, Shannon Atcity and Mark Van Norman, the executive director for the National Indian Gaming Association, who would sponsor him.

Trueblood met Atcity at his first job out of college, working at the Holland & Knight law firm in Washington, DC. The two were colleagues in the Indian law department.

As a U.S. Supreme Court Bar member, Trueblood can sit in on any case the high court hears. Non-bar members are only allowed to sit in on a case for two minutes. Though he has not sat in on any Supreme Court cases yet, he said he plans to attend

the next case the court hearing pertaining to Indian law.

He said he is currently working on issues related to taxation.

Trueblood said Indian law issues are complex because certain rules apply only on the reservations, however, to conduct business on the reservations, usually materials are needed from off the reservation.

While serving as the board's general council keeps him very busy, he said he sometimes takes tribal citizens' legal cases, and often pro bono, or free of charge.

He attended the University of South Florida in Tampa and Florida State University (FSU) in Tallahassee as an undergraduate student. He stayed at FSU while working toward his juris doctor, and then attended the University of Miami while studying for his master's of law degree.

While his resume is impressive as it stands now, Trueblood plans on going back to school to earn his master's degree in business administration (MBA). He is enrolled in a completely online MBA program at FSU.

Currently, most of Trueblood's work is in Indian law. However, he said he is also interested in business law, and believes having his MBA will help him in more business-related cases.



Shelley Marmor

Tribal board employee Travis Trueblood.



Emma Brown

In Times Square Seth Randolph (left) and Jacoby Johns grab a photo with New York City's boys in blue.

NYC

Continued from page 1

Central Park, and the United Nations.

Once the first day's tour ended the group had time for a brief stop at the Novotel hotel to freshen up before they made their way to the Hard Rock Café for dinner. After dinner the students went to the top of the Empire State Building to be awed by the view and beauty of New York City at night.

On day two the tour took the students on an eight hour guided trip of Lower Manhattan. They were able to see Battery Park, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Chinatown, Wall Street, and NYC's Financial District but the most breathtaking stop of all was Ground Zero.

The stop at Ground Zero was very emotional for many of the students and chaperones and it was a time for silence and remembrance. Everyone took pictures of the empty hole in the ground of the new construction on World Trade Center's building number seven, which is underway. On July 4 the corner stone for the Freedom Tower was laid in the ground. Once finished sometime in about 2010, it will be the tallest skyscraper in the world.

After the long eight hour tour the group had dinner together at the Planet Hollywood and had the evening on their own. Day three took place at Rockefeller Center, with a tour of NBC studios and Rockefeller Plaza. The students were able to be in the very studios that shows like Saturday Night Live are produced from.

Seth Randolph and Jacoby Johns were fortun-

nate enough to be at the right place at the right time and were seen in the background of a FOX News production. During the evening the group had dinner together at John's Pizzeria and took in the Broadway musical "Beauty and the Beast."

There was a great deal to see in New York in such a short time, but the group definitely made the most of it. It was a very educational trip that was exciting and left great memories for all of the students. Congratulations to those of you that earned a



Emma Brown

Lavern Thomas, Shannon Holata, Amber Craig, Megan Jones with Manhattan's famous skyline in the background

spot on this trip and keep up the hard work.

The following students were part of the NYC trip: Nikki Urbina, Ashley Spencer, Peirson Hunsinger, Amber Craig, Megan Jones, Seth Randolph, Jacoby Johns, Shelby Huff, Heather Peterson, Eric Cypress, Jenna McDuffie, and Damen Bert.



Adelsa Williams

The Baker residence in Hollywood was the starting place of the memorial ride to Brighton.

Memorial Celebration in The Woods

By Susan Etzebarria

BRIGHTON — One special request of Marion Bowers was that her children get together and share time with one another. That, and keeping her little church in the woods at the Brighton reservation going even if there are only two people at the service.

So there must have been some smiles beaming down from heaven on Saturday June 26 when the First Annual Gospel Concert and Memorial Celebration for Marion C. Bowers and Gustavus "Pete" Baker brought together family members and friends from miles away to the Seminole Bible Baptist Church.

It was a long and happy day of reuniting between many relatives of the Bowers and Baker families, who shared this special outdoors celebration with other tribal members, church members and friends.

It has been a year since Marion C. Bowers and Pete Baker have passed on, but few who knew them can forget them and the positive influence they each had on people's lives. Marion died on June 24 at the age of 92. Her son, Dan Bowers, is now the acting pastor of the church that Marion helped build up in her earlier years after she had accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior in the 1950s. Marion was married to Dick Bowers, a pastor of the church, who passed away in 1979. Together they had six children: Dan, Bobbie, Rachel, Paul, Richard and Edna.

Gustavus "Pete" Baker, who was in the Marine Corp for 23 years, went to work for the original Seminole Police Department. His wife, Judy

Baker, and their children still attend Key Church in Hollywood. It was this church that helped start the Seminole Bible Baptist Church at Brighton. The Bakers and the Bowers were lifelong friends.

Rachel Bowers said that her mother would be happy to see the reunion of all the offspring.

"That was always mom's passion," she said. "She always wanted the family to get together."

A friend of Marion's, Happy Jones reminisced about her.

"She was a nice lady," Jones said. "She talked real soft and you had to bend down to hear her. She put out the welcome mat, she would always shake your hand and she loved people. She spoke both languages."

The daylong celebration started with the grilling of meats over the open fire pits and friendly visiting as one carload after another arrived. At 12:30 p.m. tables were laden with delicious and abundant food and the women who had worked so hard served up platters of food to long lines of people. Kids ran and played in the shade of live oaks.

The bands were set up under a huge white tent and some of the finest gospel music you would ever want to hear was played through the day until the sun was setting. All day gospel singing featured The Battiest Singers, Masters Touch, Tim Gibbs, Faith, Love, Hope Group and special guests, the New Hinson. If you missed this celebration you won't want to miss next year's.

"This is something we hope will be ongoing," Dan Bowers told everyone present.



Susan Etzebarria

Live music played throughout the day.

Grads

Continued from page 1

not only taste great and are nutritious, but low in calories too.

Jemena and Gregory Thomas, Sapp's relatives, are currently attending Johnson & Wales University in North Miami, Fla. They discussed all the opportunities and different programs available there. Sapp toured the institution and campus and made her final decision with the help of her devoted parents to attend Johnson & Wales, starting this September.

Sapp, who would like to open her own restaurant one day, will study in the culinary career program, and learn to make all kinds of pastries and other fine cuisines. Sapp wants to travel to Europe and study there too, as well as enjoying and observing the finest continental restaurants.

Whitney Tucker, 18, graduated from Hollywood Christian School on June 4, along with her good friend Mia Sapp, who she has known since pre-school.

Tucker, whose favorite class was Bible study, attended Hollywood Christian for the past two years after moving with her mother Marie, from Taos, N.M. Her plans for this summer include getting a job at the tribal offices while attending Broward Community College (BCC).



Michael Kelly

(L-R) Jerome Williams, Mia Sapp and Leona Tommie Williams.

For Whitney, one of the main reasons for attending BCC is she wants to think about what to major in. "I know friends who are in school, but aren't sure what they want to do," said Tucker. "I wouldn't mind working with kids for the tribe," she added.

With college just around the corner, Tucker is looking forward to attending the youth conference in Orlando this summer with her close friend, Sapp. They plan to tour and study famous historic Seminole battle sites on this trip.

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Emma Brown

Attendees get down for the 75 foot watermelon roll at the softball field.

Fourth of July Celebration in Brighton

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON— The Brighton community celebrated Independence Day on Saturday July 3 at the Brighton reservation recreation complex. The 4th of July events kicked off at 6 a.m. Saturday morning with the 5K walk/run event.

More than 35 men and women, ranging from 18 years of age to 55 and older, got up before dawn to participate in this event. Immediately following the 5K walk/run was the fishing contest. Participants were able to begin fishing within reservation boundaries at 6 a.m., and all fish were to be weighed in by noon.

It was an extremely hot morning, but that did not keep the fishermen down. There were folks fishing on nearly every bank around the Brighton reservation. At noon a cold cut lunch was served and the sign ups for the rest of the day's activities were underway.

At 1 p.m. the coed horseshoes event got underway followed by 10 rounds of bingo for the seniors and 10 rounds for adults 18-54. Next game was the pie eating contest for men and women, which always attract a great deal of attention. There



Emma Brown

PIE FACED: Contestants chose their favorite flavor to gobble.

were chocolate, lemon, coconut, and custard pies available for the participants so that they could choose their favorite flavor in hopes that gobbling up a whole pie in two minutes would be a little more enjoyable.

Once the pie eating was wrapped up it was time for the men and women's watermelon roll out on the softball field. Participants had to roll a watermelon more than 75-feet and be the quickest to finish at the top. At 5 p.m. the golf contest began with the winner being the person that landed the ball closest to the pin. Then at 6 p.m. a wonderful barbecue dinner was served for everyone to enjoy and relax a little before wrapping up the daily events with men and women's tug of war contest.

Meanwhile across the way at the rodeo arena the Eastern Indian Rodeo Josiah Memorial rodeo was taking place with the kids events first followed by the sanctioned rodeo. The day was hot and long, but everyone stayed around to enjoy the grand finale which was the fireworks and laser show that took place after the rodeo. Folks came from all around the surrounding counties to enjoy Brighton's spectacular fireworks show.

It was a wonderful and beautiful ending to a fun-filled day for the Brighton community. The Brighton Council office and volunteers did a great job helping to make the 4th of July a great blast for the community and a special day for family and fun!



Emma Brown

(L-R) Kirsten Doney and Richard Smith show off their big bass.

Immokalee Celebrates the Fourth of July

By Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — The thunderous boom and brightly lit sky on Sunday July 4, didn't solely only from the rain storm that rolled through the area just before the evening's planned activities. After a hot summer day the storm passed over quickly, making way for a terrific Independence Day celebration.

The majority of the Immokalee community gathered at the ball field, where a little carnival had been set up to amuse the children. The rain had not dampened anyone's spirits.

The tribal council and recreation department

teamed up to sponsor the gala event, which recognizes our country's declaration of independence and the sacrifices made for the freedom that we enjoy.

There was no shortage of food as the revelers filled their plates with ribs, chicken, corn, beans, cake and much, much more.

As dusk settled upon the gathering, the sky came alive with an hour-long display of fireworks. The colorful array could be seen for many miles and was a wonderful conclusion to a pleasant community gathering.

5K

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Women seniors: 1. Helene Buster.
 Employees: 1. Marcus Briggs.

The walkers competed after all the runners finished. Unfortunately for the walkers, the sun was gaining strength.

Among the walking contestants were Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Board Representative Paul Bowers and pool shark Vivian Villarreal. There was a lot more people competing in the walking than in the running.

The results are as follows:

Boys ages 4 to 12: 1. Bradley Osceola; 2. Malachi Baker.

Men ages 36 to 49: 1. Richard Bowers; 2. Samuel Tommie.

Men 50 and over: 1. Mitchell Cypress 2. Harley Roberts; 3. Carl Kirkland.

Girls ages 4 to 12: 1. Beth McInturff; 2. Natasha Billie; 3. Danni Tommie.

Girls ages 13 to 17: 1. Aye Jo Henry; 2. Klaressa Osceola.

Women ages 18 to 35: 1. Cathy Jumper; 2. Clea Billie; 3. Malissa Baker.

Women ages 36 to 49: 1. Anna Bowers; 2. Jeanette Cypress; 3. Cecelia Tigertail.

Women 50 and over: 1. Edna McDuffe; 2. Teresa Jumper; 3. Virginia Tommie.
 Employee males: 1. Eddie Rodd; 2. John



Iretta Tiger

Walkers and runners head toward the finish line.

Osife; 3. Jose Solano.
 Employee women: 1. Dalia Molina; 2. Elsa Castanon; 3. Cecilia Solano.

Congratulations and happy Fourth of July to everyone!

Independence Day Fireworks Blast

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — Seminole citizens, along with their families and friends had gathered beyond home plate, in the aluminum stands of the baseball field on July 3rd. They waited anxiously for the annual Fourth of July to start.

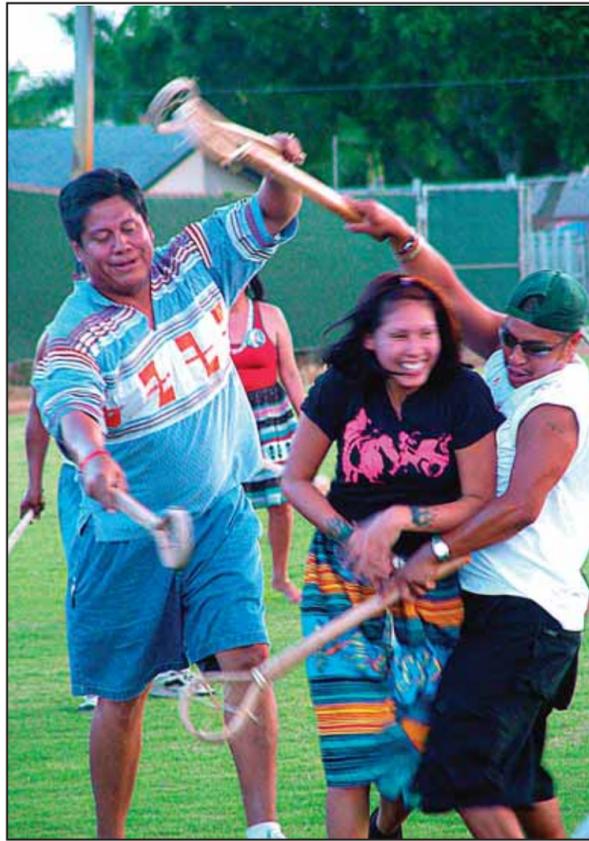
Ted A. Walker, Biscayne Park, Fla.'s mayor, pyrotechnist, and president of ADD-Fire Inc. explained that the fireworks show would not start until it was safe enough to proceed and the "fire 'em up" signal was given by recreation department assistant director Bo Young, one of the organizers of the 2004 Independence Day celebration.

Launch tubes filled with aerial shells inside were lined up across the ball field like tall soldiers standing at attention waiting for their fuses to be lit by a half a dozen pyrotechnicians. They used ordinary highway flares to light these volatile fuses, which can run 60 feet per second when lit.

"The little fuse travels down to the bottom of the shell to the lift charge and timer fuse, the lift charge catapults the shell out of the tube and lights the timer fuse at the same time," Walker said. "When the round shell filled with color salts reaches the correct height the timer fuse passes the fire inside the shell, it then explodes and ignites the small pellets."

This causes the star effect imagery that is seen as a bright burst of colored lights high in the sky, according to Walker.

"Colors are made from metallic salts...different salts for different colored effects," Walker added. "We use choreographed images to paint the sky with different colors at various heights of imagery."



Oliver Wareham

(L-R) Bobby Frank, Mercedes Osceola and Austin Billie enjoying the July 4th festivities.

In the middle of the ball field, near second base, a wooden framed display of the American flag and a 15-foot alligator with flashing red-eyes gave off colored light sparkle fountains when ignited electronically. A six-foot titanium pinwheel was in the center of this fireworks display that spun around as it was ignited also.

Behind this display were dozens of fireworks cakes, which are large clusters of small tubes, each with one pyrotechnic device that fires low level fireworks in a rapid sequence. The cakes were distributed into the night sky at dramatic points in the program. Some of these aerial shells had names like Variated Crossett, Golden Rain, and Chrysanthemum.

The eye candy exploded at 300-600-feet in the darkened sky. The audience in the stands noticeably reacted to the colorful percussions as the pellet projectiles were fired for the huge barrage and electrifying finale. Everyone there had a big smile, and was totally dazzled by the fireworks display as the nation's birthday came to a roaring conclusion. The only thing left to look up to was a majestic dark sky with millions of twinkling stars.



Felix DoBosz

Ted Walker, pyrotechnist and president of Add-Fire, Inc.



Felix DoBosz

Fireworks lit the night sky as the Hollywood reservation celebrated Independence Day.

The Fourth of July Celebration Held on the 3rd

By Alexandra Frank
HOLLYWOOD — The Fourth of July celebration went through a twist this year as it held on July 3 because the fourth fell on a Sunday. As Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr. and Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass pointed out, the third would be the day of festivities because Sunday was a worship day.

