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Susan Etxebarría

Troy Cantu from Big Cypress and his pet goat.

## Highlights of the 20th Annual 4-H Show & Sale

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**BRIGHTON** — The 20th Annual 4-H Youth Livestock Show and Sale was held March 23–24 at the Brighton reservation's 4-H Barns. Seventy-five 4-Hers presented their animals. It marks the culmination of six to eight months of hard work in which each child faces many challenges. 4-H is an educational program in which children 8-18 "learn-by-doing."

The big winners this year of the 4-H awards are: Steer: Skyler Burke, Grand Champion; LeAnna Billie, Reserve Champion; Swine: Kiylier Baker, Grand Champion; Levi Billie, Reserve Champion; Junior Showmanship: Raven Osceola and Jaryaca Baker; Senior Showmanship:

❖ See 4-H, page 7



Janice Billie

Cows and cowboys on the last stretch of the 10th Annual Junior Cypress Cattle Drive.

## 10th Annual Junior Cypress Rodeo and Cattle Drive

### Jimmy Smith is Honorary Trail Boss

**By Judy Weeks**

**BIG CYPRESS** — March 25 turned out to be a perfect day for the 10th Annual Junior Cypress Rodeo and Cattle Drive. It was a crisp, cool morning that turned into a sunny, breezy day with temperatures remaining in the low 70s. With this type of weather the 12 mile route was relatively easy on the cattle and horses and very pleasant for the riders.

By 7 a.m. participants for this year's event began to arrive at the Billie Swamp Safari. They were greeted by Linda Tommie and Mindy Fish, who assisted them with registration and signing of release forms. Everyone received their attractive red bandana which displayed the Council and

Board logos for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, as well as the brands used by the Seminole cattlemen.

Next the riders consumed a delicious breakfast from the generous buffet at Billie Swamp Safari. There was an air of anticipation in the room which was filled with more than 150 prospective cowboys and cowgirls. The laughter and conversation were loud as the veterans of previous years instructed the newcomers on what to expect and entertained them with stories from the past.

With full stomachs they headed for the point of beginning at the end of West Boundary Road where approximately 100 head of cattle waited in the holding pens. At 10 a.m. sharp Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers mounted the refreshment wagon and welcomed the riders.

❖ See DRIVE, page 14

## 'Seminole Family' Bronze Sculpture Presentation

**By Chris Jenkins**

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** — In honoring the Seminole Tribe of Florida's pride and tradition, the R.A. Gray Building Heritage Gallery featured a cast bronze sculpture dedication entitled "Seminole Family" on March 15. This is part of the third annual Florida Heritage Month 2006, which runs through April 15.

Seminole Family depicted a family circa 1830. It is the second of four scheduled figural groups depicting the native peoples of Florida in their natural environment; last year's family was entitled, "Movin On" depicting a Miccosukee family. It shows the family walking along a path, with a man holding a rifle, a young boy and a woman carrying a small child.

The Seminole Family sculpture's setting is the Seminole War Era, and the family is concerned and watchful of U.S. soldiers in pursuit. The soldiers remain a constant threat, and are weighing heavy on the family's thoughts.

Their clothing is made from trade materials. The jewelry (Creek silver) is made by French Canadians traded to the Creeks and Seminoles. The man and boy are wearing gorgets, which are crescent-shaped pieces

❖ See BRONZE, page 6



Chris Jenkins

Miss Florida Seminole Christine McCall and Vice-Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Moses Osceola pose with one of the recent sculpture creations.

## RezDog Holds Calendar Shoot at Hard Rock

**By Chris Jenkins**

**HOLLYWOOD** — On March 9, The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino hosted some of the most talented and beautiful women of the Native American culture as part of the 2007 RezDog American Indian Calendar shoot. The Seminole Tribe of Florida is this year's featured Tribe.

In a competition that began with 200 young ladies nationwide, 12 of the best came to South Florida with three goals in mind: place a stronger focus and emphasis on the beauty of Indian women, showcase this year's calendar in an interesting setting and address the growing concern among

❖ See REZDOG, page 20



Felix DoBosz

At the RezDog American Indian Calendar shoot beautiful Native American women lined up in front of the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel.

## Emergency Services Holds Graduation, Badge Ceremony

### Tribal Citizen Ayze Henry Receives Firefighter Badge



Felix DoBosz

New Seminole Firefighter Ayze Henry and her family celebrate her graduation from the firefighter academy.

**By Felix DoBosz**

**HOLLYWOOD** — On March 10, the Seminole Tribe of Florida and The Seminole Tribe Department of Emergency Services graduated Class 06-01 and presented certificates and badges to the nine newest members. These brave men and women will serve and protect the Seminole Tribal citizens through these dedicated services.

The Seminole Police Departments' Color Guard presented the colors, followed by the traditional invocation read in Miccosukee by Mary Jene Koenes. Director of Emergency Services Armando Negrin then welcomed everyone to the graduating ceremonies.

"We honor our first Tribal member that has joined our ranks here today, a young lady that I had the great pleasure of meeting about four years ago," he said. "She walked into the fire station full of curiosity and she asked many questions. Those questions were resolved, and that's why she's here today to receive her badge, to become a member of this family."

Negrin was speaking about Ayze Henry,

❖ See AWARDS, page 5

## Tribal Board Holds Community Meeting

**By Iretta Tiger**

**HOLLYWOOD** — On March 3 Hollywood Board Representative Gloria Wilson hosted a community meeting in the Hollywood gymnasium.

At the start of the meeting Wilson's staff gave each Tribal citizen present a folder. Inside the folders was a synopsis of Board projects. Models of phase one and the master plan for the proposed Brighton Bay Resort were also on display for everyone to inspect.

The first announcement of the evening was the sad news that the Tribe no longer has a suite at the Bank Atlantic Center which was formerly known as the Office Depot Center.

Wilson further explained that even though the suite is gone, the Board has purchased tickets for future events but in limited amounts. Tickets will be distributed on a first come first serve basis to tribal citizens only. Tickets for several Hard Rock concerts are also available through Wilson's office.

The Bank Atlantic Center concert schedule is as follows: April 8: John Hancock Champions on Ice; April 13, Black Eyed Peas; April 22, Cirque du Soleil-Delirium; April 27, Kenny Chesney; April 27, Tim McGraw & Faith Hill; June 4. The Seminole Hard Rock concert schedule is: April 6: Heart, May 7: Alan Jackson.