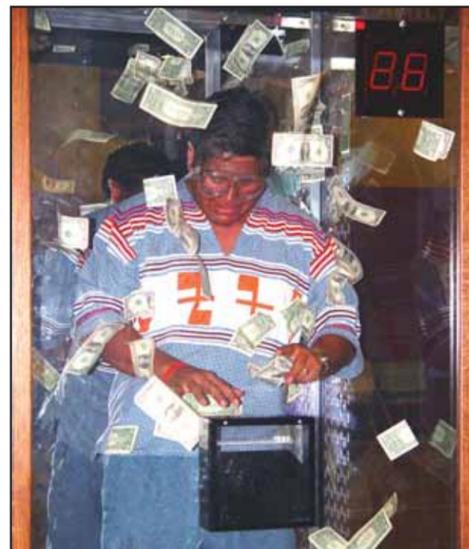
The celebration was still given all the gusto of a fourth of July celebration. There was food, fun, music and games to be enjoyed by all. The day started off with an arts and crafts area devoted to creating beadwork, patchwork, drawing, palmetto dolls, wood carving, and turban making.

After the arts and crafts, there were kid rides and stickball games. Dinner featured all of the traditional Seminole fare, such as turtle, garfish, and freshly butchered hog. Music was provided by Paul buster, Chunky Buster, and a new group to the scene featuring Austin Billie, and Blue Jay Jumper.

There was a new event to get the circulation going as the money booth made its debut. Tribal citizens 18 and older could enter the plastic container and a chance to snag a few bills, or maybe snag a few hundred dollar bills!

But it was the fireworks everyone had come to "ooh" and "aah" at as they lit the night sky in a rainbow of colors and loud booms. This probably came as a surprise to the neighboring non-tribal residents who generally line up around the Seminole ball field on the fourth to join in on the reservation festivities.

Everyone enjoyed the fireworks display and the events kept tribal citizens busy till the fireworks finale. The fourth marks a day of independence and The Seminole Tribe of Florida participates in this



Oliver Wareham

Bobby Frank tried out the money machine.

yearly event with true knowledge and meaning of the word independence and freedom. It is something they have fought so long and hard for.

Hope you enjoyed your fourth, and see you at next year's events.



Michael Kelly

SPD Officer Henri Suissa discussed bike safety with the Hollywood preschoolers.

Preschool Holds St. Jude Trike-A-Thon

By Michael Kelly
HOLLYWOOD — On July 2, the Hollywood preschool department held their first ever St. Jude Trike-A-Thon outside the gym. The purpose was to raise money for the St. Jude Research Hospital in Miami, Fla. Leona Tommie Williams, preschool

department director, organized the important event.

The Trike-A-Thon raised more than \$6,200, but that figure may reach \$10,000. The chairman's office vowed to double the amount raised, while Hollywood Council representative Max Osceola Jr. and the Seminole Council made a sizable donation as well. Many departments and individuals within the tribe also donated money to the worthy cause.

The Seminole Police Department (SPD) and recreation department assisted the preschool staff in the fun-filled afternoon event.

Bike safety was also on the agenda. Officer Henri Suissa spoke to the preschoolers, reminding them the importance of wearing a bike helmet, riding on the street, knowing the proper signals when riding, and riding with an adult. The attentive five-year-olds followed Suissa's lead, riding around a set course on the outdoor basketball court. The cones were set up for the children to practice their riding ability.

Tommie Williams decided to get involved with St. Jude Children Research Hospital after seeing one of their commercials.

"I was getting information about St. Jude, but never responded to it," she said. "One day I was looking at the television and saw the St. Jude Children Research Hospital [commercial] about sick children. I said to myself, 'It could be one of my children or grandchildren, or even one of our tribal members' children.'"

Because this event went so well, Tommie Williams plans on hosting similar events in the future.

"The next one I would like to organize would be for the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital here in Hollywood," said Williams.

If you would like more information about making a donation to the St. Jude Hospital, please call (800) 822-6344, or Leona Tommie Williams at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1305.



Michael Kelly

Kyreil Josh trikes it up.



Michael Kelly

SPD and the recreation department assisted the preschool department with the Trike-A-Thon.

Something to Celebrate: Profits up at Brighton Trading Post

By Susan Etxebarria

BRIGHTON — Waiting to see how the new gas station at the Brighton Trading Post will profit the tribe, the official grand opening was put off until Friday July 2, although the pumps have been operating for more than two months. It was a very grand, grand opening, indeed.

This wasn't one of those grand openings where you get a balloon or a 10 percent discount on some product you don't want. It was a day offering a free, scrumptious, indoor barbecue dinner served up with generous helpings of side dishes; or you could get a fast bite at the outdoor hot dog and sausage stand; and there were all kinds of snacks, free drinks and many wonderful drawings throughout the day.

There was a packed parking lot as guests, workers, employees, and patrons of the station, administrative staff and many community leaders stopped by to eat, talk and celebrate. President of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc, Moses Osceola, came out to greet the people and help commemorate this significant endeavor.

"For us, the bottom line as the Board of Directors is our duty to manage existing and new businesses," said Osceola. "What we have done here is improve the business already here."

He said that the convenience store, excluding gasoline sales, brought in approximately \$27,000,

a month before the gas station was constructed and opened. Now it is averaging approximately \$101,790 a month, and could make more than a million in its first year.

He also said that the same phenomena is taking place with the new Trading Post gas station and convenience store at Big Cypress which opened in May and brought in \$40,000 in its first 15 days. For tribal citizens it means the business investments enacted by the Board will profit each member, since all profits are to be shared.

Excellent profits seem to have everyone in a jubilant mood, not only tribal members who worked hard to make the business venture successful, but also the enthusiastic staff.

Osceola said the vision of the board is to open up gas stations first and then start a fuel distribution business in which gas can be sold to non-tribe gas stations. He said that other automotive services may follow in the future so that the reservation residents can get all they need to maintain their vehicles, such as tires and auto accessories, from their tribe-owned stores if they so choose.

Board Representative Johnny Jones said that a lot more community members are now patronizing the three-month old gas station rather than going farther into Lakeport, Fla. or taking the long haul to Okeechobee, Fla.

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Sheila Aguilar

Catlin Tommie of Big Cypress shows this year's 4-H grand champion swine, which weighed 232 pounds.

Eighteenth Annual Seminole Indian 4-H Club Show and Sale

This year's 4-H program was the largest to date

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — Back in March, the Big Cypress 4-H pavilion hosted the 18th Annual Seminole Indian 4-H Club Show and Sale. The three-day event kicked off with the arrival of livestock for the swine and steer weigh-in.

The first day was devoted to the exhibitors' last minute grooming in preparation for the show, which began at 6 p.m. the same day. "Gator" Sapp was the announcer for the evening. Following the invocation, everyone participated in a moment of silence for John Allen Hayes, former employee and volunteer with the 4-H Club.

The PeeWee participants proudly displayed their projects of ducks, chickens, rabbits, goats, fish and beef calves.

Immediately following the PeeWee's, nine swine classes were determined by weight categories. Robert Damaree officiated as "swine judge." As the classes entered the arena, the judge carefully examined each pig before making his final decision. Prior to announcing the winners, he discussed each pig with the audience indicating its' high points or deficiencies.

There were a total of 55 swine shown. Eastern Indian Rodeo Queen, Azye Henry, assisted in the arena and handed out the ribbons for the swine portion of the show. Blue ribbons went to 10 first place winners, 10 red ribbons for second place and 35 white ribbons for third place.

This year's grand champion swine belonged to Catlin Tommie, and weighed in at 232 pounds. The reserve grand championship went to Cody Motlow, and weighed in at 226 pounds. The junior showmanship award went to Stevie Brantley, while and Shyanna Osceola received the senior showmanship award.

The 25 steer exhibitors entered the arena in the next four classes. Dallas Townsend was the judge for this portion of the show and carefully took considerable time with each entrant before making a determination.

The steers were awarded 19 blue ribbons for first place and 6 red ribbons for second place. The grand championship for the best steer in The Seminole Tribe of Florida went to Jessica E. Lopez. Victoria Hernandez exhibited the reserve grand champion. Junior showmanship went to Jaryaca Baker, and Azye Henry received the senior showmanship award.

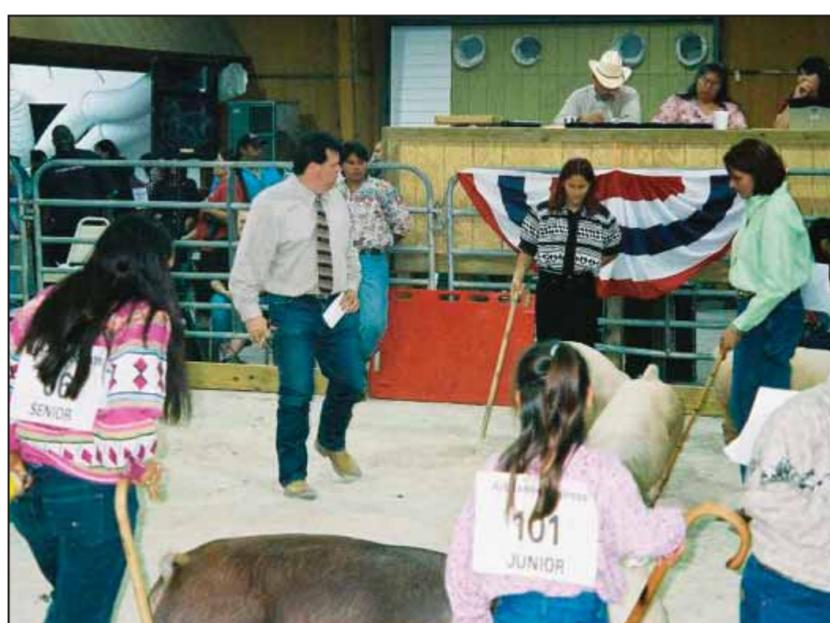
The buyer's dinner took place Friday evening at 5 p.m., under the big chickee. A fabulous catered buffet was served. With full stomachs, the buyers retired to the 4-H pavilion for the livestock sale, which began at 7 p.m., and lasted several hours.

The auctioneer for the evening was Brian Trimble. Following the Invocation, the PeeWee beef calves were acknowledged. Then the sponsors and contributors who made this year's 4-H program possible were recognized.

The sale results in the swine division varied from \$5-\$20 per pound with an average of \$7.25-\$9.50. The steers brought an average of \$6.50-\$7.00 per pound, with \$4.50 for the lowest bid, and \$10.00 for the highest bid.

This year's 4-H program was the largest to date and promises to inspire an even bigger participation next year. The Seminole Tribe takes great pride in its young people and recognizes their efforts in learning responsibility through 4-H.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the buyers whose support made this program possible.



Judy Weeks

Robert Damaree judges the swine at the Seminole 4-H Club show and sale.

Notice of 4-H Steer Projects Meeting

BRIGHTON — Join us at 6 p.m. on Thursday July 15, at the Brighton Cattle Range Conference Room if you are interested in showing a steer for this year's project. Steer enrollments will be turned in at this time. Guest speaker will be available for questions. Agenda topics include: what to look

for when selecting a show steer, what to look for in calf frame, and structural differences. There will also be a drawing for a donated steer:

Brighton will start gathering calves for shipping starting July 19-24; Big Cypress will start gathering July 26-30.



Brighton 4-H,
I would like to say thank you to all the Brighton 4-H members for the letters you all sent. I am sorry we could not buy all the steers and hogs, but I hope the add-ons helped out. I already thanked the Big Cypress and Immokalee 4-H members, but I would still like to say that all of you children did such a wonderful job on raising your steer or hog. Keep up the good work and we will be seeing you all again.
Thank you,
Paul Bowers Sr., B.C.
Board Representative/Rock Mining Director
Richard Bowers, Programs Manager, Natural Resources Assistant Director and LAC President

4-H Awards Banquet and Fun Day

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — The long awaited day for Immokalee's 4-H Club arrived on Saturday June 26. The awards banquet and funday got underway at the reservation lake at 10 a.m. Tents had been set up and the barbecue grill was sending mouth watering fumes into the air.

Immokalee's 4-H program is a result of the combined efforts of the club members' parents with the library's Cris Marrero coordinating their efforts.

The first activity of the day was a paddle boat race. Each contestant teamed up with an adult and paddled their way across the lake and back as the stop watch ticked away. It may sound easy, but the team mates will tell another story.

Boats running in circles, tired legs feeling like rubber and zig-zagging across the lake in reverse. It didn't matter how you got there as long as you made it in the boat. Seminole Police Department Officer Laura Herron good naturedly teamed up with Lily Mora. Complete with uniform, gun and radio she dripped water all the way back to the patrol car laughing. Ten teams competed for the laurels.

The champions, father and daughter, Kenny Joe and



Judy Weeks

Marty Howell of the Nutrena Feed Company presents the Immokalee 4-H club with a check in the amount of \$576.

had been a whole family commitment and taught the value of responsibility.

Master of ceremonies, Allison Garza, introduced Candy Mancil, who heads the Big Cypress 4-H Project. Mancil complimented the group on having the best swine program in the Seminole Tribe this year and having produced the grand champion steer. She thanked everyone for participating in the show and auction at Big Cypress and congratulated the youngsters on a job well done.

The Nutrena Feed Company has a 4-H incentive program. On each bag of feed purchased there is an emblem redeemable for one dollar, which is not much, but it does add up. The participants carefully collected these symbols and turned them over to the feed distributor.

Marty Howell attended the banquet on behalf of Nutrena and presented the group with a check for \$576. Needless to say, 4-H looks forward to doing business with Nutrena again next year.

Parental Coordinator Cris Marrero assisted Allison Garza and Josie Davis with the awards presentation. Each participant received a 4-H pin, T-shirt and a check with the proceeds of the stock sale. All of the youngsters were excitedly talking about buying next years livestock and planning for another show season.

Jessica Lopez presented her grandparents, Pete and Elaine Aguilar, with a plaque and photo. She and Daddy, her grand champion steer, were thanking them for the many supportive hours they had donated to her project. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the 4-H, the youngsters presented Board Liason Garza with a 4-H pin.



Judy Weeks

Kenny Joe Davis was barbecue chef for the 4-H banquet.

Josie Davis, beat the second place team of Daniel Cantu and Alan Hernandez by only one second.

In the balloon toss the teams pared off and then formed two lines. Carefully the water balloons were tossed back and forth. Misguided balloons exploded like bombs, soaking not only the contestants, but bystanders as well. Joe and Davis again took first place. They are a hard team to beat.

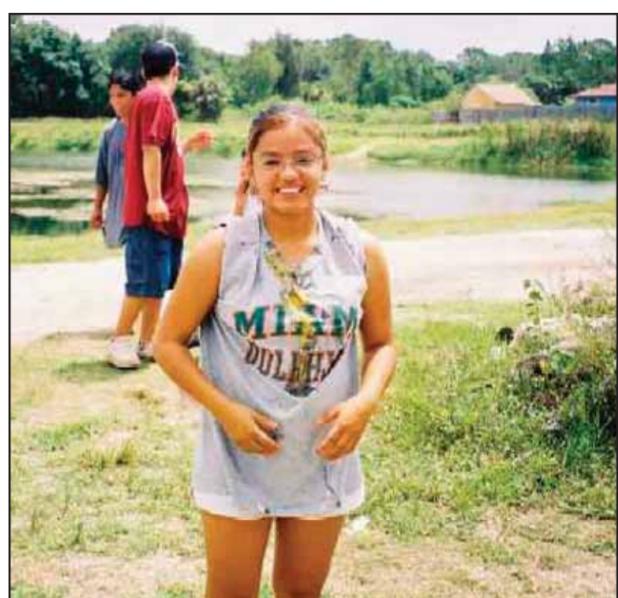
The egg toss went surprisingly well and lasted longer than you would expect. With 14 teams tossing raw eggs back and forth, the two rows of competitors backed slowly away from each other. But sooner or later the little yellow handgranades exploded taking out the players. Cantu and Hernandez were the triumphant team.

Meanwhile, a water slide had been getting heavy traffic all morning. Appetites were building. In between contests, Kenny Joe Davis had been preparing the ribs, steak, hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill. The 4-H parents had prepared the side dishes of fry bread, corn, beans, potato salad, coleslaw, fedaeo and Puerto Rican rice to name a few. Lois Alvarez prepared a homemade sheet cake and decorated it with the 4-H emblem and animals.