The Seminole Market Place at the Okalee Indian Village will resume for a weekend each month and are looking for vendors. The dates for the Marketplace are April 15–16, May 13–14 and June 10–11. For more information call (954) 797-5437.

Wilson is sponsoring Dale Carnegie Courses for business training. Several different classes are available such as Leadership Training for Managers and Self-Motivation for Success. For more information contact O'Hara Tommie at (954) 797-5466.

On April 5 in the Tribal auditorium lobby will be a seminar on how design a website. This class is geared toward the small business owner. The class starts at 12 pm. For more information contact O'Hara Tommie.

Looking for something to do with the children? Seminole Okalee Indian Village is sponsoring the South Florida Parenting and Hoffman's Chocolate Eggstravaganza on April 8–9. The event will take place at the South Florida Fairgrounds Yesteryear in West Palm Beach.

❖ See BOARD, page 6





Can you guess who this person is?

### Swamp

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

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

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

### Previous Photo Quiz

**Maggie Osceola**

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### Correction

In the March 17 issue, page 1, Mitchell Cypress is a Veteran of the Vietnam-Era and not a Vietnam War Veteran.

# Survey of the Seminoles of Florida

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

## Exert 5, Part 1: The Florida Seminole and his Environment

SEMINOLE SURVEY OF 1930  
By Roy Nash

### CHAPTER I A TYPICAL CAMP OF 1930

#### SECTION 5 THE SQUAW

Sally Cypress is a woman of 38, a tall woman 5 feet 9 or 10. Although she has given birth nine times, she still carries herself erect; generously fleshed, she yet moves with vigor and alertness. Her costume consists of a skirt, a chemise with sleeves, and a cape. Neither shoes nor stockings nor hats are worn. The skirt sweeps the ground. The chemise slips over the head and hangs down just enough to cover the breasts. The cape covers the elbows and meets the waist-band of the skirt. A costume dictated by a modesty veritably mid-Victorian. Its structure marks the Seminole as a human being altogether original and unique. In making a gown, or a shirt for her husband, The Seminole woman starts with cotton cloths of many colors, but for the most part solid colors, not patterns. These she tears into strips from a quarter of an inch to 3 inches wide. With her Singer sewing machine she concocts a marvelous confection. The strips run horizontally; but within the strip may be diamonds, vertical elements, and rarely decorations in curves. I have before me a skirt in nowise unusual where 44 bands of color meet the eye between hem and waistband.

It sounds horrible; actually it is magnificent, a thing of barbaric splendor. His costume is the reaction of a strong man against monotony. Driven by force of superior arms and numbers to the dreariest of all North American environments, the Seminole has made himself as colorful as the parrots in the Amazon jungle.

"Life shall be colorful, even in the Big Cypress Swamp," his soul has proclaimed, and deft fingers have executed the mandate.

pyramid extends from shoulder blades to chin. Twenty-five pounds and a few ounces one set was found to weigh. She takes most of them off at night, but she would no more appear in camp without them in the morning the she would without her skirt.

Now a skirt that sweeps the ground and 25 pounds of decoration about the neck would seem but poor preparation for a hard day's work. Yet I have seen this Sally Cypress leave camp at 9 in the morning with an umbrella in one hand and 2 feet of quarter-inch rope in the other and be gone until 9 at night, long after dark. On inquiring where she had been, I learned that she had been catching her young pigs, marking and castrating. For the Seminole woman is absolute mistress of her own property, and is frequently wealthier in the matter of hogs than her husband.

Built on such stuff, it is not surprising to find that childbirth with this woman is no such ordeal of prolonged agony as with white woman. As the day approaches, she builds a palmetto shelter wherever she can find a dry bit of land a hundred yards or two from camp, drives a stake in the ground to grasp with her hands, and if none of her women folk are about to assist, she goes off alone and has her child.



Typical Seminole camp.

Perley Poore Sheehan, an Irish novelist who went into the Big Cypress with Brandon 12 years ago:

And the Seminoles—say, they reminded me more than anything else of the peasants of the west coast of Ireland, gentle mystics, with a great sense of humor, believers in "the little people," in ghosts and signs, hearers and voices, seers and visions.

#### SECTION 7: BILLY FEWELL

By far the most interesting member of Guava Camp remains to be mentioned, Billy Fewell, the father of Sally Cypress. Whether he is 83, as the census states, or 100 as some of his many friends aver, makes little difference. He is old. Old enough to remember that May 4 in 1858 when the Grey Cloud, bearing Billy Bowlegs and 163 of his kinsmen, sailed out of Fort Myers bearing the last of the Seminole emigrants into exile west of the Mississippi.

This grand old man was a famous character 50 years ago, when Clay MacCauley was here, for he had earned the name of "Key West Billy" by paddling a dugout canoe from Miami to Key West, remaining a fortnight there among the whites.

I shall never forget the dignity, the courtesy with which he received me, a stranger, as a guest in his camp. I had no claim upon his hospitality, yet when Whitney hung up a carcass of venison the second day of my visit, Billy came over to my tent and bade me help myself. He speaks English fairly well and we had long talks together.

Of a morning Billy was usually the first one up and about. He would cut a handful of brush, tie it together, and with this improvised broom sweep the whole area between the buildings and about the fire. He always ate at my table, and he seemed partial to my comfortable camp chairs, for the Seminole camp lacks this convenience. I used to pass cigars after meals; old Billy's asthma was bothering him too much for him to smoke, but he always took one and hid it away in the thatch above his bed.

That cough. One night it rained in torrents. Old Billy stretched a muslin sheet about his bed, but I knew the rain was driving through upon him. And all night long above the tattoo upon my tight silk tent I heard that cough.

He was in this camp by right of tribal custom. He was the father of Sally Cypress. Yet I had the feeling that the burden of the years, a mouth to be fed after a man's hunting days are done, takes from old age some of the kindness which from kin should be its due.



Whitney and Sally Cypress by a chickee 1943.

#### SECTION 6: CHILDREN OF THE CYPRESS

Of the 9 children born to Whitney and Sally Cypress, 5 live and 4 have paid the penalty of being born to primitive parents crouched on the edge of the Big Cypress Swamp. The living are Suc-la-ti-kee, a daughter of 16; See-ho-kee, her sister, two years younger; Che-na-see, a girl of 9; a son and heir aged 11; and a lad of 7.

The competence of the two older sisters is admirable. Whitney comes in from the hunt and throws down a great turtle. Suc-la-ti-kee turns off the phonograph, finds a knife, dresses the turtle, and has it roasting beside a slow fire within 10 minutes; no hurrying, no false moves. I wanted a cape to go with a certain skirt that I was buying. She sat down to a hand sewing machine and with deft fingers in two hours time cut, sewed and finished a garment which in workmanship, in color combinations, in line was a delight. All the cooking was done by these girls with the same ease. Like all women by the stream in warm climates, they make of washing clothes, a lark. And then they sit for hours on end and play the phonograph. They differ from white girls of the same age in that they prefer cigars to cigarettes, and in their ability to hitch up an oxen and walk unaccompanied by man, the 45 miles to Immokalee and back, camping by the way.

All these children are as we would like our own to be in their good nature, their playfulness, in the respect they show their elders, in their essential modesty and good breeding. As we sat about the campfire in the evening and I listened to their low voices or merry laugh, I saw the appropriateness of the remark of



Charlie Cypress

There is yet another element o the woman's costume as remarkable as her gown. I refer not to the fact of beads about her neck but to the quantity of beads. String after string after string, until a solid

## Letters & E-mail

Please send all letters to 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024  
tribune@semtribe.com

Dear Editor,  
Do you have bingo at the Immokalee Casino?  
Sincerely,  
Diane Cain

Dear Ms. Cain,  
Unfortunately, we discontinued our bingo program last year. We do have more than 745 gaming machines and 18 poker tables, so make sure you come out to see us!

Good luck,  
Dean Stone  
Immokalee Casino

Dear Editor,  
Are there any motels or hotels near the Immokalee Casino?  
Sincerely,  
James Hall

Dear Mr. Hall,  
There are many hotels in nearby Fort Myers and Naples to choose from. If you would like to stay right in Immokalee not far from the casino, I suggest the Immokalee Inn.

Good luck,  
Dean Stone  
Immokalee Casino

Dear Editor,  
I always believed that the Seminoles were a Florida Indian Tribe. But, according to a teacher's statement in a class about Florida writers, there's no such thing as Seminole Indians. Florida's Indians are in fact some other named Tribe. Please comment.  
Sincerely,  
Sue Wells

Dear Ms. Wells,  
You are correct and in fact our official name is "Seminole Tribe of Florida." You may ask your teacher to clarify their statement and/or to call me. My name is Tina Marie Osceola and she can reach me through my assistant, Sheryl Mausen at (863)902-1113. If I am not available, she may call Willard Steele, the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Tribal historic preservation officer at the same number.

Sincerely,  
Tina Osceola  
Executive Director  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
Seminole Tribe of Florida

Dear Editor,  
We are coming to your area in Dec. 2006 and would be interested in stay-

ing at your park for a month. Could you please send us availability we will be two rigs?

Thank you,  
Margaret Pidduck

Dear Ms. Pidduck,  
Thank you for your e-mail. Yes we do have two sites for Dec. 2006. You can call me toll free at (800) 437-4102 for more information.

Thank you,  
Barbara Salyer  
Big Cypress RV Park

Dear Seminole Tribe,  
Greetings! I just wanted to send a quick note to thank you and the individuals that took the time and effort to put together the packages you sent. The contents of the packages were distributed within my platoon. They are a great bunch of soldiers that come from all over the state (as far as Miami) but are mostly from the Ocala area. Just FYI, I have one Native American Eric in my platoon. He is of the Sioux tribe. His family comes from the Dakotas. Again, thank you for your support; it was deeply appreciated by the soldiers. God Bless and take care.  
SFC Meisenheimer  
Platoon Sergeant

## 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-In-Chief Virginia Mitchell at (800) 683-

7800, Ext. 1260. E-mail [vmitchell@semtribe.com](mailto:vmitchell@semtribe.com), fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

The following deadlines apply to all submissions for inclusion into the Tribune:

Issue: April 28, 2006  
Deadline: April 13, 2006

Issue: May 19, 2006  
Deadline: May 4, 2006

Issue: June 9, 2006  
Deadline: May 24, 2006

Issue: June 30, 2006  
Deadline: June 15, 2006

Please note: Late submissions will be posted in the following issue.

Advertising:  
Advertising rates along with sizes and other information may be downloaded from the internet at:  
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Postmaster:  
Send Address Changes to:  
The Seminole Tribune  
6300 Stirling Road  
Hollywood, FL 33024

Editor-In-Chief: Virginia Mitchell  
Editor: Janice Billie  
Assistant Editor: Shelley Marmor  
Proofreader: Elrod Bowers  
Business Manager: Darline Buster  
Graphic Designer: Melissa Sherman  
Design Assistant: Stephen Galla  
Production Assistant: Lila Osceola  
Reporter: Chris Jenkins  
Photo Archivist: Felix DoBosz  
Receptionist: Sherry Maraj

Contributors:  
Emma Brown, Judy Weeks, Kenny Bayon, Tony Heard, Iretta Tiger, Nery Mejicano, Susan Etxebarría

### The Seminole Tribune

is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Letters/e-mails to the editor must be signed and may be edited for publication. Subscription rate is \$30 per year by mail. Make checks payable to The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024. Phone: (954) 967-3416. Fax: (954) 967-3482. Or subscribe on the Internet at [www.seminoletribe.com](http://www.seminoletribe.com)  
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# Residents Plant Community Garden

## Master Gardener Teaches Proper Growing

By Susan Etxebarría  
BRIGHTON —

A large community garden has been created at the 4-H grounds at the Brighton reservation. Three large plots were cultivated and prepared for spring planting in early March. Already rows of seeds have been started in some of the plots.

Any resident of Brighton is invited to participate in the community garden project. Anyone, along with their friends and family members, can participate and grow anything they please. Each person will be assigned a plot and everyone is invited to come see the gardens as they grow.

Students from First Indian Baptist Academy are picking up the hoe, rakes and shovels and learning from a qualified instructor.