Jessica Lopez, who raised this year's grand champion steer, offered the blessing and the food, and a line formed at the buffet table. The group enjoyed a relaxing lunch and then cleared things away for the awards presentation.

Board Liason Raymond Garza made the opening remarks, reminiscing about his early days in 4-H, when he was the only Immokalee participant. He said he had to travel all the way to Brighton for meetings. Immokalee has come a long way and he is very proud of their efforts.

Council Liason Elaine Aguilar addressed the group and thanked the parents for the wonderful job they had done running the 4-H projects. It



Judy Weeks

Josie Davis was not the winner of the egg toss contest, and the egg on her T-shirt shows it.



Photo courtesy Polly Hayes

Camp Cloverleaf. For more information on this historic photo, please see the story continued on page 7.

4-H

Continued from page 1

She recalled when she was involved in a 4-H-type project and was one of those youngsters who started out with a chicken. She recalled hunting for grasshoppers to feed the chickens and she said she was so poor her father had to give her a dime to buy the feed.

As an adult, Billie became one of the first women cattle owners of the tribe.

"Handle your money well and you can live good," she advised the youth. "Don't waste your money, save it."

In today's 4-H, the kids can earn sizeable amounts of money raising their swine or steer and selling them at the annual Seminole 4-H Youth Livestock Show & Sale. This year, for example, thanks to the generosity of a buyer who believes in the goals of 4-H, one of the youths earned \$7,000 for his exceptional steer. All the youths did very well; this kind of money isn't chicken scratch.

Although not all the animals bring in top dollar, the financial rewards may be enough to motivate some of the kids to join 4-H. However, money is not the only motivation, since money can't produce healthy, hearty animals. It takes hard work, love, dedication and a sense of responsibility.

The 4-H program trains kids to become responsible adults. Responsible people make good decisions. Responsible people succeed. That is perhaps the reason why 4-H is an important tool in raising kids. Everyone makes mistakes but learning responsible behavior is one of the major goals of 4-H.

Parents also benefit from encouraging their children to get involved with 4-H. One of the major responsibilities of parenting is teaching kids responsibility, and 4-H makes that task a little easier.

The 4-H program is the youth education program and part of the Cooperative Extension Service—a program that offers skills and training to tomorrow's leaders. The mission of Seminole Indian 4-H is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of the Seminole Tribe and society.

All you have to do is look at some of the 4-H members of yesterday to see the leaders of today. Among the list of former 4-H members are tribal leaders Mitchell Cypress, Johnny Jones, Roger Smith, and Paul Bowers.

As a young 4-H'er, Richard Bowers went all the way to Tallahassee, Fla. with his alligator project and many people in the Senate today still remember the show he put on for them on the steps of the Capitol. Bowers is currently serving as the president of the Indian Agricultural Council—a world-wide organization. Other notable 4-H alumni include Timmy Johns, Connie Whidden, David Cypress, Pastor Wonder Johns and rancher Sammy Gopher, to name just a few.

There were several 4-H banquets held in June. Big Cypress hosted their celebration at Sonny's BBQ in Clewiston, Fla. where Nathan Billie received his four year pin.

"4-H teaches us responsibility," said Billie. "We have to take care of our animals. We have to wash them and walk them and feed them."

He said his steer weighed 600 pounds when he bought his steer from Mae Jumper. At the livestock show eight months later it weighed in at 1,200 pounds. He said his secret to success was to feed his steer three times a day using Best Feed Ringmaster.

Graduating Brighton senior, Trina Bowers said that kids "will definitely stay out of trouble" and learn to be responsible if they are involved in 4-H. She joined when she was eight-years-old and her first project was raising a swine, but since then she has raised steers. It is a big responsibility to take care of an animal and steer can be more difficult to raise than swine, according to Bowers.

"You don't have to put a halter on a swine," she said. "We had one steer and we tried to tame him. He pinned mom into a corner and tried to hurt her and almost broke her arm. We couldn't break him. I had a couple of steers like that."

Bowers' strength was in the showmanship class, where she won top honors twice in the junior class, and three times in the senior class. She will now be attending the Heritage Institute in Ft. Myers, Fla. beginning August 9. She plans to study massage therapy.

"I have my heart set on going to school, graduating and then working at the spa at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel," Bowers said.

Big Cypress's Victoria Hernandez, winner of the Merit Award for the Reserve Grand Champion, graduated from Ahfachkee High School this year. She has been a 4-H member for 11 years. This year she started working with her Brangus steer from Jonah Cypress' herd in August when it weighed 690 pounds. It gained 663 pounds under her care.

Hernandez encourages other young people to join 4-H.

"They're missing out on the fun, the learning experiences, meeting other people from different communities, meeting the judges and the buyers," she said.

She said that 4-H "made me a better person."

"It makes you able to talk to more people," Hernandez continued. "And not to be afraid to do what you want to do."

The 4-H program has come a long way. The Chicken Project mentioned above was not an official 4-H program, but a pre-cursor of 4-H organized by William D. Boehmer, who taught the Brighton Indian School years ago. At that time Rosie Billie, Howard Micco and Wonder Johns were children at the school.

In 1956, Seminole students who wished to be 4-H members had to join the Glades County 4-H under the supervision of the Glades County Extension Agent, Maeola Fulton.

Throughout the state of Florida, each county has a University of Florida extension agent responsible for 4-H chapters. However, in 1998 the Seminole Tribe was able to achieve a status of its own and is now recognized as the Seminole Tribe of Florida County.

"We are very proud of achieving that designation," said Polly Hayes, who has been the 4-H coordinator for the Seminole Tribe for the past eight years.

When Hayes came on board there were only 33 youths in 4-H. This past year there were 110.

Hayes was also a 4-H member who attended the 4-H summer camp when she was 15-years-old. In the photo of kids at Camp Cloverleaf (see photo on page 6), Hayes has been able to identify a few of the tribal members but she is hoping that others who read this story can help her identify everyone in the photo. And, by the way, 4-H youth still continue to go to Camp Cloverleaf each summer.

Parents are often the best volunteers in 4-H and there are many who deserve recognition. At the Brighton 4-H banquet, Hayes introduced two parent leaders who were once members of 4-H themselves.

"Without the help of our project leaders, its hard to keep going," she said. "I want to recognize parents like Betty Billie for her help. She received her first year pin, as well as Emma Urbina."

Urbina did a wonderful job as the banquet's master of

ceremonies of the banquet.

"This is my first year as a volunteer," said Urbina, "It was a learning experience. I see some kids need help. If you see something I did wrong, come help me. It was my first year and it was rough sometimes but they asked me to do it again and I said I would."

There are so many people who support the 4-H program and devote their time in so many ways that the tributes could go on and on. However, special mention must go to the advisory committee made up



Seminole 4-H Club officers: (L-R) Lois Billie, Emma Urbino, Leanne Billie, Betty Billie, 4-H Coordinator Polly Hayes, Brighton Council Representative Roger Smith, Adam Osceola, Bo Parker and Steel Gopher.

of Chris Marrero and Norita Yzaguirre of Immokalee; Candy Mancel and Linda Tommie of Big Cypress, Steve Young and Robin Osceola of Hollywood, and Dionne Smedley, Selena Billie and Betty Billie and Emma Urbina of Brighton.

Additional congratulations go out to graduating seniors Trina Bowers, Kari Kroplin and Victoria Hernandez. The Seminole Indian 4-H Club would also like to give recognition to the following youngsters who have shown outstanding dedication to their role as a club member and/or officer: Shayanna Osceola and Shelby Osceola from Hollywood, Adam Osceola, Trina Bowers and Kari Kroplin from Brighton, Mark Arriaga and Lazara Marrero from Immokalee, and Keifer Jumper from Big Cypress.

Here are the results from the end of the year Brighton 4-H Banquet:

Swines (Judge Robert Damaree)

First class: Michael Shaffer (Immokalee), 182 pounds; Justin Garza (Immokalee), 184; Rosalinda Lopez, (Immokalee), 184; Jordan Rodriguez (Immokalee), 185; Nuathkee Henry (Big Cypress), 186; Keagan Cypress (B.C.), 190.

Second Class: Esmerelda Billie (Immokalee), 193; Nikki Davis (Immokalee), 193; Immokalee club hog, 194; Rosa Urbina (Brighton), 198; Ravenne Osceola (Brighton), 199; Cassandra Jimmie (Immokalee), 201.

Third Class: Adrienne Cypress (B.C.), 210; Robert Parker (Brighton), 212; Marissa Sanchez (Immokalee), 212; Nina Frias (Immokalee), 213; Alexis Martin (Immokalee), 215; Tylor Tigertail (B.C.), 217; Lorena Puente (Immokalee), 217.

Fourth Class: Steele Gopher (Brighton), 218; Deidra Hall (Immokalee), 218; Nathan Gopher (Brighton), 219; Hali Garcia (Immokalee), 220; Ragon Osceola (B.C.), 225; Cody Motlow (Immokalee), 226; Brianna Nunez (Brighton), 227.

Fifth Class: Kandice Victory (B.C.), 230; Kerwin Miller (Brighton), 230; Destiny Nunez (Brighton), 231; Frankie Marrero (Immokalee), 232; Christopher Briscall (Immokalee), 232; Andre Jumper (B.C.), 232.

Sixth Class: Catlin Tommie (B.C.), 232; J.T. Smith (Brighton), 233; Ethan Gopher (Brighton), 235; Mallorie Sanchez (Immokalee), 232; Andre Jumper (Immokalee), 239.

Seventh Class: Clint Bowers (Brighton), 241; Terrance Billie (Brighton), 246; Chebon Gooden (B.C.), 246; Shyanna Osceola (Hollywood), 247; Ethan Billie (Immokalee), 258.

Eighth Class: Stevie Brantley (Brighton), 261; Devin Billie (Immokalee), 263; Joey Simone (B.C.), 265; Chad Motlow (Immokalee), 265; Brandon Billie (Brighton), 266; Hillard Gopher (Brighton), 273.

Ninth Class: Lois Billie (Brighton), 278; Kiylier Baker (Brighton), 279; Joel Arreguin

(Immokalee), 279; Kendra Frank (Immokalee), 293; Clsrisa Garza (Immokalee), 294; Ashton Baxley (Brighton), 324.

Steers (Judge Dallas Townsend)

First Class: B.C. steer club, 907; Immokalee steer club, 913; Jewel Buck (Immokalee), 974; Tommy Benson (Immokalee), 983; Seth Randolph (Brighton), 1024; Shelby Osceola (Hollywood), 1028; Adam Osceola (Brighton), 1035; Allison Garza (Immokalee), 1035.

Second Class: Lazara Marrero (Immokalee), 1043; Nathan Billie (B.C.), 1044; Miranda Osceola (B.C.), 1062; Kim Victory (B.C.), 1070; Christian Benson (Immokalee), 1082; Justin Osceola (Brighton), 1091.

Third Class: Jaryaca Baker (Brighton), 1139; Leanna Billie (Brighton), 1150; Morgan Frank (Immokalee), 1156; Tracy Victory (B.C.), 1165; Jodi Simone (B.C.), 1178; Trina Bowers (Brighton), 1179; Kari Kroepelin (Brighton), 1193.

Fourth Class: Ayze Henry (B.C.) 1205; Jessica Lopez (Immokalee), 1231; Keifer Jumper (B.C.), 1259; Victoria Hernandez (B.C.), 1253.

Pee-Wee Show: Ducks: Hanni Jumper (B.C.); Rabbits: Rodney Mercer (B.C.); Beef Calves: Chief Billie (B.C.), Courtney Gore (Brighton); Shawn Osceola (Brighton); Chelsea Williams (B.C.); Chickens: Beyvins Jumper (B.C.); Goats: Chelsea Williams (B.C.).

Seminole Indian 4-H Club Officers: Brighton Swine Club: President Steel Gopher, Vice President Kerwin Miller, Secretary Bo Parker, Treasure Lois Billie. Brighton Steer Club: President Trina

Bowers, Vice President Adam Osceola, Secretary Kari Kroepelin, Treasure Leanna Billie.

Big Cypress: President Victoria Hernandez, Vice President Nathon Billie, Secretary-Treasure Ayze Henry.

Immokalee: President Josie Davis, Vice President Johnathon Rodriguez, Secretary Joseph Rodriguez, Treasure Bonnie Davis, Sergeant of Arms Frankie Marrero and Jordan Rodriguez, Reporters Devin Billie and Mallori Sanchez.

Record Book Recognition Junior Winners: 1. Lois Billie, 2. Candace Cade; 3. Tracy Victory.

Senior Winners: 1. Kimberly Victory; 2. Leanna Billie; 3. Steele Gopher.

Steer Project Merit Awards: Grand champion steer: Jessica Lopez; Reserve grand champion steer: Victoria Hernandez; Showmanship: Jaryaca Baker.

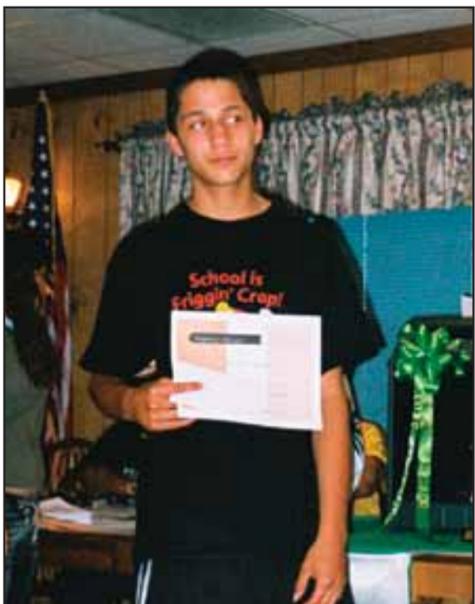
Swine Project Merit Awards: Grand champion steer: Catlin Tommie; Reserve grand champion steer: Cody Motlow; Showmanship: Destiny Nunez.

Special Recognition to Cattle Owners: Grand champion steer: Mike Smith (B.C.); Reserve grand champion steer: Jonah Cypress (B.C.).



Big Cypress 4-H Club Secretary-Treasurer Ayze Henry receives her third year pin.

Susan Etzebarria



Big Cypress 4-H Club's Vice President, Nathan Billie, receives his sixth year award.

Susan Etzebarria

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Immokalee Health Fair

By Billie Napper
IMMOKALEE — The Collier County Health Department had a health fair in the Immokalee gym on Tuesday June 29, as part of their observance of World AIDS Testing Day. The health department provided blood pressure screening, blood sugar testing, HIV tests, inoculations and a variety of information about communicable diseases and health problems.

The programs within the Collier County health department that were represented include Barbara Maydish, RN, of Healthy Start; Mary Lou Alvarado, LPN and Gloria Rivera of the Immunization Program; Rachel Garcia and Tammy Frabel of Health Education; and Robert Staudinger, Kettly Benoit and Barbara Garcia representing HIV National Test Day. Mary Lou Alvarado is a tribal citizen and a resident on the Immokalee reservation, so she played a significant part in setting up this event.

Robert Staudinger is particularly proud of the Immokalee reservation, as it was the only Native



Photo courtesy of Family Services
Tommy Benson, Allen Hernandez, Allen Michael Venzor, Mella Billie and Ethan Billie check out the information provided at the health fair.

American reservation in the state of Florida that held an event specifically targeting HIV testing last year. Staudinger stressed that many people who have HIV feel and look healthy, so they don't realize they have the disease. The only sure way to confirm or rule out HIV is by medical test.

The health department is now using a test that does not involve drawing blood, so you don't even have to get stuck. He went on to say that the importance of knowing you have HIV is that with proper medication and a healthy lifestyle, people with HIV are now living much longer and have a much more normal life than they did in the past.

The reservation was quiet that day as several families were on vacation, but there was still a good turnout. Most encouraging were the young people who stopped by to check out the fair to see what they could learn. The health fair is a good example of the positives that can be achieved by people and agencies working together to improve peoples' health and lives. Robert would like to make this an annual event to encourage healthy lifestyles and preventive measures.



Photo courtesy of Family Services
Counselor Anne Stephenson.