Master gardener Lee Roundtree is teaching how to grow the best possible vegetables.

Roundtree was born and raised in Moore Haven, Fla. Few people have a greener thumb than this gardener, a retired military man. His vegetable gardens have been well known throughout the region for their abundance and good quality. He has sold many homegrown vegetables over the years to neighbors and residents.

He has had his own vegetable stands on US 27 at different times when a location was available but mostly people drive right up to his house. He hopes the students will get the same sense of pride and accomplishment that he gets from growing a beautiful garden. It is always a great feeling to put food on the table that you raised yourself.

“We will start the garden when the winter weather starts to break up, after the cold,” Roundtree told the students on March 9. “We will start planting by the moon. Plants that grow above the ground will be planted on the new moon; the plants that grow below the ground we will plant after the full moon.”

He explained to the students that he enriches the soil with horse manure and 6-6-6 fertilizer.

“Raking takes a lot of patience and a lot of time,” he said.

Tribal Extension Agent Michael Bond helped get the garden project started with the support of 4-H Coordinator Polly Hayes Osceola. Bond spoke to the



Susan Etxebarría

Master Gardener Lee Roundtree (left) prepares the soil for planting.

FIBA students about modern day agriculture and traditional Tribal agriculture. He said in the garden they will also experiment in traditional Tribal agriculture in which corn, beans and squash will all grow in the same hole.

“We want this to be a fun hands-on experience for the kids,” said Bond.

FIBA Pastor Wonder Johns also offered some words on the importance of a garden.

“This will teach the kids where vegetables come from, not from the grocery stores,” Johns, who came along with the children to see the project, said. “They will learn how hard it is to grow crops and I believe it will encourage them to stay in school.”

Johns said kids need to see for themselves what kind of hard work they might have to do some day to make a living if they do not further their education.

Polly Hayes Osceola said that some of the students may want to be farmers one day and this is how they learn about the values of hard work and responsibility. Bond said it also teaches about the “cycles of life” and caring for the land and living plants.

“They learn to nurture a living thing and see it grow,” she said.

Anyone interested in getting involved can call Michael Bond or Polly Hayes Osceola at (863) 763-5020 for information.



Susan Etxebarría

Tribal Extension Agent Michael Bond (left) gives instructions.

## Easter Events in Seminole Country

### Big Cypress

Hot Meals  
April 13, 10 a.m.  
Egg Hunt, Door Prizes, Basket Contest and Bingo

Easter Egg Hunt  
BC Preschool  
April 14

### Brighton

Easter Egg Hunt  
Brighton Preschool  
Contact Cathie Huff for date

Easter Bonnet Contest and Egg Hunt  
April 6, 10 a.m.  
Lunch served at 12 noon

### Immokalee

Easter Party  
Immokalee Preschool  
April 14

Community Easter Celebration  
Softball Field  
April 15, 10 a.m.  
Horseshoe tournament, Water balloon toss, Foot race, Egg hunt, Relay, Lunch provided

### Hollywood

Easter Egg Hunt  
Hollywood Preschool  
April 7, 9 a.m.–11:30 a.m.



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# Alice Snow Teaches Doll Making

**By Susan Etxebarria**  
**BRIGHTON** — Alice Snow hosted a Seminole doll making class at her Brighton home on March 13. Among the women present were Agnes Bert, Rosie Billie, Jenny Johns Garcia and Alice Billie.

The women were making palmetto dolls to remember their traditions, and just for the fun of it. Garcia recalled the days when it wasn't just for fun.

"When we were kids we sat cross legged around a tarp making dolls to sell, not for play," said Garcia.

For many hours they helped their mothers create these popular items to sell. It was a lot of work. It still is. Sweat also recalled having to work as a child not having the advantages children have today.

"There were no movies, no once a week trip into town, no candy," she said.



Susan Etxebarria  
**Little doll heads made out of palmetto fiber are assembled.**



Susan Etxebarria  
**Alice Snow cuts the dried palmetto fiber she previously prepared.**

Snow seemed to know that it's more fun to make dolls in groups just as it was done years ago. Almost all the women present had made palmetto dolls but it was long ago and they had forgotten some of the techniques. Snow has special savvy about doll making.

It is a craft of originality; not all doll makers create the same design or use the same materials. Snow is an elder, a member of the Bird clan. She learned to make dolls from her mother, Emma Micco.

The craft of doll making has been a popular activity since the early 1900s after it became extremely difficult for Seminoles to make a decent living. Traditional income-producing occupations such as trapping and hunting were outlawed and after the Florida swamps were drained to provide land for accelerating development wild game became scarce.

Many Seminoles turned to tourism for an income. Today the enormous success of the Seminole Tribe in the tourism and hospitality industry is directly linked to these resourceful Tribal members who learned how to take advantage of a changing situation. In her own modest way Alice Snow's mother was one of these early entrepreneurs who produced crafts for the tourist trade.

There were many Florida tourists and collec-

tors of handcrafted Indian art who would buy the dolls. The importance of the dolls is their immense historical value. Each doll is made to accurately portray the clothing and hairstyle worn by traditional Seminole men and women over the decades. Today the dolls continue to be one of the favorite items at pow-wow events, Tribal festivals and Tribally-owned gift shops.

The price tag on a Seminole palmetto doll may have gone up over the decades but the labor involved still outweighs the earnings. To make a doll, depending on its size, can take up to 10 hours of labor, or more. Today, making the dolls is a labor of love rather than one of necessity.

A week before the doll making class, Sweat had asked some of the men on staff at the Community Care for the Elderly (CCE) to go out into the woods and cut down the trunk or the boot of a palmetto tree and bring it back to Snow's house to dry out. The boot provides the material to make the doll's head and torso.

On Snow's back porch piles of palmetto fiber were spread out on the floor as the women gathered around. Snow used palmetto fiber instead of cotton for the stuffing as some doll makers do; wrapped a piece of palmetto fiber around the stuffing to make the head, and then tied it off with the string also made from palmetto fiber leaving a little mantle of palmetto fiber where the body can be attached.

In less than two hours the women made 36 doll heads which Snow threaded together on one long string of red thread. Snow explained how she will make many dolls in a type of assembly line process.

First she makes the heads, then strings them all together on one single long red thread creating little red mouths on each face as she proceeds. The next step is to string the doll heads again with a long black thread to make the pupils of the eyes. Then she strings a white thread to make the whites of the eyes.

Sometimes the same process is used to make eyebrows. After the faces have been finished, she cuts off the threads that connect the string of doll heads.

Next, the heads are individually attached to the cone-shaped bodies that are also made from the palmetto fibers. Once the heads and bodies



Susan Etxebarria  
**Agnes Bert and Alice Sweat made 36 doll heads in less than 2 hours.**



Susan Etxebarria  
**Jenny Garcia sews the palmetto fiber together assembling the neck.**

# Seminole Citizen Opens Home Décor Business

## Cowboys and Indians Trading Company Celebrates Grand Opening

**By Emma Brown**  
**BRIGHTON** — Kay Braswell of the Brighton reservation is proud to announce the opening of her new store Cowboys and Indians Trading Company. Kay is the daughter of Stanlo and Jonnie Johns also of the Brighton reservation.

Kay, and her partner Joys Surls of Okeechobee, Fla., have put many hours into creating a store with western flair that caters to those who enjoy a sophisticated country style. Kay's new store features beautiful country style furniture, western home décor, western attire and belts, bling bling jewelry, saddle pads, and much more.

The store is located in Okeechobee, Fla. on Hwy 441 north next to Glades Gas and celebrated its grand opening on Friday March 10.

They are open Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. If you are ever in Okeechobee, stop by



Emma Brown  
**Kay Braswell standing in front of one of her creations at the grand opening.**

Cowboys and Indians Trading Company and show your support for a fellow Tribal citizen.

Congratulations and Good luck to you Kay, may you have much success.

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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Guy J. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the 22nd and 23rd Judicial Circuits in Broward County; he has been in private practice for 16 years. He graduated from Palm Beach Community College in 1987 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990.

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**Class 06-01 Firefighter graduates earn badge and certificate at swearing-in ceremonies at Tribal HQ.**  
Felix DoBosz

## ❖ Awards

Continued from page 1

Bird Clan, from Big Cypress reservation. In addition to Henry, the following is a list of the rest of the Class 06-01 graduates: Benjamin Bauer, EMT, Daniel Conti, Firefighter/EMT, Christopher Diaz, Firefighter/EMT, Juan Carlos Gomez, Firefighter/EMT, Stephen Luongo, Firefighter/EMT, Michael Marazzani,



**Boca Raton's Lt. Norm Engel pins badge to Bryan Stepanenko, fulfilling his lifelong dream.**  
Felix DoBosz

Firefighter/EMT, Bryan Stepanenko, Firefighter/EMT, Javier Valdes, Firefighter/Paramedic.

"...We have many fine young men here who have chosen to perform the most satisfying and rewarding job that I know, and that's being a Firefighter," Negrin said.

Negrin went on to thank the entire community and each individual council member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida for their continued support and cooperation. A five minute video showed the class doing various activities at the Fire Training Academy. It out-

lined the hard work and dedication the group put in to their training.

A heart-felt moment of the ceremony came with new Firefighter Bryan Stepanenko's story. Stepanenko was diagnosed with leukemia in 1989 when he was just three years-old. Boca Raton Fire-Rescue Firefighter Norm Engel, a volunteer at the time for the Make-a-Wish Foundation, arranged a VIP trip to Disney World for young Bryan and his family to enjoy.

Amazingly for young Bryan the cancer went into remission, but Stepanenko never forgot his hero who inspired him and helped him fight the odds at such a critical time in his early life. He and Engel bonded through their Make-A-Wish experience, though throughout the years lost touch with each other. However, Stepanenko never forgot the firefighter who befriended him and inspired him to become a firefighter.

A second video played showing a photo montage of Bryan Stepanenko growing up, while Mariah Carey's song "Hero" played in the background. It traced Stepanenko past, from getting the horrible news of leukemia. However, the video also featured hopeful photos and headlines of Stepanenko with his hero going to Disney World with the Make-a-Wish Foundation and surviving cancer.

Finally, the video depicted photos of Stepanenko growing up through the years and playing sports in school. He was seen finally fulfilling his lifelong dream of attending the fire academy.

Ironically, that evening they met again after so many years. Boca Raton Fire-Rescue Lieutenant Norm Engel presented the Seminole firefighter's badge to a 20 year old spirited young man who beat the odds.

Stepanenko was also chosen as the class leader by his academy instructors. He said he was honored and privileged by this. Upon seeing his old friend Norm Engel, the two hugged and smiled as everyone in the auditorium applauded warmly and enjoyed this wonderfully emotional story.

## SPD Crime Prevention Tour Visits the Rez

By Felix DoBosz  
HOLLYWOOD

— A large white Seminole Police Department (SPD) trailer was parked behind the Hollywood Headquarters Building stacked with public information materials for the community.

On March 15, SPD exhibited safety programs that will assist them in making useful and positive decisions to protect Tribal citizens, their families and their property.

It's estimated that 75-100 Tribal citizens stopped by to get information they can use, plus free small gifts were also handed out along with an assortment of pamphlets, home security with crime prevention info, and for the little ones, a Say No to Strangers coloring book.

Sergeant Al Signore of the SPD Crime Prevention Unit said: "The crime prevention program started here with just myself, and now we have two officers, and another joining our unit beginning next month. We are here to teach people how not



**SPD's Crime Prevention Unit: (L-R) Sgt. Al Signore, Capt. Gerald Meisenhimer, Ofc. Susie Lawson, and Ofc. Ulysses Boldin**  
Felix DoBosz

Basically, if we could help one person today, I would say, please if you have any kind of problem or trouble with anybody in your neighborhood, please let us know, we will try and help you, please if you see anything that you think is a crime or is just not right or might be suspicious, please don't hesitate to call your police department no matter what reservation your on, and we'll send somebody there.

"We are here in crime prevention to improve our relationship with the community, to work along with the community, we have a program now called Neighborhood Watch and we want the community to be protected and assist them with their crime prevention needs."

Officer Ulysses Boldin from the Crime Prevention Unit demonstrated SPD's new "PC the Patrol Car" a three-foot-tall radio controlled replica of an SPD squad car. It was complete with red and blue lights on the top with a siren and a remote speaker system to interact with children of all ages. He used this device to attract more visitors to the SPD exhibit while people drove by slowly through the parking lot in their cars.