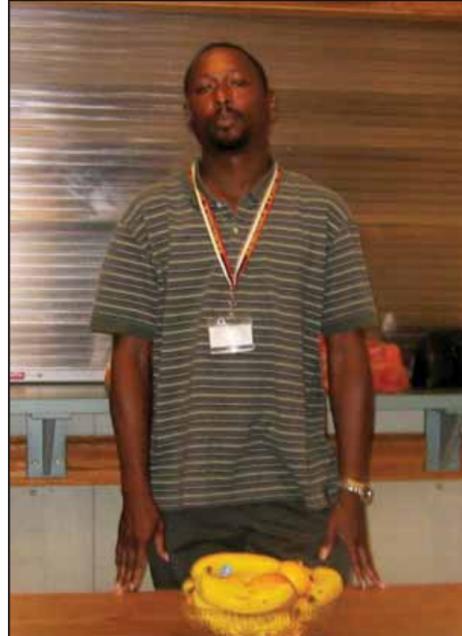


Photo courtesy of Family Services
Counselor Tony Roberts.



Photo courtesy of Family Services
Mary Lou Alvarado with her daughter Priscilla, granddaughter Chelsey and grandson Jonah at the health fair.

Life Transitions: The Circle of Life

By Anne Stephenson and Sandy Murugan
HOLLYWOOD — This month's topic at the family services booth was life transitions; what we encounter as we go through our life's journey. These include birth and death, growing up and aging, making new acquaintances and losing significant people in our lives.

Family Services counselors had a great time handing out gifts to assist in our journey as we go through the circle of life—coping skills magnets and life success gift bags. In addition, fresh fruit and cold water were made available.

Next month's booth will provide fun stuff and tips on kids going back to school. Please stop

by the booth and say hello. As always, the staff at family services is committed to serving all of the families of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Photo courtesy of Family Services
Tribal outreach worker Yvonne Court and Counselor Anne Stephenson.

The Immokalee Transitions Booth

By Billie Napper
IMMOKALEE — The Immokalee family services department had a booth on "Life Transitions" in front of the Field Office on Thursday July 1. Transitions, or changes in one's life, are stages that we all go through at various times. Transitions usually include some pleasant or positive changes such as getting married, graduating from a phase of school, having children, getting a job, buying a house or being successful at something.

However, other transitions can produce a lot of stress and may cause some depression or anxiety. These changes could include divorce, loss of a loved one, health problems, losing a job, or losing one's home. The focus was on handling these transitions so they do not become large problems.

The staff had a variety of items out for visitors. The Seminole Police Department had generous-



Photo courtesy of Family Services
(L-R) New counselor Diana Rocha and Laura Heritier.

ly donated magnets in the shape of their patrol cars with their telephone number as well as the 911 numbers. They had also provided some pamphlets Sergeant Laura Herron had designed describing and showing pictures of street drugs and more common items abused by teenagers.

The family services staff had pamphlets on how to handle the transition that girls go through to become women, as well as the transitions boys go through to become men. There were also pamphlets on healthy relationships and on making decisions about your life.

The family services staff had made some fans that listed some of life's transitions along with the telephone number for the family services office. Community members were very generous with their time, stopping by to say hello and chat about various transitions they had experienced and how they had survived them.



Photo courtesy of Family Services
Tilda Perez with her grandchildren Celia and GG.

Immokalee Senior Luncheon for June

By Billie Napper
IMMOKALEE — The Immokalee senior luncheon for June 2004 was held in the Immokalee gym on Thursday June 24 at 11:30 a.m. The topic

was on street drugs and household items that adolescents may use to get a high and was a collaboration between the Seminole Police Department and the family services department.

Louise Motlow blessed the luncheon with a prayer. Sergeant Laura Herron of the Seminole Police Department had designed a handout which listed descriptions of various drugs of abuse and showed pictures of the drugs or items. The booklets were given to the attendees and Billie Napper of family services talked about the various drugs and about behaviors that would indicate someone might be abusing drugs.

There was a lively discussion with seniors bringing up many interesting questions. Elsa Zamora provided an excellent lunch of Mexican food. Attendees included Louise Motlow, Rachel Billie, Mary Sanchez, Nancy Garza, Joseph Billie, Elaine Aguilar, Elizabeth Olea and Armida Roberts.



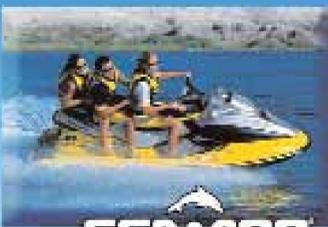
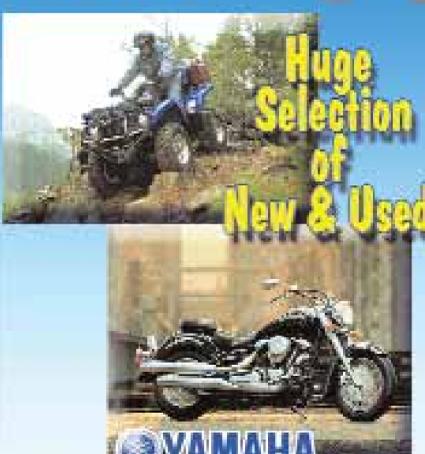
Photo courtesy of Family Services
Louise Motlow and Noella O'Donnell chat at the luncheon.

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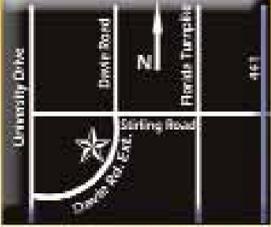
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Jo-Lin Osceola Continues Education

By Dora Bell
HOLLYWOOD — The higher education program would like to recognize another one of its students, tribal citizen Jo-Lin Osceola. She has recently graduated from Johnson & Wales University in North Miami, Fla., earning her second academic degree, an associate of science degree in food and beverage management.

Being a parent of a 10 month old baby has not stopped Jo-Lin from enrolling in a master's degree program in global management. Osceola projects she will finish her 18-month program in approximately 24 months, all depending on her son Tiger's needs. Maintaining a balanced life and having her son on a schedule has helped Osceola make time for her studies. Osceola thanked the higher education program, local representatives, family and friends for their support.

Osceola hopes to inspire other tribal citizens to continue their education. Her younger sisters Jo-Jo and Tasha Osceola are two youngsters who have taken their older sister's lead. They have toured Dartmouth College in New Hampshire and Florida

ket. It's invaluable, actually.

DB: Tell us more about the institutions where you've had both of your degrees and particularly the last one. What would make it recommendable to other Seminole students?

JLO: The first institution I went to was the Union Institute where I received my bachelor's degree. It was an online course and you met with your instructors once a week. However, it was ideal for me because at the time I was working three jobs, and running my own company at the same time. It requires about three to four hours on the computer daily, reading the course material, to participate in the online discussions, and to complete work assignments. Now, I just started my first semester for my master's degree in global management with the University of Phoenix online, a great challenge that requires lots of discipline.

DB: Give me a specific example of something you know from your experiences as a student that would help build enthusiasm in others.

JLO: My education helped me to become eligible to be an intern with the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C. with the National Congress of American Indians. I was selected from a pool of hundreds of applicants. This was a very enriching experience. Education also gives you an advantage to be selected to work with the Seminole Tribe in different capacities of management. It gives you and advantage and opportunities on or off reservation, should you decide to leave. Move anywhere in the country, you will be marketable.

DB: Describe a specific problem you solved while in school. How did you approach the problem and what was the outcome?

JLO: When I had my son, which was a major obstacle, especially because of a couple of health issues. Mainly I resolved it by staying focused and ignoring the peer pressure out there.

DB: What are your personal and professional goals?

JLO: Over the next two years, personally my number one goal is to raise my son and be a good mother. Professionally, my goal is to complete my master's degree, and also be a good role model for other students and perspective students, whether is a young mother, a young man, or a single parent.

DB: What are the most important rewards that you expect from your efforts?

JLO: The most important reward for me is to encourage my younger sisters to move forward with school.



(L-R) Jo Dan Osceola, Dora Bell, Higher Education Advisor, Tiger Osceola, Jo-Lin Osceola and Louise Gopher, Education Director.

State University, respectively. Osceola said she hopes other tribal citizens won't give up on their education, saying "it's hard, but it's worth it." Her father, Jo Dan Osceola agreed.

"Anything worthwhile takes time," he said, "But anything bad will come quickly."

Higher Education Advisor Dora Bell interviewed Jo-Lin Osceola. Here are some of Osceola's thoughts regarding higher education:

Dora Bell: Can you explain to other Seminole students the value of the higher education grant program?

Jo-Lin Osceola: Higher education is very valuable. I just received my second degree in food and beverage management and currently hold a bachelor's degree in business administration. In order to be competitive outside our reservation, you need to have at least a bachelor's degree, so you can move forward to make you much stronger in the job mar-

Shelley Marmor



Trail students enjoy breakfast at 'Ohana restaurant on their incentive trip.

Tamiami Trail Students Earn Incentive Trip to Walt Disney World®

By Adelsa Williams
ORLANDO, FL — The school year is over, but for Seminole students residing in the Tamiami Trail reservation area, it meant a road trip to Orlando. Students who averaged at least a 2.0 grade point average (GPA) were treated to several days of fun from June 16-20.

Everyone loaded into a chartered bus and headed to Disney's Animal Kingdom Lodge Resort. Trial Liaison William Osceola and his assistants prepared a schedule of group activities that would entertain the students during their adventure.

On the first night, students enjoyed one of the most artistic and unusual circuses, Cirque Du Soleil's La Nouba at Downtown Disney. The show included more than 100 performers, including clowns, flying trapeze artists, aerial ballerinas, and acrobats doing high wire acts during a comprehensive musical score that intensifies the visual experience.

With its original score, extraordinary costumes, surreal sets, theatrical lighting and high energy choreography, La Nouba weaves an unforgettable 90-minute tapestry of art, life and high drama on an Elizabethan-style stage. La Nouba, which loosely translated from French means "to party," is a favorite show and appeals an audience of any age, making this a sure enjoyable experience for the Seminole students.

During the day, the group got a chance to enjoy the Walt Disney World® experience, having a choice to visit three themes Disney parks of their choice. They also had their choice of visiting either Typhoon Lagoon or Blizzard Beach, both Disney water parks.

The Rock 'n' Roller Coaster® Aerosmith-themed ride at Disney's MGM Studios seemed to be a favorite among the Seminole students, as they excitedly commented how fun it was while being transported from one event to the next.

On the second day of the excursion, the group was treated to a dinner show at the Pioneer Hall in Disney's Fort Wilderness & Campground Resort, called the Hoop-Dee-Do Musical Revue, one of the longest running dinner shows at Walt Disney World®. Six Wild West performers singed, danced and humored the audience accompanied by a banjo player and pianist, while they enjoyed an all-you-can-eat dinner.

The following night, the group gathered for a pizza party at the resort, where Liaison William Osceola addressed the students, mainly to congratulate them for completing the school year.

"What we're trying to do is encourage students of all grades to continue with their education, he said. "That way they can come back and work for the tribe and maybe one day we can become self-sufficient."

He also introduced Ericka Osceola, as a new addition to his staff.

"We have a lot of activities going on and Ericka asked me if I needed anything done, so I hired her," said Osceola. "If there's an issue with the students, Ericka is the person to see and we will try to get tutoring or whatever you may need."

Ericka briefly explained how the parent advisor committee plans to raise the GPA requirement from a 2.0 to a 3.0 average for students to be able to participate in next year's incentive trip.

Following, President and Vice Chairman Moses Osceola shared a couple of words with the

students as well.

"When I was young, I always looked forward to that last day of school, so I know you're glad to be out," he said. "It is good that your representative is thinking about you too, and tries to reward you for going to school and learning."

He also encouraged students to pursue education after high school, so they can step up to take charge of the government and the businesses of the tribe.

"The tribe will support you if you decide go to vocational or college," he said. "Get educated and



Trail student gets cozy with Goofy.

Kindergarten Summer School – Hollywood and Brighton

Submitted by Linda Knee
 This summer we are proud to have four certified teachers work with our pre-k graduates, Fila Vaz, Ashanda Dorsett, Doreen Backes, and Jane Erhart. This program is designed to simulate the kindergarten environment. The teachers have compiled a curriculum which includes pre-reading, math, language arts, pre-writing and classroom etiquette.

Their day consists of phonics, small muscle coordination activities, numeric recognition, and concepts. Classroom etiquette consists of following direction, respecting their peers and functioning in a group. The goal of this program is to insure a solid foundation on which the children can develop and reach their full potential.



(L-R) Doreen Backes, Fila Vaz and Jane Erhart, certified teachers, with Linda Knee, from the education department.

Adelsa Williams

come back and come and help your organization out."

Moses also thanked William for inviting him to participate in the incentive trip and spoke highly of William's efforts to have his community spoken for.

"William works very hard for you all; he comes to Hollywood and is always speaking out for what you need out there," he said.

The day prior to departure, the group gathered up for a character breakfast at the 'Ohana restaurant, located at Disney's Polynesian's Resort.

'Ohana means "family" in the Hawaiian language, and everything is served family-style in an all-you-can-eat setting.

While the students enjoyed their meal, they were surprised when Mickey Mouse and his friends made an appearance. They got a chance to interact with the characters, get autographs, take pictures and even joined them during a parade around the restaurant while rattling maracas.

Watching the students' ecstatic expressions as they interacted with Mickey Mouse and his friends makes this event a definite successful reward.

"That's what all is about," said William, as the parents nodded.

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Mandatory Meeting for Parents of Future Private School Students

Submitted by Linda Knee
HOLLYWOOD — All parents whose child or children will be attending private school for the 2004-2005 school year must attend this mandatory meeting. The meeting will take place July 27 at 12

p.m. in the old community center building. The mandatory meeting will cover new private school policy school resource officer new resolutions. Please call Linda Knee at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1313 with any questions.

Frank Celebrates His Graduation from FAU

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — On Monday July 12, Anthony Frank celebrated his graduation from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in the second floor lounge at the Hollywood headquarter building.

Many of his friends and co-workers showed up to express their congratulations, and to have a taste of that delicious white vanilla layered cake. The cake was decorated with blue and green icing flowers arranged around a color cake photo of Anthony being awarded his bachelor of science degree.

"I want to thank God, my mother and my Grandaddy, the education department, the council, and the Seminole Tribe of Florida for helping me with this great personal achievement," he said. "I will seek to further my educational goals by studying for my master's degree in business management.

Congratulations and good luck Anthony Frank as you pursue your future educational goals.



Anthony Frank is all smiles at his graduation party.

Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv

Florida Trail Riders Event a Success

By Mark Beamer
BIG CYPRESS — More than 700 riders entered the First Annual Seminole Tribe MX Park's Hare Scramble event for off-road motorcycles. Racers and spectators enjoyed perfect weather conditions and a demanding course that included woods trails, hills, grass fields, and the existing motocross track as part of an eight and 10 mile loop. More than 50 classes were raced over two days with riders of all ages and skill levels, both male and female, competing in this final event of the Florida Trail Riders (FTR) sanctioned series.

The FTR series is one of the most successful off-road organizations in the country. The unbelievable turnout of riders at this event is proof that off-road motocrossing will be a mainstay in South Florida.

"It's about time someone built a dirt bike facility like this in South Florida," said longtime Miami resident and motorcycle enthusiast, Bill Anderson.

FTR is a registered, non-profit Florida corporation more than 31-years-old, with 2000-plus members throughout the state. The purpose of FTR is to promote the image of responsible motorcyclist, to sanction, schedule, assist and monitor off-road motorcycle events in Florida. The FTR helps provide safer, better organized, and more enjoyable events for all enduro, hare scramble, and motocross enthusiasts. After seeing the Seminole Tribe's beautiful motocross facility, the FTR knew that this would be an ideal location for a racing event.

The newly developed Seminole Tribe MX Park has been open since early-December for practice and has enjoyed a steady growth of riders, even though the park is unfinished.

According to Jack Gorton, track director, "We are still in the beginning stages of development already getting a huge number of riders. We studied all the other popular tracks and took notes. We are simply building what the people want and need, with the spectators, and riders, best interests in mind. Our track is unique in that we provide a different riding course and class for each size of motorcycle or quad rider as well as their skill level. And when the MX Park is completed it will accommodate everyone including the spectators, vendors, dealers, television crews, emergency services, etc."

The racing began on Saturday morning after a one-lap practice session and a riders meeting, finishing up with the specially designed shortened hare scrambles course for the pee wee bike riders through age eight. New transponders were mounted to each rider's equipment in order to efficiently score the racers and let them know their times and position during the race.

When asking what riders thought of the course and facility, most expressed enthusiasm with a big smile saying that it was a fun, yet demanding ride. Overall, most riders thought that the Seminole Tribe MX Park's First Annual Hare Scrambles Event was fun, exciting, and well organized. Some riders were very surprised that the MX Park was able to put the amount of trails into the course in such a short time frame. Obviously the track crew worked very hard and did an excellent job on the layout.

"You get your money's worth," said racer Mario Rivera of Hialeah, Fla. "Where else can you spend a day going racing and ride 40 miles before noon and have so much fun?"

For more information on FTR sanctioned hare scrambles events and memberships, call (386) 668-9700, or check their website at www.floridatrailriders.org. Membership fees range from \$10-\$35. The Seminole Tribe Motocross Park can be reached by phone at (863) 983-1894 and on the web at www.seminoletribemotocross.com.



Photos courtesy Mark Beamer
Woman's A Class winner, #117 April Hodges, negotiates a tight section of the course on Sunday.



Photos courtesy Mark Beamer
Riders prepare to run and start their machines as an air horn signals the start of the race.

Billy Nelson Makes Big Impression in Amateur Motocross Racing

By Ted Nelson
BIG CYPRESS — Since January 2004, Billy Nelson has been preparing for Loretta Lynn's National Amateur Motocross Championships. In February, while in Reddick, Fla., Nelson qualified for the southeastern regional. It was a difficult race but Nelson finished in the top eight riders, while hindered by a broken wrist.

He was sidelined for about a month and returned to race again in the Florida Series at Okeechobee Thundercross Motocross Park finishing in the top five. Nelson worked hard with daily practice at various tracks in Ocala, Fla. and Reddick, Fla., as well as his own practice track he built behind his property in Ocala.

Finally, in May, Nelson traveled with his father, Ted Nelson Sr., to Parker Valley, N.C. for the southeastern regional competition. Nelson blasted out of the hole shot smoking the competition and winning by nearly half a lap in the first race.

In the second race, he got a great hole shot again, however, in the first lap another rider clipped his back wheel causing five dirt bikes to go down in a tangled mess. After the entire field of riders had passed Nelson finally separated his bike from the others and resumed the race only to finish in thirty-third place.

In the third and final race, he again took the hole shot and never looked back finishing first again with no rider close to him. Overall, Nelson finished twelfth, which made him eligible for the nationals as an alternate.

In June, Nelson traveled to Dublin Gap, Penn. for the northeastern regional. He hoped to finish

in the top eight riders and qualify for Loretta Lynn's National Amateur Motocross Championships.

In the first race his bike seemed to be bogging down when he needed to accelerate but he still finished fifth. Between the next race Nelson and his father worked frantically to make mechanical adjustments for the next race. Although the bike seemed to run better, disaster was lurking in the shadows.

Nelson had a great hole shot and was situated in second place all the way into the last lap when he was ready to take the lead. That is when the engine seized up a half lap from the finish line. He and family were very disappointed as this meant Nelson would not finish in the top eight even if he were to finish first in the final race.

That night Nelson, his friends, and competitors spent four hours transferring an engine to his race bike so he could race again for the final race. In the final race Nelson had the worst starting position possible however managed to work his way through 44 riders and finished in fourth place. Overall, he finished in twentieth place.

In spite of the disappointment Nelson remained upbeat and positive, and never quit. He is making plans to compete in several national motocross events in August and September. Maybe, there

will be a chance for him to race at Loretta's this year. If not, there is always next year.

We will keep you updated on the future racing events. Nelson and family want to thank the tribe for the support given. Look for Billy Nelson when Seminole Motocross re-opens. Also, thanks to GB Works (Greg Barker), Jack Gorton, Mitchell Cypress, David Cypress, Max Osceola, Moses Jumper and Moses Osceola for their support.



Photo courtesy of Ted Nelson
Amateur motocross riders Billy Nelson and Ted Nelson.

Safety Taught at ATV Training Course

By Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — The second phase of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) training course was provided by the Seminole Police Department on Wednesday June 23. The majority of Immokalee's youth gathered at the Cultural Village with their machines in anticipation of the event.

Sergeant Powell Morris and Officer Scott Akin, who came from Big Cypress to conduct the training course, were assisted by Lieutenant Phil Gonzalez. Raymond Mora and broadcasting's Angie Arreguin volunteered their services on the obstacle course.

The first order of the day was the distribution of the new helmets which were provided to each participant by Liaison Elaine Aguilar. The specially fitted helmets had just arrived and will be collected for personalizing after the course has been completed. Arrangements have been made to have each helmet air brushed with a picture of the owner's choosing on the side.

The instruction area had been laid out with traffic cones. The riders first entered an obstacle course in which they zig-zagged in and out of a straight row of cones to indicate their ability to control their vehicle safely. They proceeded from there to a circle of cones where they learned about controlled speed in a turn. Next was the simulated intersection where they discussed a full stop, look both ways and proceed with caution only after yielding to the traffic.

All of the above participants paid close attention and performed the assigned tasks. Well, almost everyone. Edward Aguilar Jr., who wasn't quite four years old yet, was very excited and could-

n't wait for his turn. When the time finally came he was off and running. As he raced down the obstacle course, he took out half of the cones. In the turns, he attempted unsuccessfully to circle each individual cone. His trip to the intersection was hilarious!

Morris and Mora carefully explained the rules to him twice. Arreguin represented an oncoming car. When she wasn't there, he stopped, waited and refused to proceed; however, when Arreguin approached the intersection, he took off chasing her across the field on his four-wheeler.

Later I asked Aguilar Jr. if he knew what the officer wanted him to do. He quickly replied, "He wanted me to run over her."

The certificate for what not to do on a four-wheeler defiantly went to Edward Aguilar Jr.

We all laughed and enjoyed his antics. However, there was a valuable lesson to be learned. When operating any kind of equipment, there are age and ability limitations. Until these obstacles have been overcome, strict supervision is a necessity if accidents and injuries are to be avoided.

A quick trip through the woods brought the riders to the small track behind the ball field. The officers supervised the youth as they traveled over the hills and around the curves in the loose sand. Safety was a priority and they learned the outcome of poor decisions could result in injury or much worse.

The boys and girls retired to the community chickee at the ball field for the presentation of their certificates for having completed the course. A lunch of pizza, chicken wings and cold drinks was supplied by the recreation department.



Judy Weeks
Alan Hernandez (left) and his brother Anthony wait patiently for their turn on the course.

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All Indian and Their Spouses Bowling Tournament

By Shelley Marmor
DAVIE, FL — On Saturday July 3, tribal citizens and their spouses met at Don Carter University Bowling Lanes for a friendly competition. This bowling tournament coincided with several other sporting activities on or near the Hollywood reservation.

To commemorate the Fourth of July holiday, Seminoles and their spouses participated in events including a basketball tournament in the Hollywood gym and a golf tournament at the Jacaranda golf course in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Attendees at the bowling tournament played three games of bowling. The first was a regular game, followed by a game of no tap, and lastly, 3-6-9. There were separate teams for men and women, and

participants were divided according to age, with an 18-49 group, and a 50 and older group.

Congratulations to the all participants and the winners. The winners are as follows:

Women, 18-49

1. Trish Wilcox; 2. Mary Wilcox; 3. Yvette Jumper; 4. Samantha Frank.

Women, 50 and older

1. Mabel Doctor; 2. Mary Bowers; 3. Mary Gay Osceola; 4. Maydell Osceola; 5. Annie Jumper.

Men, 18-49

1. Amos Billie; 2. Phil Bowers; 3. Bobby Frank; 4. Gordon Wareham; 5. Eric Osceola.

Men, 50 and older

1. Ronnie Doctor; 2. Sam Nelson; 3. David Jumper; 4. Johnny Tucker Sr.; 5. Dan Osceola.



July Fourth 3-On-3 Basketball Game

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — On a hot drizzly Saturday morning at the Hollywood gym, Seminole tribal citizens and their spouses played a 3-on-3 basketball tournament. They started early because there were many activi-

ties scheduled for this holiday weekend. At the early weekend hour of 9 a.m. fans were treated to some exciting, fast paced games. The Hollywood recreation department sponsored the event, supervised by Lila Osceola and Harry Kennedy.

The teams were loosely organized and spontaneous as they played half-court style 3-on-3 games. Three teams of adults, and two teams of youngsters, participated in 20 minute, or 15 point, games, which ever came first for the win. Cash prizes for adults and medals for the kids were awarded and everyone who won also received championship t-shirts.

Here are the results of these 3-on-3 games. Congratulations to all our winners.

Youth 5-13-year-olds: Meagan Osceola, Courtney Osceola, Trevor Osceola; Runner-ups: Neko Osceola, Ethan Osceola, Josh Osceola.

Youth 14-17-year-olds: JoJo Osceola, Joseph Osceola, Josh Osceola; Runner-ups: Zack Billie, Tony Billie, Marlon Foster.

Adults 3-on-3: Mercedes Osceola, Tasha Osceola, Tony Heard; Runner-ups: Jerome Davis, Leon Wilcox Jr., Virginia Osceola

Seniors: Wanda Bowers, Marge Osceola, Joe Dan Osceola.



Felix DoBosz

Virginia Osceola, Tasha Osceola and Tony Heard played fast-paced 3-on-3.



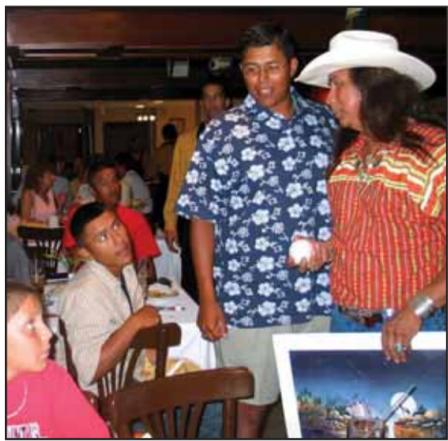
Adelsa Williams

(L-R) Head Coach & Mgr. Dineh Benally, William Osceola, Jay Garcia

Farewell Dinner For Naa'taanii Team

By Adelsa Williams
MIAMI, FL — Native American baseball team Naa'taanii gathered for a farewell dinner held at Porcao's restaurant in Miami, Fla. on Thursday June 24. At the end of the feast, Head Coach Dineh Benally and Assistant Coach Duane Aspaas thanked Trail Liaison William Osceola for his assistance and support.

As a token of their appreciation, they presented him with two baseballs signed by the team members and two large Native American drawings. Players then paraded to Osceola's table to personally thank him as they shook his hand.



Adelsa Williams

William Osceola addresses players after dinner.

Seminole Hard Rock Sport Fishing Team Unveils New Boat

Team achieves major tournament win with new Sea Vee boat

By Michael Kelly

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL —

When Sheriff Brody uttered the famous line "We're gonna need a bigger boat," in the classic film "Jaws," the same could be said for the Seminole Hard Rock fishing team. Previously, the Reel Nole fishing team used a 23-foot boat and had to enter the smaller boat category at fishing tournaments.

And while the team continued to fair well in the open seas, it did limit them to the better fishing areas farther out, but more importantly, to handle the occasional rough waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

The new 31-foot Seminole Hard Rock sponsored sport fishing boat made its debut at the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Kingfish Classic, held at the Harborview Marina in Dania Beach, Fla.

Formally known as Reel Nole, the fishing team of Chris Osceola, Ernie Tiger, Sonny Frank, Pat Wilson, and Todd Nickel, showcased the sleek Sea Vee boat at the tournament by placing twelfth out of 58 teams. This limited the team to only

one full day of competition because their boat had engine trouble on the second day of fishing. The Hard Rock fishing team generally has four members, but occasionally, will add another experienced fisherman to assist the team.

While images of a day of fishing on tranquil ocean waters entice most fishermen, heavy seas and 25 mph howling winds turned the two-day fishing tourna-

Heading up to Cape Canaveral, Fla. for the Canaveral Mac Attack, team Seminole would use their new craft to capture first place, winning a \$40,000 boat, but more importantly, placing the Seminole Hard Rock fishing team among the best in the state of Florida.

"We're a professional fishing team," said Ernie Tiger. "If we finish in the top ten in Biloxi, Miss., we're going to be looking pretty good."

The more powerful boat not only allows the fishing team to compete for bigger prizes, but also locating the bigger fish. Tiger mentioned that the top fishing teams know where the best fishing spots are, but that it's important to get to them first.

The next major tournament will take place in Biloxi, Miss., and will feature anywhere from 200 to 300 fishing teams. A first place finish there could bring the team a six-figure paycheck.

As a professional fishing team, the Seminole Hard Rock boat may enter up to as many as 20 tournaments a year, most occurring here in Florida.

The Seminole Hard Rock sport fishing team would like to thank The Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino for their sponsorship and entrusted support.



Michael Kelly

The Sea Vee Crew (L-R): Sonny Frank, Todd Nickel, Ernest Tiger, Chris Osceola, and Dan Reece.

ment into a real test of endurance for both the teams and their crafts.

The Seminole team encountered engine problems late Saturday afternoon, but hoped to engage in a full day of fishing the following day. Unfortunately, the engine problems persisted, keeping the team from competing the following day. Despite this, the Seminole Hard Rock team managed to place a highly respectable twelfth place.

Seminole Team Scores High in Vegas

By Nery Mejicano

LAS VEGAS, NV — The

Seminole Tribe of Florida is becoming a

well known player in the world of billiards. From the ESPN coverage of tribally sponsored professional pool players, like Vivian Villareal and Cory Duel, to the upcoming hosting of the Women's Professional Billiards Association at the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in September 2004.

In addition, Seminole pool players are beginning to be well known as solid performers, who are highly competitive and skilled. There were nearly 10,000 participants, forming hundreds of teams, at the

24 Valley National Eightball Association International Championships held in Las Vegas, Nev. May 25-June 5.

This year's Seminole team, which finished in the top 25, consisted of David Cypress, O.B. Osceola, George

Grasshopper, Steve

Frost, and Neil Martili.

This is pool playing at its best in one of the toughest international tournaments of the year. Players from Australia, the Bahamas, Canada, Finland, Germany, Malasia and many other countries converged at the Riviera Hotel and Casino for this event.

It is an awesome sight to see the great majority of the Riviera hotel guests walking around with pool cue cases wrapped around their shoulders and speaking many languages; being bonded by their common love-pool.



Nery Mejicano

(L-R) O.B. Osceola Jr., David Cypress, Neil Martili, Steve Frost, and George Grasshopper.

Naa'taanii Team Competes in the 2004 USA Junior Olympic Baseball Championships

By Felix DoBosz

PALM BEACH, FL — The

baseball fields of Santaluces Community High School, between Lantana and Lake Worth, Fla., came alive with players exhibiting pure enthusiasm and talent. Many members of Naa'taanii, a mostly Native American baseball team, came all the way from Four Corners, N.M. to play the great American pastime of baseball.

"Naa'taanii means 'leaders' in the Navajo language," manager and head coach Dineh Benally said. "That is just what our baseball organization is about, developing leadership skills through sports to lead our tribal nation's into the future through hard work, discipline and respect for one another."

Though the team's name is Navajo, team members come from many tribes, including Santa Ana, San Felipe, Jemez, Dine and Seminoles, from both Florida and Oklahoma.

The 15-16-year-old boys on the Naa'taanii team made the long journey to Florida to compete in the 2004 USA Junior Olympic Baseball Championships. One of the players on this prestigious all-Native American team was Jonathan Rodriguez, 15, of Immokalee. Rodriguez played outfield and also pitched, accord-

ing to Benally.

The tournament was held at the Roger Dean Stadium Complex's, the same place the Florida Marlins and St. Louis Cardinals' have spring training. Each team was guaranteed seven games at this prestigious event, with teams of young baseball players coming from all over the country

players from other states in this tournament. Unfortunately, they were 0-4 after losing to a team from Philadelphia, Pa, called the Bases Loaded Diamond Dogs.

"Most of the games were lost by only a couple of runs in late innings," added Coach Duane Aspaas.