Crime Prevention Unit Officer Susie Lawson said, "We are basically here today to talk to the community about all the programs concerning crime prevention. We want to focus on programs especially for the kids, such as stranger awareness and how not to become a victim of a burglary or assault. We want to show the community that we are out here for them, protecting and serving the Rez community."

Boldin added, "Basically, the tools we are using here today will hopefully foster a better relationship with the community. We will be going out to the Brighton Rez next month to bring them the safety awareness and show them how not to be a victim of crime."



**Ofc. Ulysses Boldin shows remote car to Joel Frank Sr.**  
Felix DoBosz

to become victims of crime. We have different programs that explain this to you, some of the programs we have coming up for pre-school kids are the Child ID system, Puppet shows that teach and entertain, the robot car, that's fairly new, and we have this new trailer that will be visiting all the reservations.

"We are working on a lot of things; it just takes time to develop all these new programs.

  
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**Ozzfest**  
**Kenny Chesney**  
**The New Cars & Blondie**  
**Dave Matthews Band**  
**Miami Heat**





The second unveiling of sculptural groups entitled "Seminole Family" showing a family of four (man in front with rifle, son with bow and arrow, and wife with child) circa 1830 walking along a path.

## ❖ Bronze

Continued from page 1

of armor used to protect the throat. The device is carried down from the British and is similar to armor from the French and Indian Wars.

The inspiration behind the figures creation came from the father and son duo of Brad Cooley and Brad Cooley Jr., of Cooley Bronze Sculptures in Lamont, Fla. The self-taught elder Cooley makes large bronze sculptures of animal wildlife and other figures in Native American legend. In 1986, Cooley Jr. joined his father and has since helped to create 37 life-sized and monumental figures found in parks, museums, and

added his thoughts.

"We have worked all across the country, but we prefer the southeast," he said. "Our favorite subject is the Florida Seminole Tribe."

The year-long process of making the figures began with layering clay over a foundation armature of wood and metal. More clay was applied and molded until they were satisfied with their vision. Once the clay was complete to specific detail, they were prepared for casting by master mold-maker, Carla Knight of Denver, Colo. The rubber molds of the figures were then sent to the foundry, Bronze Services of Loveland, Colo.

Wax was then poured into the molds to recreate a positive image. Ceramic molds were then cast over the wax figures and heated to melt out the wax in preparation for the pouring of molten bronze at around 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

Once the ceramic molds were broke away, the bronze figures were reassembled, cleaned, and finished with coloring, called patina. The bronze thickness on each figure is approximately three-sixteenths of an inch.

In attendance for the presentation was the Tribal President Moses Osceola. He felt the sculptures were beautiful and inspire pride for the Seminole people.



Vice Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Moses Osceola (far left), Brad Cooley Sr. (left), Florida State University President T.K. Wetherell, and Brad Cooley Jr. pose with one of the most recent cast creations.

corporations all across the U.S.

Brad Cooley Sr. says Indian and Seminole traditions have always been important to him.

"We have Seminole history and heritage in our family," Cooley Sr. said.

Echoing his father's remarks, Cooley Jr.

it gives us a good presence here for the public of the Tribe," Osceola said. "It's a great depiction of representing us today."

Next year's sculptures will depict the European incursion period, followed in 2008 by the Paleo Man period, known as the oldest Native Americans on record the U.S.



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

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

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

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

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

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

## Palm Beach County's EGGstravaganza Returns

*Presented by Seminole Okalee Indian Village, South Florida Parenting and Hoffman's Chocolates*

Submitted by Sandy Betlach, South Florida Parenting

**TAMARAC, FL** — It's bigger, its better, and its back. It's the Second Annual EGGstravaganza, presented by Seminole Okalee Indian Village, *South Florida Parenting Magazine* and Hoffman's Chocolates. Kids and families can enjoy a weekend of fun, food and games at Palm Beach County's biggest egg hunt and family festival.

This year's EGGstravaganza promises to provide more family-friendly food, more activities and more space to play. EGGstravaganza will take place April 8-9 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Yesteryear Village on the South Florida Fairgrounds. Admission is \$7 per adult and child. Children under 18 months are free. All activities are included with admission and parking is free.

This two day event will feature on-going egg hunts, face painting, pony rides, bungee jumps, barnyard animals, a mini car track, a giant slide, live entertainment and of course plenty of games and crafts. Hoffman's Chocolates will furnish the egg hunt and prizes. Photos with the Easter Bunny and family-

friendly food will be available for purchase.

EGGstravaganza will take place at the South Florida Fairground's Yesteryear Village, a charming replica of an old-fashioned small town. Volunteers in period costumes will conduct village tours, play old-fashioned games, make traditional pioneer crafts, and give unique demonstrations. In addition, dozens of exhibitors will distribute information and educational materials, as well as display products and discuss services especially for families.

Part of the proceeds from EGGstravaganza will benefit The Children's Place (TCP) at Home Safe. The Children's Place at Home Safe is a non-profit organization that has been serving the abused and neglected children of Palm Beach County for more than 25 years.

*South Florida Parenting* and Hoffman's Chocolates invite local entertainers, storytellers and actors to participate in the EGGstravaganza. Volunteers are needed for the egg hunt and other activities. To participate as an entertainer, exhibitor, sponsor or volunteer, contact Sandy Betlach at [sfparenting.com](mailto:sfparenting.com) or at (800) 244-8447.

## Mary Tiger Celebrates Birthday in Style

By Iretta Tiger

**HOLLYWOOD** — It was such a special occasion that special menus were printed for the event. The place was the Council Oak and the event was Mary Tiger's 89th birthday.

On March 20 the Tiger's, the Tommie's, the Kippenberger's and the Osceola's gathered to honor this feisty matron. Among the guests were tribal officials Board President Moses Osceola, Councilman Max B. Osceola, Jr. and Chairman Mitchell Cypress.



Mary and her son James blow out the candle.



Gift basket from Mitchell Cypress

One special guest was Dancing Joe. It could be said that Dancing Joe is the unofficial Miami Heat mascot; he tap dances at Miami Heat home games. On this night he danced for Tiger and gave her a hug and a kiss afterwards. He also danced for Tiger's guests.