Although their record has been a little disappointing, they really hope they can improve by playing harder for the win. One person, Coach Benally, certainly has faith in his team.

"Our goal is to be the team that hosts the Connie Mack World Series in Farmington, N.M., and also have these kids play baseball at the next level while pursuing a college education by winning sports scholarships," he said. "As we travel to different parts of the country, we get to discover new

talent for our [baseball] program."

Coach Benally added, "Basically the whole dream of this [baseball] program is to develop and promote youth baseball among Native Americans."

Coach Benally wanted to thank William Osceola and The Seminole Tribe of Florida, for their great assistance with their program. Congratulations go out to the hard-working Naa'taanii team.



Felix DoBosz

Immokalee resident Johnathan Rodriguez (first from left, kneeling) and the rest of the Naa'taanii baseball team.

to compete for a gold medal at the USA Junior Olympics. It is rare to see a Native American team in such a showcase event.

Eagle-eyed college coaches and scouts evaluated these young baseball players during 2004 USA Junior Olympic Baseball Championships. Many Naa'taanii team members hoped to obtain sports scholarships for college.

The Naa'taanii played competitive games against talented and skilled

2004 Brighton Sports Banquet

By Emma Brown

OKEECHONEE, FL — On June 29 the Brighton Recreation staff hosted the 2004 Brighton Sports Banquet at the KOA resort. The evening began with a succulent barbecue dinner provided by Cleveland Baker and his staff.

Following the dinner, Richard Osceola, Brighton recreation director gave a warm welcome to all the parents and young athletes and gave credit to all parents for supporting their children in sports. Council Representative Roger Smith then welcomed and thanked everyone for getting involved with sports.

"Thank you to the all kids that participate in sports and the parents for standing behind them."

This year's master of ceremonies was Brighton community member Andy Bowers. Bowers was involved in sports during his youthful years and shared with the audience that "Okeechobee schools and Seminole Indians have always gone hand in hand in sports, and it is only fitting to have the banquet in this county."

Throughout the evening Bowers

athletics. Jarrid Smith, a 2003 Okeechobee High School graduate, signed a four-year football scholarship with Florida Atlantic University and testified to the way sports has changed his life.

Smith said, "I think I became a better person when I started playing sports and sports really helped me clean up my act."

He is an inspiration and fine example to many young Seminole athletes. President Moses Osceola spoke about Brighton athletes and about Brighton being a great legacy in the field of sports.

Osceola said, "Brighton community has a lot to be proud of, when I was growing up Brighton had the fastest group of runners."

Once the tribal dignitaries were finished welcoming guests and sharing past sports stories it was time for the invited celebrities to make their debut. First up was Nat Moore.

Moore played football for the University of Florida from 1972-73 and was drafted by the Miami Dolphins in 1974. Moore spent 13 years with the Dolphins as a record breaking wide receiver.

Currently he is retired from football and spends most of his time giving his time to many charitable organizations. In 1984, the NFL voted him man of the year for outstanding service to his community. Moore's speech was very inspirational and his success proves that if you believe in yourself you can succeed.

Moore said, "Sports has an opportunity to open a lot of doors, you have to find your gift from God and continue to

improve on it so you can be the best and remember anytime you quit you lose the opportunity to reach your dreams."



Retired basketball player Jeff Foster with (L-R) J.T. Baker and Tommie Jackson.

Following Moore was six-foot-ten-inch retired NBA player Jeff Foster. Foster played for the New Jersey Jets and Orlando Magic and was a two-time Academic All Southeastern Conference champ, as well as, a member of the 1984 Olympic basketball team which won the gold medal.

Foster said, "I was always the tall, clumsy kid that never got the ball on the court."

He claims that his strong desire to play made him successful and shared with the young athletes that, "if you have desire, respect, education, and a good attitude you can make it happen." Foster currently works for Orlando Magic as a sports commentator.

The evening ended with the presentation of awards to all of Brighton's young athletes. Awards were given for sports such as basketball, football, cheerleading, tee-ball, rodeo and soccer with many more. Brighton is extremely proud of all of its young athletes and wishes them a successful future. The recreation staff did a great job hosting the 2004 sports banquet and is to be commended on a job well done.

Golf Tournament Helps Kick off Independence Day Events

By Michael Kelly

PLANTATION, FL — Not even the sweltering heat could deter two dozen-plus golfers from enjoying 18 holes of competitive golf at the Jacaranda Golf Club. The early morning tournament was one of many Independence Day events planned for the Hollywood reservation.

Harrison, who are Navajo, had a friendly competition going throughout their round. Jeremy, who teaches golf for tribal members at the St. Bonaventure Golf Club in Weston, Fla. put on a show, crushing long drives down the fairway. His expertise rubbed off on the other three members of the foursome. Josh almost equaled his brother shot for shot, while Del Riley and Moses "Big Shot" Jumper cranked out some tremendous shots as well.

Threatening clouds and occasional thunder marked the five-hour tournament throughout. The golfers appreciated the slight breeze that briefly cooled them off.

Below are the

results:

Overall Scores

1. Keeno King and Mitchell Osceola, 140; 2. Josh Harrison and Jeremy Harrison, 141; 3. Charles Cypress and Ernest Riley, 73; 4. Salaw Hummingbird and Jackie Thompson, 152; 5. Lawrence Osceola and Steve Osceola, 154; 6. Del Riley and Matt Tiger, 155; 7. Max Osceola and Vince Micco, 156; 8. Big Shot and Roy Burton, 166; 9. Ricky Doctor and Bo Young, 167; 10. Elrod Bowers and Gina Allardyce, 170; 11. Greg Thomas and Ernest Riley, 171; 12. Loretta Micco and TJ Young, 178.

Women

1. Jackie Thompson, 76; 2. Gina Allardyce, 87; 3. Loretta Micco, 97.

Men

1. Charles Cypress, 65; 2. Mitch Osceola, 66; 3. Jeremy Harrison, 70; 4. Joshua Harrison, 71; 5. Salaw Hummingbird, 76.

Senior Men

1. Max Osceola, 69; 2. Lawrence Osceola, 73; 3. Del Riley, 73; 4. Ernest Riley, 73; 5. Keeno King, 74.



Michael Kelly

Big Shot shows off his shot at Jacaranda Golf Club during the 4th of July sporting activities.

The all-Indian tournament featured categories for men, senior men, women, and senior women. Instead of group teams, individual golfers would be paired up after everyone completed their rounds. A combination of the lowest score would win the tournament.

Brothers Jeremy and Josh



Emma Brown

Ruben Burgess (left) compares muscles with former Dolphin great Nat Moore.

reminded about the days when individuals like Richard and Fred Smith and other Brighton community members excelled in

Big Cypress Rodeo Camp Program

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — A program that has been wished for and talked about for a long time finally became a reality on June 20. Thanks to the sponsorship of Chairman Mitchell Cypress and the moral support of Council Representative David Cypress, the first Rodeo Camp at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena was underway.

The week long camp was open to the public and had numerous applicants. However, it had to be limited to 10 boys and 10 girls. A group of this size can be easily managed, receive individual attention, and not over crowd the facilities. Each camper brought their own horse or borrowed one for the occasion.

The arena manager, Benny Hernandez, offered a curriculum of rodeo events which included barrels, poles, goat tying, break away roping, tie down calf roping, team roping and horsemanship. Shannon Pigott and Debra Tolar assisted Hernandez. The two acted as camp counselors and offered 24 hour supervision of the campers who ranged in age from eight to 16 years old.

Everyone stayed in the bunk house, which has separate facilities at each end of the building for the boys and girls. The center of the building comprises a large kitchen, dining and family room area. A very important staff member who cannot be overlooked is Steve Newton. He was on hand keeping the premises clean for the entire week. This is no easy task when you are following in the footsteps of 20 very active young people who are running in and out all day long.

A few parents volunteered their valuable time during the week long activities, helping out wherever possible. Jesus Gonzalez Sr. and Curt Zeitler stand out among these volunteers. Seminole Police Department Officer Richard Carley saw to the youngsters safety not only while on duty but volunteered a helping hand after hours wherever needed. Laurie McRay, Emergency Management Coordinator, filled a vital position on the staff providing safety and health awareness at all times.

Feeding a group of this size three times a day fell into the capable hands of Robin Hernandez. She prepared a large supper each evening and provided sandwiches, fruit, snacks and desserts throughout the day on a self-service basis. Hernandez said she had never seen a group this small consume as much water,

tea, lemonade and snacks in a day's time.

Breakfast took on a new meaning each day. Sometimes the older girls fixed the food under adult supervision. There was always cereal, toast, sweet rolls, pop-tarts, and other goodies. The day I arrived,



Judy Weeks

Benny Hernandez, camp leader (center) and counselor Debra Tolar (far right) enjoy a moment of relaxation with a few of the campers.

Curt Zeitler took charge of the grill and prepared a mountain of hot cakes and sausage to the campers' delight.

I asked several campers what they thought of the food. The following are a few of their replies: "I'm taking Ms. Robin home with me," "I love it," "If I stay here very long, I'll be fat to walk," and "Ms. Robin is the best cook in the whole world."

Benny Hernandez and his staff provided a very busy, activity packed schedule each day. Basic horsemanship started in the barns each morning and then moved to the arena as the day wore on. Each event was taught with a limited time frame to prevent boredom and make good use of the children's attention span.

From the time the youngsters got up in the morning until their sleepy heads hit the pillow at night, there were continuous activities underway. Evenings included games, cook-outs, movies and a continuous rash of good natured dares and pranks. Names will not be mentioned to protect the innocent.

Boys were roping in the girls' attire, they woke up to apple sauce and shaving cream in their hair, a hot pepper wiped lightly across a tooth brush, dancing or wild dress-up and make-up revues, to name a few. And of course, there were the late night ghost or horror stories to send shivers down your spine.

Before the week was over, each youngster had earned a nick-name which either described their looks or behavior. Some of the nicknames included: Skinny Bones, Big Dog, Squirrel, Red, Lil' Man, and many, many more. Each camper appeared to be proud of these nick-names and seemed to have developed a bond with the rest of the group.

When I arrived to interview the campers on Friday, they were shucking corn for a barbecue for their parents that night. Robin Hernandez was in the kitchen hard-boiling eggs, and getting steak and ribs ready for the fire.

Excitement was high as they looked forward to showing off their new skills for their parents. However, there was also sadness that they would be heading home the next evening. Everyone of the boys and girls said that they wanted to stay longer. They talked of best friends and referred to each other as their new sister or brother, asking for their picture to be taken together.

Benny Hernandez complimented the entire group. He said that he loved working with children and found this group to be especially rewarding. There had not been one argument or cross word the entire time. Each one willingly helped each other and begged him to let them return. He too enjoyed the week immensely and hated to see it end.

Hernandez said working with his fellow counselors Pigott and Tolar had been delightful. They were an important piece of the puzzle that made this week such a success.

Many of the parents who attended Friday night's barbecue stayed over night to be on hand for Saturday's rodeo. Each of the boys and girls entered their favorite, if not all the events. All-around buckles were awarded to the high point boys and girls. The children, with the help of Pigott and Tolar, surprised Hernandez with a belt buckle in appreciation.

I took several rolls of film, as did the counselors, and have been asked by the group to prepare a memory book for each camper. This has been an experience they will always cherish. The campers and their counselors want to take this opportunity to thank the Seminole Tribe for their generosity. This week has meant a great deal to them. When you exert a good influence on the life of a child, you have helped to shape the future. The Seminole Tribe can take great pride in their many programs of community involvement. They are making a very positive effect on their neighbors in South Florida. Good Neighbors Build Better Communities!

Third Annual Juanita Billie Pool Tournament

By Nery Mejicano

BIG CYPRESS — On Friday July 2, the third annual pool tournament in memory of Juanita Billie was held at the Big Cypress senior center. Entertainment was provided by Jonah Cypress and Theresa Jumper.

Following are the tournament results:

Men, 55-59

1. Mitchell Cypress, 2. Keeno King, 3. Joe B. Osceola, 4. Matt Tiger.

Men, 60 and older

1. Joe Billie, 2. Russell Osceola, 3. Sam Nelson, 4. Allen Jumper, 5. Tommy Billie, 6. Bobby Clay, 7. George Billie.

Women, 55-59

1. Esther Buster, 2. Ruby Osceola, 3. Louise Osceola, 4. Caroline Tiger, 5. Juanita Osceola.

Women, 60 and older

1. Annie Jumper, 2. Louise Billie, 3. Betty Osceola, 4. Patsy Billie.



Nery Mejicano

Juanita Osceola sets up her shot.

Brighton All-Star Athletes Advance to State

By Emma Brown

BRIGHTON — Erena Billie,

Sheila Jones, and Lois Billie were chosen to participate on the Okeechobee

Angels All-Star team which traveled to Hensley Field in Sebring, Fla. in June to participate in the Dixie girls' district tournament.

The Okeechobee Angels All-Stars advanced to the state tournament which will take place in Wildwood, Fla. beginning July 8. Okeechobee earned the right to represent the district in Wildwood by defeating Arcadia who is last year's district champions. Brighton is very proud of the three young talents that were chosen as All-Stars and wish them lots of luck at the state tournament.



Emma Brown

(L-R) Sheila Jones and Lois Billie help hold their championship trophy up over Erena Billie's head.

Team Seminole Basketball Team Placed Fourth in YBOA

By Kenny Bayon

ORLANDO, FL — The 10 and younger Team Seminole basketball team placed fourth in Youth Basketball of America's (YBOA) Florida state championships, held in Orlando, Fla., June 11-13. This qualified them to the YBOA National tournament which is to be held in Polk County, Fla. on July 24-31.

The Florida qualifying tournament, which was held throughout Orlando, started out in impres-



Team Seminole 10 and younger team with their coaches Eddie Redd (left) and Jeremiah Hall (right).

sive manner as Team Seminole won their first three games in every way possible to put themselves in the medal rounds.

"We are going to the nationals because of our defense," said head coach Eddie Redd. "Our team defense is based on speed and denial, to put pressure on the opponents."

The defense was led by Katlen Tommie, Chief Billie and Darius Redd, who played great interior defense. Daylon Hall, Aria Osceola, the only girl on the team, and Hunter Osceola were shutting down the wings while the full court pressure was applied by Deforest Carter and Trent McInturff. Jonathan Robbins and Reshaun Jim was not present, but very much a part of the team as they helped Team Seminole earn the gold in Tallahassee, Fla. at the Sunshine State games.

Game one was against the Hear Center. The scoring began with a dribble penetration drive and pass from Daylon Hall to Katlin Tommie followed by a 15 foot jumper by Aria Osceola, four free throws by Deforest Carter and a post up by Darius Redd, which build a 14-2 first quarter lead.

The second period began with a Deforest put back off an offensive rebound, a beautiful driving lay-up and a free throw by Aria Osceola, a steal and driving lay-up by Daylon Hall helped build a 27-7 halftime lead.

The third period began with an offensive board and put back by Deforest, then the same by Darius Redd, driving layup by Daylon Hall, a steal and layup by Deforest to build a commanding lead and with the tough denying by Hunter Osceola and Trent McInturff game was in hand within minutes as Deforest led the way with 16 points.

Game two was an exciting overtime victory against the Orlando Wizards. The game began losing 3-0, but Deforest Carter hit a three to tie the game. The Wizards took a 15-10 first quarter lead.

The second quarter began with a toggle between the two teams but the Seminoles took the lead 20-19 half way though with a three pointer by Daylon Hall and Deforest putting up six in the quarter to give the Seminoles the 26-21 halftime lead.

The second half was a team effort as Hunter Osceola, Darius Redd, Aria Osceola, Daylon Hall and Deforest Carter all scored to help take a 36-32 lead fourth quarter lead. The fourth quarter was

tight thought out as both teams struggled to score. The back and forth game ended up being a tie at 46, all at the end of regulation.

The overtime was dominated by Team Seminole as Daylon Hall began the scoring with a 10 foot fade way baseline jumper to take the lead then followed that with a great defensive play by hustling back to swipe the ball away from a potential score. Deforest made an eight foot jumper followed by two free throws to go up 52-48. Kaltin Tomime hit a five foot jumper, followed by a put back by Deforest to give Team Seminole the 57-53 overtime victory.

Game three was against Tangelo Park and the Seminoles needed victory in order to advance to the Nationals. Daylon Hall began the scoring but Tangelo Park went on a 10-0 run before Daylon scored again. Baskets by Hunter Osceola, Darius Redd and Daylon Hall cut the deficit to four as the Seminole were down 14-10 going into the second quarter.

The second was just a defensive game as both teams were putting tight pressure and Tangelo went into halftime with a 20-14 halftime lead. The second half was a different story as Team Seminole began their run with a basket by couple of baskets by Hunter Osceola followed by a few baskets by Deforest Carter and Darius Redd and a three by Daylon Hall to cut the lead by one. Next, Deforest put back basket and free throw to take the lead and win the game by a 42-38 final and earn their way to the medal round semi-finals and a trip to nationals.

In the Semis, Team Seminole looked out of sync and a bit weary from the first day of rigorous games that led them start off to 3-0 record. Aria Osceola started the scoring with a 10 foot jumper to tie the game at two. The Lil Lakers then went on a run that helped them get to a 38-9 halftime lead. Deforest was the halftime leading scorer with four points.

The second half was a bit more competitive



Team Seminole earned the right to compete in the YBOA National Championships in June.

as Dayon and Deforest hit some three at the end but it was not their morning as they fell 55-19 and move on to the third and fourth place medal game.

The third and fourth place game was a rematch of the Seminole's thrilling overtime victory against the Orlando Wizards a few days earlier. Darius Redd began the scoring with layup to tie the score at two. Daylon hit three to cut the lead to 10-5. A bucket by deforest and a three by Trent McInturff to cut the deficit again to 16-10. The Wizards went a run to finish the half with a 24-10 lead.

The second half was a slow start and the Seminoles made a late run lead by Deforest Carter's nine second half points was not enough as the Seminoles fall 41-27 but are qualified for the YBOA National Championships, taking place in Polk County, Fla, in late-June.

Assistant coach Jeremiah Hall was also very thrilled at how his team played, but noted that the big picture was still ahead with the nationals still to come.

"The team will savor this medal and use it as a stepping stone for the future," Hall said.

They finished the tournament with a 3-1 record, with their only loss being to a 12 and younger team which was put on the schedule to have more games. The team also had the biggest upset in the entire Sunshine States Games. Team Seminole defeated a 12 and younger boy's team after being down at the half by 10 points and came back to win by a 10 point margin, showing the heart and guts these young Seminole athletes have mastered in their brief history.

The gold medal game began a bit slow as the Orlando Nuggets were trying to play keep away, and held on to the ball for several minutes at a time. Finally, the ice was broken with a nice assist from Daylon Hall to Deforest Carter for a driving lay-up shot. Hunter Osceola followed with a 17 foot jump shot, ending the first quarter and taking a 4-0 lead.

The second half began with the Seminoles putting on the full court pressure and never letting down as they built a commanding 20-2 halftime lead and finished the third period with a 27-9 lead. The fourth quarter was a tribute to this team, they really wanted the gold, and held their opponent to just one point.

The defense led by Katlen Tommie, Jonathan Robbins, Reshaun Jim and Darius Redd, played great interior defense. Daylon Hall, Aria Osceola, the only girl on the team and Hunter Osceola were shutting down the wings while the full court pressure was applied by Deforest Carter and Trent McInturff. Chief Billie was not present for this tournament but he is still a very important part of the special team.

By Kenny Bayon

TALLAHASSEE, FL — Team Seminole 10 and younger boys team captured the gold medal at the Sunshine State Games by beating the Orlando Nuggets in dominating fashion, crushing them 46-10. The games, held in Tallahassee, Fla. were a tribute to how mentally tough and hungry this young team has become.



Team Seminole 10 and younger boys team proudly wear their gold medals.

Led by Deforest Carter's 29 points and a stifling and swarming defense which gave up only 10 points, Team Seminole showed up to play at the finals, held at Tallahassee Community College.

"The kids played real hard and they deserve the Gold medal" said Eddie Redd, the team's head coach. "It's a pleasure to be coaching these kids who have made a total commitment to their team. This is a great tune-up for the [Youth Basketball of America]."

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Anthony "Tony" Scalese
Tribal Member Pueblo of Isleta

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HOLLYWOOD

Position: Budget Analyst
Department: Accounting
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

Position: Accountant
Department: Accounting
Position Opens: 4-5-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Lifeguard (Summer, Temporary)
Department: Recreation
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$10/hour

Position: Research Clerk
Department: Tribal Clerk's Office
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$23,920 annually with benefits

Position: Administrative Assistant
Department: Eligibility and Utilization, Health
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Secretary II
Department: Family Services
Position Opens: 3-15-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Procurement Coordinator/Estimator
Department: Housing
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$33,176 annually with benefits

Position: Courier
Department: Accounting
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$10/hour, with benefits

Position: Buyer
Department: Purchasing
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: A/P Data Entry Clerk
Department: Accounting
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Lead Surveillance Specialist
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with experience

Position: Nutritionist
Department: Health
Position Opens: 1-12-04
Position Closes: 1-26-04
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Fixed Asset Accountant
Department: Accounting
Position Opens: 12-22-03
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$30,000-\$37,000 annually with benefits

Position: Surveillance Manager
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with experience

Position: Transfer Station Operator Trainee (2)
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 2-23-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits

Position: Counselor II (3)

Department: Family Services
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

BIG CYPRESS

Position: Tour Guide
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Position Opens: 10-13-03
Position Closes: 10-27-03
Salary: \$7.50/hour, with benefits

Position: Sales Associate, F/T and P/T
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 10-21-03
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

Position: Environ Health Facilities Management Representative
Department: Environmental Health
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 3-15-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits

Position: Art/Music Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee School
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Water Sampler
Department: Water Resources
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Media Specialist
Department: Ahfachkee School
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Instructional Aide
Department: Ahfachkee School
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits.

Position: Patient Services Coordinator
Department: Health
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Elem. Music Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee School
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Project Coordinator
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$48,000 annually with benefits

Position: Counselor II
Department: Family Services
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Assistant to Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Department: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum
Position Opens: 2-23-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$20,800 annually with benefits

Position: Elementary Education Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Middle School Teacher
Department: Ahfachkee
Position Opens: 5-3-2004

will not be processed. For further information contact the department of emergency services at (863) 983-2150, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Police Department Jobs

Position: Police Officer
Starting Salary: \$39,591
Locations: Big Cypress, Hollywood, Immokalee and Fort Pierce.
 Police Officer position available. Must already have his/her certification. Needs to be a citizen or have alien resident card, 19 years or older, with a high school diploma or GED. Shift work. Benefits include PPO health insurance, life insurance, 401K, take home car program, clothing allowance. If you are interested, please call (954) 967-8900.

Position: Police Dispatchers
Starting salary: \$29,693
Location: Big Cypress
 Applicants need to be a U.S. citizen, or have an alien resident card, be 19 years or older, and have a high school diploma or GED. This position is shift work. Tribal citizens are preferred, but not required. If you are interested, please call (954) 967-8900.

Position Closes: when filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Food Prep. and Service Assoc.
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 10-27-03
Position Closes: 11-10-03
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 11-3-03
Position Closes: when filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Assistant Store Manager
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 10-21-03
Position Closes: 11-3-03
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 3-15-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits

Position: Sales Associate, F/T and P/T
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 10-21-03
Position Closes: 11-3-03
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

BRIGHTON

Position: Assistant Store Manager
Department: Corp. Board, Gas
Position Opens: 10-21-03
Position Closes: 11-3-03
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

Position: Counselor II
Department: Family Services
Position Opens: 1-5-04
Position Closes: 1-19-04
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Project Coordinator
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$48,000 annually with benefits

Position: Lifeguard, FT
Department: Recreation
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$20,800 annually with benefits

Position: Lifeguard, PT
Department: Recreation
Position Opens: 5-4-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$10/hour

Position: Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$17/hour, with benefits

Position: Distribution/Collection System Crew Leader
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$40,000 annually with benefits

Position: Head Teacher and Certified Head Teacher

Department: Preschool
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Tag Clerk, P/T
Department: Tribal Field Office
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$11.50/hour

Position: Teacher Aide
Department: Preschool
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits and education

Position: Tribal Outreach Worker II
Department: Family Services, Health
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

COCONUT CREEK

Position: Surveillance Specialist (2)
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 5-3-2004
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

IMMOKALEE

Position: Counselor II
Department: Family Services
Position Opens: 3-22-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Teacher I
Department: Preschool
Position Opens: 11-24-03
Position Closes: 12-08-03
Salary: Negotiable with experience, with benefits

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 3-15-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits

Position: Distribution/Collection System Crew Leader
Department: Utilities
Position Opens: 5-3-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: \$40,000 annually with benefits

Position: Nutritionist/Health Educator
Department: Health
Position: Still available
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

TAMPA

Position: Surveillance Technician
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Surveillance Specialist
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 4-26-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Lead Surveillance Specialist
Department: Gaming
Position Opens: 4-19-04
Position Closes: When filled
Salary: Negotiable with experience

Emergency Services Jobs

Position: Firefighter/Paramedic
Department: Emergency Services
Salary: \$39,591 annually, plus benefits and paramedic pay incentive

Work Schedule: 24 hours on/72 hours off
 Applicants must submit the following certifications at time of application: State of Florida Firefighter II certification, State of Florida paramedic certification, valid Florida driver's license-Class D with E endorsement, emergency vehicle operator's course certification ("E.V.O.C."), high school Diploma or G.E.D. equivalent and birth certificate. All applicants must bring original copies of all required certificates at time of application. Copier will be provided.

Candidates are required to pass a written, physical agility, medical and drug screening exams, as well as background investigation.

Download application form at www.seminoletribe.com. Applications will be accepted in person at Seminole Tribe of Florida Police Headquarters, 3280 North 64 Avenue, Hollywood FL., 33024 from July 12-16, 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Incomplete applications will not be processed. All applications mailed, faxed or received by any other method

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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should 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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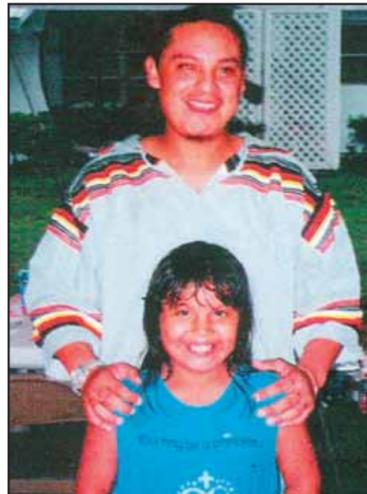
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Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkēkēcetv

Happy Birthday



Happy 10th birthday to **Allison Lee Herrera** On July 20.
From,
Dad (Jose Herrera) and your family in Big Cypress.

Happy belated 3rd birthday to **Marley Herrera** on June 8. You're a big girl now.
From,
Mom (Clea Billie), Dad (Jose Herrera), and your Grandparents, Marie and Fred Phillips and Ronnie B. Billie.



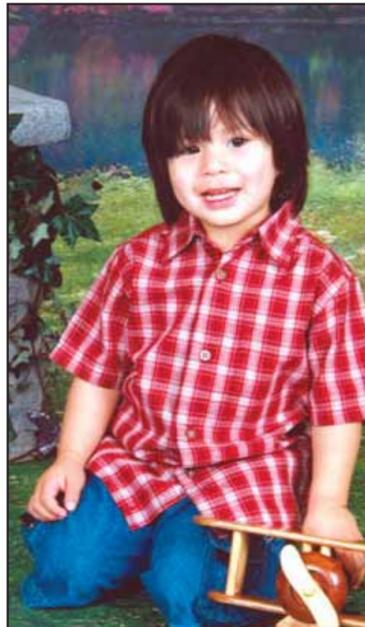
Happy Birthday **Priscilla** on July 2.
From,
Mom, Dad, Aaron, Michael and Kimberly, Ahmad, Lil Roy and family.



Happy 10th birthday to **Cooper M. Rivers** on July 24. Good luck in your new school. We love you.
From,
Mom (Clea Billie), Dad (Jose Herrera), and your Grandparents, Marie and Fred Phillips and Ronnie B. Billie



Happy second birthday **Isaiah Howard Bishop**. Two years ago, we received a gift; a second angel was our wish. We all love you and will be here for you. Be happy always. Smile, and never be in fear.
Love,
Mom, Luis, big brother Josiah, new sister Cierra, Aunt Karen and Sharon, Uncle Wes, Nana, Grandma Peg and Tina, Papa, and the rest of the family.



Happy 3rd birthday to our cousin **Kano Puente**. We love you! Mosh pit time!!
With love,
Your cousins, Joel, Zoey, Boo-boo, Grace, Tammy Puente

Happy 3rd birthday to our baby nephew **Kano Puente**. We love you so very much! Have lots of fun baby.
Love you,
Uncle Joey and Aunt Maggie Puente

Graduates



Congratulations to **Sabrina Cypress Osceola** for graduating Everglades City High School on May 21. We are so proud of you for the hard work that you have successfully completed. We hope you achieve all your goals and dreams. We love you very much!
From,
Your best friend Emma and family

Congratulations **Sabrina Osceola** on your outstanding achievement of graduating from Everglades City High School. We are all so very proud of you and love you. May all your dreams come true.

Love,
Barbara, Clint, David, and Garrett

Happy graduation Bigey!

Love,
Kot-kee



Congratulations to **Emma Jade Cypress** on her achievements. She successfully graduated from G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School in Miami on June 9. We are so proud of her accomplishment!

With love,
Your family

We wish our niece **Emma Cypress**, a member of the Miccosukee Tribe, the very best in her future endeavors.

Much love from,
Aunt Barbara, cousins Clint, David, and Garrett

Poem

To my beautiful babies, Tarissa and Kian

I once heard that if the heart is empty, then the mind does not matter. Although I feel like a million miles away, it's two beautiful people like you who keep me strong and focused on the beautiful things that life has to offer.

Everything about the both of you I would not change for the world itself. The love that I have for the both of you will never change or fade. My heart is in your hands. With a million hugs and kisses, short but simple, I love you both. I love you more than a flower blooming and I love you more than the sun shining on a rainy day because dad and grandpa loves you both just the way you are. A lifetime of love from me is way beyond the world to see.

Always,
—Alex Tucker, Otter clan

Never Last

Momma don't you cry
Don't think of me and sigh
My letters will always start with "Hi"
Never will they end with "Good bye"
This place is just like a dance with a different beat
Just a break away from the cold street
Kinda like candy, but not a treat
When I come home, then the candy is sweet

Fourth of July

Fireworks and a bash
It must be the 4th
Time to see blazes in the sky
Celebration for some but not I
The only fun will be with a card game
Then lockdown with a DC number and name
I'll say Y08219 Gopher through the glass
Looking while the officer walks past
It's nothing nice but I'm gonna ride out

Better days are on the way
Just right now the prison yard is where we play
It seems long but really a short stay
Freedom will come one day
When I get home it'll be a meal for two
If others want to join we'll add a few
Put this darkness in the past
To win in life we must be first, never last
—Leslie J. Gopher

Make you or break you is what it's all about
Choices made, assured my spot here
Time to reflect on life without a tear
Time to reflect—Never show fear
Bad people, bad time, but it could be worse
Could be riding in a hearse
Who needs the respect
Only God can judge me
Like the tattoo on my neck
This is for you mom
—Leslie J. Gopher

New Kids



The New Edition
Our beloved daughter **Jalayah Artega** born December 11, 2003. We would like to welcome the first baby girl to our family. You're our angel. We love you, fat cheeks!

Proud parents,
Lorena and Noe Artega;
Grandmother Barbara Garza; Panther clan.



To our precious baby girl, **Tammy**, who was born on February 8, 2004.
Weight: 5 pounds, 13 ounces
Length: 18 inches
Parents: Joey and Maggie Puente
Siblings: Joel, Boo-boo, Zoey and Grace.

We love you very much. The first four months without you were hard, but now you're home and our family is complete. We now have the rest of our lives to be together and be happy. You've grown so fast and even faster now we see you every day every minute. Lord Jesus you've blessed us with a beautiful little girl, thank you so much.

Your loving parents,
Joey and Maggie Puente

Notice

Invitation to Bid for Flat Mowing Services

Submitted by **South Florida Water Management District**

WEST PALM BEACH, FL — The procurement department of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) will receive sealed bids at the second floor, B-1 Building, located at 3301 Gun Club Road in West Palm Beach, Fla. for flat mowing of vegetation in the district's Okeechobee Field Station service area in Okeechobee County on August 12, at 2:30 p.m., at which time bids will be opened and publicly read.