This party marks the last time Tiger "will go out" in public. So from now on we'll have to bring the party to her.

Happy birthday grandma!

## Spring Break Pool Party in Brighton

By Susan Etxebarria

**BRIGHTON** — As the weather started heating up in mid-March the students had fun during their spring break thanks the Brighton Recreation department. During the week off from school and homework there were lots of pool parties at the Tribe's Olympic size swimming pool.

Three spring break pool parties, starting at about 9 a.m. and lasting until about 3 p.m., were organized for all the kids. At least 30 to 40 kids showed up to swim and have a lot of fun playing games such as water basketball, water volleyball and competing in relay races in the pool.

"Everyday we had a crowd at the pool," said Pool Supervisor Judy Jones.

Jones said more and more kids are coming to the pool and learning to swim.



Watching for the ball to drop are Delaney Osceola, Tommy Jackson Jr., Taylor Boyette, Dylan Chalfant, Richard Smith, and Jayce Smith.

## ❖ Board

Continued from page 1

The Board is getting ready to expand its business portfolio with a few big projects.

In June 2006 the Board will open a convenience store on the Hollywood reservation. The location of the store will be at the former World Ford property. The convenience store will also contain a car wash and gas pumps. The store will also be equipped with a generator in case of power loss. Positions are available and applications are now being accepted.

Big plans are being proposed for the Brighton reservation. The first project will be a Brighton Motel which is planned to be built on the "Industrial Park" which is south of the Cattle and Range Office. The motel will provide 108 rooms, banquet and conference rooms, a business center, restaurant and lounge and overnight parking and facilities for 18 wheelers, RVs and horse trailers. Groundbreaking for the hotel should be within the next six to eight months.

The next proposed project for Brighton is the Brighton Bay Resort.

Brighton Bay will be a five star resort which will contain approximately 250-300 rooms, a state-of-the-art RV park, a sports complex, an 18-hole golf course, shopping complex, a kid's center, extended stay housing and more. The project is 3,000 acres which will be on the south end of the reservation which used to contain a parcel once owned by a tribal citizen, the turtle farm, sugarcane fields and pastureland.

Some may think of Brighton as an odd place for a resort but the group who provided studies for the Hard Rock conducted studies for Brighton Bay and the results were favorable.

If approved the project could take up to five years to complete.

A possibility for some of the land accrued for Brighton Bay would be for housing for Tribal citizens. The housing project would

contain townhomes for singles or couples, smaller homes for new families, mid-sized homes for slightly larger families and estates for bigger families.

Lot sizes would differ with each area with the estates containing the largest lots at one-and-a-half acres.

Wilson then gave updates on the Land Use and Development Ordinance of 1992 and the cattle program. She has also set a tentative date for a shareholder's meeting. The date is June 17 and it will be for Hollywood shareholders.

Wilson then made a special announcement. "Looking at the Tribe I see Tribal members who have been working for the Tribe for a long time and they have not been recognized; a majority of them are women," said Wilson. "To show our appreciation for their contribution to the Tribe we're sending five selected women to San Juan, Puerto Rico to attend a leadership conference."

The conference will be on March 27-28. Congratulations to those who were selected.

If you have any questions or would like more information about any of the above mentioned issues contact Hollywood Board Representative Gloria Wilson at (954) 967-5584.



Rendition of proposed Brighton Bay Resort.

Iretta Tiger



❖ **4-H**

**Continued from page 1**

LeAnna Billie and Mark Arriaga.

Many know that 4-H teaches youth to be reliable, dependable and responsible. If a child neglects the care and feeding of their animals, they fail in their objectives. We often don't think about all the work that 4-H parents also have to take on their shoulders to help their children



Susan Extebarria  
Stevie Brantley cares for her hog Sweetie.

successfully raise a barnyard animal. Children need guidance and direction; they always need a second pair of helping hands; especially if the child is bedridden with a cold or is gone one night to play basketball or softball.

"It was really challenging," said parent Connie Haught of Brighton. "I didn't realize it would be so hard."



Susan Extebarria  
Skyler Burke gets ribbon presented by Jewel Buck for Grand Steer.

Her eight-year-old daughter, Skyler Burke, was a big winner this year. What is amazing is that it is Skyler's first year in 4-H. Her steer named Trixter placed grand-the champion of champions; it weighed 695 pounds when Skyler got the black Brangus calf from her uncle Amos Tiger's ranch. After months of care, Trixter's ending weight was 1,190.

Her steer was an exceptional animal that even the judge, Brian Dreyden, said he would buy. The judge told the audience during the show that Trixter had a lot of muscle mass and was really filled out; a very "finished" steer.

Skyler, smiling and confident, shined in the show ring as she led the obedient Trixter in front of the crowd and the judge. For her mom, 4-H was a matter of good parenting-and getting lots of help.

"She's come a long, long way," said Haught. "We were hard on her; we had to stay on her to keep up with her chores and her assignments."

She said her boyfriend, Shawn McCormack, worked with Skyler more than she did, but there were other family members and friends who gave them assistance and advice when they needed it.

"It took a group effort with us because we were new to 4-H," she said. "I wasn't in 4-H when I was a kid and we didn't know what to do."

Haught said she especially wanted to thank Amos and Lanell Tiger, and Billie Tiger for helping Skyler.

"Everyday after school, after my homework, I had to lead Trixter around about 30 minutes a day," said Burke. "I had to feed him. We spent a lot of money on feed. I really love my steer. You can go right up to him and pet him."

President of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., Moses Osceola affirmed that parents make a difference in their children's lives. At the buyer's dinner, before the sale on Friday evening, he told the large gathering of buyers and families that 4-H parents play an important role in 4-H.

"I want to thank the parents for all their participation," Osceola said.

Another set of parents, Brighton's Preston and Mona Baker, were often seen helping and guiding their daughters, Kiylier and Jaryaca, at the swine pens all three days. The Bakers have eight



Susan Extebarria  
LeAnna Billie in the show ring.

children and the girls are the eldest. Kiylier won grand reserve with her 244 pound swine named Tobbie; Jaryaca won junior showmanship with her 277 pound hog named Porkchop. The parents were elated for their daughters who said they worked very hard to tame their hogs, feed them and care for them.