An optional pre-bid conference will be held July 30 at 10:30 a.m. at the Okeechobee Field Station located at 1000

N.E 40th Avenue, Okeechobee, Fla. All bids must conform to the instructions in the request for bids and include a properly executed contract compliance disclosure form.

Solicitation documents will be available July 16, in the SFWMD Procurement Office, at the above address, by downloading a free copy from the district's website at www.sfwmd.gov, or by calling (561) 687-6391. Interested bidders may also call the 24-hour bid hotline at (800) 472-5290.

The public is invited to attend the RFB opening. Information on the status of this solicitation can be obtained at our web site www.sfwmd.gov. For more information, please contact Contract Specialist Don Hill at (561) 682-2045.



Deadline: September 10, 2004

Who is eligible: Young Native American women and men who will be entering grades 9—12 this Fall (and those graduates of May or August 2004 are also considered eligible) that are enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe.

Topic: The Role of Native Women in Agriculture: Past, Present and Future.

Writing Competition

Winners & Prize: Five (5) semi-finalist winners will be announced in early October 2004. These five finalists will be provided an all-expense paid trip to the 2004 Inter-Tribal Agricultural Council (IAC) annual meeting. This meeting is November 1—5, 2004 in Hollywood, Florida. This year's conference will be hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The grand winner will be announced at the IAC meeting during special ceremonies.

Guidelines:

- 3—6 pages
- Typed
- One inch margin
- Double space
- 12 point font



Judging Criteria:

1. Creativity
2. Quality of sources
3. Quality of grammar
4. Spelling and punctuation
5. Organization
6. Length of entry
7. Documentation of sources (3-5)
8. Whether information relates to the topic

Submission: All entries must arrive no later than 5:00 p.m. September 10, 2004 at the following address. Entries may be mailed, faxed or sent as an email attachment in Microsoft Word format.
J. Popp
217 Agriculture Building
AEAB
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701
Fax: 479-575-5306
Email: jhpopp@uark.edu

All entries must be accompanied by a sheet containing the following information:

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Big Cypress Incentive Awards Presentation

By Victoria Hernandez

BIG CYPRESS — On June 29, the Big Cypress Parent Advisory Committee (PAC), Seminole Tribe education department and tribal leaders held the 2004 Incentive Awards in the Herman L. Osceola gym. There were lots of friends and families there to support all the kids, which was great.

The ceremony was opened by Seminole

Princess Cherelee Hall. Hall talked a little about her life, and how much she enjoyed her job at the Big Cypress learning resource.

"These kids are smart and great fun," she said.

After Hall finished, she asked some special people to come up and say a few words. Those people were: David Bowers, Big Cypress council representative, Paul Bowers, Big Cypress board representative, Mitchell Cypress, chairman, and Louise Gopher, education director.

They all said they are proud of the kids, and the excellence they have achieved. They also told the children that they would love to see them earning even more awards next year. Gopher congratulated all the students and explained how all the awards are determined.

After the special speakers, the pre-kindergartners said the blessing for the food. Hall called their presentation "so cute." The lunch of hamburgers, hot dog, spaghetti and macaroni and cheese was as good as the kids told the adults it was.

After lunch Hall announced our emcee, Ahfachkee School sophomore, Jonathan Harjo. He said a few words about his life and family. He read a couple of his poems and a passage out of his favorite book "Standing Tall" by Howard Rainer. Harjo asked

Kaitlin Osceola, all A's and B's, handwriting award, perfect attendance; Rheannon Robbins, independent reader award; Silver Wolf, all A's and B's, handwriting award, student of the year; Caitlin Cypress, all A's and B's, attendance award.

Second Grade

Terri Baker, A average, all A's and B's, math award; Levi Billie, less than three days absent for the year,



Seminole Princess Cherelee Hall presents incentive award to Ian Cypress.

perfect punctuality; Aiden Bowers, multiplication award; Anthony Cypress, citizenship award; Susie Jim, citizenship award; Rashaun Jim, most improved; Andre Landin, perfect attendance, all A's and B's; Dare Rick McInturff, spelling improvement; Quenton Osceola, most improved; Sarah Osceola, all A's and B's, handwriting award; Symphony Osceola, perfect attendance, all A's and B's, perfect punctuality; Destiny Robbins, all A's and B's; Justin Roff, all A's and B's; Savannah Tiger, perfect attendance, perfect punctuality; Derrick Tiger, all A's and B's, improved behavior; Echo Wolf, all A's and B's, perfect attendance, student of the year; Gianna Wargolet, read across america award, B average, less than three days absent for the year.

Third Grade

Bionca Acosta, B average; Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, perfect attendance; Lariah Balentine, most Improved GPA, best ball payer; Alanis "Emilee" Bowers, most positive award; Jean Capricien, perfect attendance; Adrienne Cypress, B average; Steven Frank, B average; Christopher Joe, student of the year, all A's and B's, perfect punctuality, perfect attendance; William "Korliss" Jumper, B average; Rodni Mercer, all A's and B's;

Amanda Micco, all A's and B's; Bradley Osceola, perfect attendance; Tequesta Tiger, perfect attendance; Regan Whitecloud, all A's and B's, math award, honor roll; Karlito Wargolet, all A's and B's, achievement award, reading award, music award; Akol Billie, B average; Cypress Billie, B average; Tyler Cypress, improved GPA.

Fourth Grade

Anthony Balentine, improved GPA; Tana Bear-Osceola, B average; Shawna Billie, B average; Stevie Billie, improved GPA; Jalen Cypress, B average; Dillon Cypress, B average; Nauthkee Henry, all A's and B's, sunshine state reader's award, A average; Monique Jimmie, B average; Jason Melton, all A's and B's, B average; Mario Osceola, reading award, B average, student of the year; Ragan Osceola, all A's and B's, A average; Cooper Rivers, B average; Tylor Tigertail, B average, accelerated reading award; Danni Jae Tommie, B average, best helper in culture; Ryan Cypress, less than three days absent for the year; Kegan Cypress, B average.

Fifth Grade

Rubi-Anne Alexander, B average; John Alvarez, B average, math excellence, reading excellence; Alfred Billie, improved GPA; Natasha Billie, B average; Dannee Billie, B average; Eagle Billie, academic excellence, young

reader's award; Ian Cypress, B average; Daylynn Hall, B average; K'Anna Jumper, B average; Kaylee Jumper, improved GPA; Trent McInturff, student of the year, reading award, most effort award; Tia Osbourne, improved GPA; Catlen Tommie, A average, all A's and B's; DeForest Carter, B average; Rowdey Osceola, art award; Tony Micco, B average; Thialia Pacheco, B average.



Princess Cherelee Hall presents Sierra Mariah Bowers with her award.

Sixth Grade

Ronnie Billie Jr., student of the year, A-B honor roll; Noemi Billie, B average; Jon Ross Billie, B average; Chebon Gooden-Harden, B average; Tianna Garcia, all A's, reading award, math award, achievement certificate; Breanna Robbins, improved GPA, academic effort; Terinna Cypress, B average, softball award.

Seventh Grade

Alyssa "Lauren" Bowers, accelerated math award, accelerated reader award; Aaron Cypress, B average; Brittany Huff, B average, math mastery award, accelerated reader award.

Eighth Grade

Tiffany Billie, B average; Bonnie Billie, most improved; Nathan Billie, improved GPA; Robert "Junior" Cypress, accelerated math award, accelerated reader award; Dawna Cypress, perfect attendance, A-B average, student of the year; Alex Cypress, B average, accelerated math award, accelerated reader award; Benny Hernandez, accelerated math award; Marliisa "Ann" Tiger, all A's and B's; Trisha Walker, B average; Travis Pacheco, A+ in career course.

Ninth-Twelfth Grades

Crystal Cypress, most improved, improved GPA; Tabitha Shomo, student of the year; Kaylynn Pewo, improved GPA; Karen S. Cypress, punctuality award; Ayze Henry, GED graduate; Katherine Billie, advanced reader award, super reader award; Raul Alvarez, advanced reader award; Johnathan Harjo, B average; Jodi Simone, B average; Jessalyn Balentine, B average, less than three days absent for the year; Victoria Hernandez, advanced reader award, B average, graduation; Adam MacElroy, most improved; Ildy Garcia, improved GPA, graduation; LeAnna Billie, B average.

As their names were called, all the kids ran up to get their award, or awards.

That concluded the 2004 Incentive Awards. Next year we hope to have a larger turn out but Thanks to all the family and friends that came and supported the kids. Congratulations to everyone!



Emcee John Harjo calls out the winners' names, and Raini Cypress accepts her award.



Students received Seminole embroidered logo sports packs.

a couple of his close friends, Adam MacElroy and Raul Alvarez, to come up and speak. They both thanked everyone for coming and supporting all the kids.

After that Harjo and Hall gave out incentive awards to the following students:

Pre-kindergarten

Akira Billie, pre-k award.

Kindergarten

Christopher Alexander, kindergarten award, Arnold Billie, kindergarten award, Tyrus Billie, kindergarten award, Sierra Bowers, kindergarten award, perfect attendance and homework award for reading and math; Channy Curry, kindergarten award; Michaela Cypress, kindergarten award; Blige Cypress, kindergarten award; Kanavis Cypress-Williams, kindergarten award, Ethan Hummingbird, perfect attendance, perfect punctuality, math award, writing penmanship award and reading award; Callie Joe, student of the year, kindergarten award, Dialton Koenes, math award and reading award.

First Grade

Christian Alexander, all A's and B's, handwriting award, independent reader award; Katherine Bert, handwriting award; Chief Billie, B average; Sabre Billie, all A's and B's, handwriting award, top accelerated reading point earner, less than two days absent for the year; Gloria Brooks, all A's and B's, handwriting award; Nathaniel Jim, most improved, independent reader award; Michelle Jimmie, all A's and B's, handwriting award; Anthony Joe, all A's and B's, handwriting award, less than three days absent for the year, math award; Candelario Landin, all A's and B's; Haden Littlebear, all A's and B's, math award; John McInturff, math award, independent reader award;



Vera Herrera, PAC vice-president, giving a sports pack to Rheannon Robbins, first grade graduate.

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Hollywood Father's Day Celebration

By Iretta Tiger

HOLLYWOOD — The Hollywood reservation honored the men of the tribe with a dinner on July 1. The dinner was sponsored by Hollywood Representatives Max Osceola Jr. and David DeHass.

Paul Buster provided live entertainment and Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass donated prizes for the raffle. Each winner received a tackle box and fishing pole.

Though everyone had a good time it is sad to say that there were very few tribal citizens there. The tables, which are usually crowded, were empty. Many of the elder tribal citizens did come out, but the younger generations did not. As one tribal citizen put it, "This is sad; they should at least come out and shown their support."



Herbert Jim and Oliver Wareham.

Iretta Tiger



Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr.

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Herbert Jim and Robert Kippenberger.

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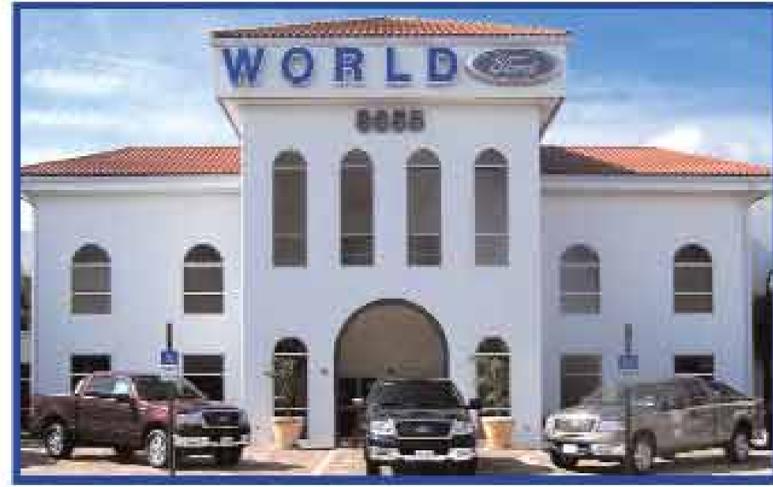
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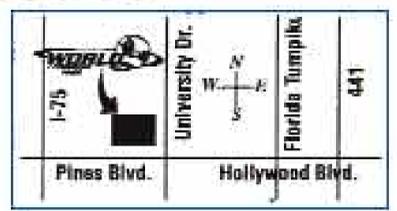
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Seminole Cultural Exhibit at Broward Government Center



Handmade traditional palmetto husk dolls.

Felix DoBosz

By Felix DoBosz
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — For the month of July, the Broward Government Center in downtown Ft. Lauderdale is featuring a Seminole cultural exhibit. Broward County Mayor Ilene Lieberman, promoted this exhibit in conjunction with the Broward Historical commission, with significant artifacts courtesy of Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and it's director, David Blackard.

According to Kimberly Maroe, public information manager of Broward County, the display's purpose is to share knowledge about the history and traditions of the Seminole people with the community. This helps unite the community by showing diversity through a visual overview consisting of large historical photos, maps, and informative charts showing different time periods of the unconquered Seminole peoples' recent history.

"We have received many positive reactions from the public viewing of this great display," Maroe said. "People really seem to like it."

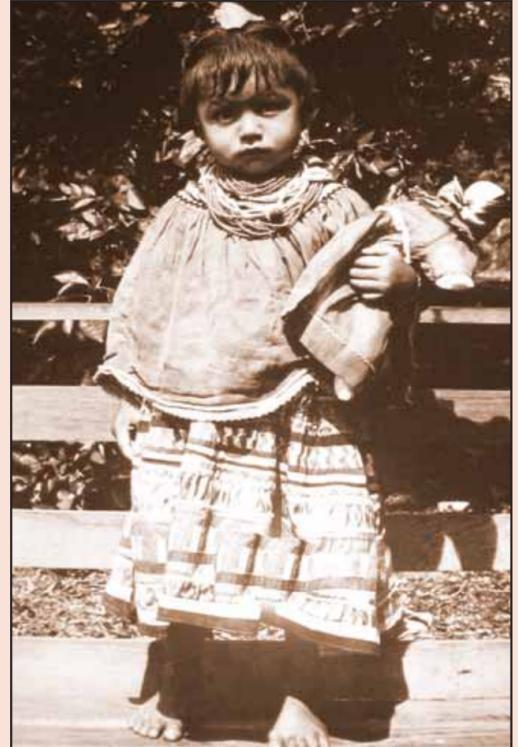
In a glass case were authentic wooden paddles used for stickball games played by Seminoles in the 19th century. Another case had one of the original Singer® sewing machines, in excellent condition, first used around the early part of the 20th century for making some of the colorful traditional costumes worn by the Seminoles. In another corner of the lobby was a dozen or so large black and white photos from different periods of history showing various Seminoles, frozen in time.

One photo displayed Priscilla Doctor Sayen as an adorable two-year-old child, tightly clutching her little doll. There was an old photo of a pretty young lady named Betty Mae Tiger from the late 1930s. She, off course, later went on to become well known as Dr. Betty Mae Jumper, who did so much to help the struggling tribe achieve the prosperity they enjoy today.

In the front part of the lobby, was a colorful costumed wax like statue of a Seminole warrior with his musket, dating back to circa 1835. The printed index card adjacent to the warrior said, "Seminole dress at the time was a distinctive mix of European materials and patterns combined with native élan."

In glass cases to the left were modern traditional colorful Seminole jackets and skirts that showed the evolution of Seminole fashions. There were a few interesting rare photos of a character also well known, named Shirt-Tail Charlie from the 1920s. The turning point historic photo from 1957 showed prominent Seminoles signing official documents proclaiming the U.S. Government's recognition of the entity known as The Seminole Tribe of Florida.

After this showing is concluded at the government center, there are plans to bring the display to the Broward West regional Library in Plantation, Fla., so that more people can enjoy and share in this historical experience.



Two-year-old Priscilla Doctor Sayen in 1942.

Felix DoBosz



A replica statue of a Seminole warrior, circa 1835.

Felix DoBosz



Nineteenth century Seminole artifacts, including baskets and wooden spoons.

Felix DoBosz

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