Brighton's Jr. Princess Stevie Brantley raised a hog she called Sweetie. Although she didn't place she said she really enjoyed 4-H. Her hog went from 48 pounds when she got it to 203 pounds by show time.

"One of the things you worry about is that your hog is not going to make the weight," she said. "You have to take care of your animal to make sure it stays healthy."

Stevie said her hog almost died on competition day, March 23. It had stuck its snout in a bucket while she was away and someone passed by the pen and seeing the hog struggling to get its head out rescued Sweetie before it suffocated. It's these kinds of unexpected happenings while raising an animal that children experience that make the project exciting and sometimes difficult.

Kalgary Johns's parents, Jo Leigh "Boogie" and Naha Jumper, also worked with their eight year old daughter who showed a steer for the first time. Kalgary placed first in the super heavy weight class and earned a blue ribbon for her magnificent 1,420 pound animal, the largest steer.

The small girl gently and ably led the large beast around the ring. Once again, parent involvement was the key to her success. Her grandfather, Norman Johns, a Tribal cattleman, also helped guide Kalgary on her 4-H project. Johns had worked with his own kids when they were in 4-H and this year he assisted his granddaughter.

"Her mother [Boogie] was in the same boat 21 years ago," said Johns.

As a parent he has been involved in 4-H with his own children 23 years ago starting with his son, Eric "Bubba" Johns, when he was only eight years old.

Another first time member of 4-H this year is Brighton's Katrina Bettelyoun. Her steer that she named Big Man weighed 1,090 pounds and came from Connie and Sonny Whidden's pastures. The ninth-grader didn't win a prize but she said she really enjoyed being in 4-H.

"I didn't want to do 4-H at first," Bettelyoun said. "Mom and dad said just try it ... and it's alright!"

Her parents are Louella and Bobby Gates.

Every child who qualified for the show and sale deserves praise and admiration. Raising a winning hog or steer isn't always possible due to unknown or unanticipated challenges. Not winning may be a disappointment for some; another lesson to be learned. But every 4-H member is a winner in the book of life. Making your best effort is what counts more than the results.

The 4-H grounds were set up like a large compound for three days. There was a tent for the 15 small animals that included rabbits, a sheep, a goat a hog, calves and two water buffalo. The swine pens were on one side of the enclosed show pen and the steer stalls on the other.

weight it was not allowed to enter the show and sale. There were quite a few swine that did not meet the requirement this year. Another test the youth had to pass Wednesday was being able to control the animal in the show ring.

The sifter who determined if the child was qualified to show the animal was Glades County Extension Agent Shelley Humphries.

"I am here to determine if the kids can control their animal so it won't disrupt the show and harm other exhibitors," said Humphries.

She is very familiar with 4-H having been a member herself for 10 years. It takes most of the day to test the children's abilities in the ring.

Both nights of the show and sale were cool, with much rain on March 23.

"It makes the animals frisky," said Big Cypress's 4-H Coordinator Candi Mancil.

She said the BC club swine named "Bodacious" was so heavy at a whopping 325 pounds because of the unusually cool weather from November through February.

"It encouraged the hogs to eat more when the weather is cold," she said.

There are many volunteers who help 4-H put on the complex show and sale. Every year the Immokalee 4-H members manage the swine pens and make sure the swine enter and exit from the show ring in a methodical pattern. Brighton's Princess Jewel Buck gave out the ribbons to the winners during the show; Tribal Extension Agent Michael Bond served as an emcee for the show. Thanks go to Andy Bowers who helped classify the steer and swine into the various weight categories.

Sam Smedley and Joey Hayes donated many hours of time to prepare the grounds with their bobcat and front end loader including hauling in over 175 bags of sawdust. The judge of the swine show was Kenneth Arnold and the judge for the steer show was Brian Dreyden. The auctioneer was Brian Trimble.

Many others helped and all are to be commended for making it such a great event. The 4-H Youth Livestock Show and Sale was under the management of 4-H Coordinator Polly Hayes Osceola and her assistants, Dionne Smedley and Candi Mancil.

In Florida, 4-H is part of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service based at the land-grant universities and receives support from the combined county, state and federal governments. The 4-H organization is managed by professional staff and is supported by the university research base to meet the needs of local Florida citizens.



Susan Extebarria  
Mary Jo Micco serves up food at the 4-H Show & Sale.

The buyer's dinner was held under a long large open structure.

Weighing the animals to make sure they met the required weight began on March 22. If the animal didn't make the

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5. Ingram Billie - Brother of Josie; also a Powerful Medicine Man - Vanilla & Hazelnut

6. Laura Mae Osceola - Instrumental in getting Federal Recognition of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Banana

7. Joe Dan Osceola - Youngest elected President & First Ambassador - Almond & Dark Chocolate

8. Fred Smith - Longest serving Tribal President - Dark Chocolate & Mint

9. Jim Shore - Longtime General Legal Counsel of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Raspberry

10. Betty Mae Jumper - First Chairwoman of the Seminoles - Apple & Cinnamon

11. James Billie - Longest Serving Elected Chairman of the Tribe - Vanilla & Caramel

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12. Priscilla Sayen - Long time Respected Tribal Secretary - Irish Cream & Hazelnut

13. Howard Tiger - First Military person Elected President, Organized sports programs for the Seminole Youth - Dark Chocolate

14. Mitchell & David Cypress - Brothers and Leaders from the Big Cypress Reservation - White Chocolate & Caramel

15. David DeHass - Hollywood Representative - Board - Dark Chocolate & Coconut

16. Moses Osceola - President of the Seminole Tribe - Irish Cream & Dark Chocolate

17. Roger Smith - Brighton Representative - Council - Dark Chocolate & Vanilla

18. Paul Bowers - Big Cypress Representative Board Caramel & Hazelnut

19. Johnny Jones - Brighton Representative - Board - Dark Chocolate & Pretzels

20. Howard Tommie - 2 Term Elected Chairman, Introduced Seminole Bingo - Dark Chocolate & Honey

21. Mike Tiger - Former Director of Indian Health Svs & current Treasurer - Half and Half, Sugar and whipped cream

22. Winifred Tiger - Helped Seminole Youth stay in School, graduate and go to college. - English Toffee & Vanilla



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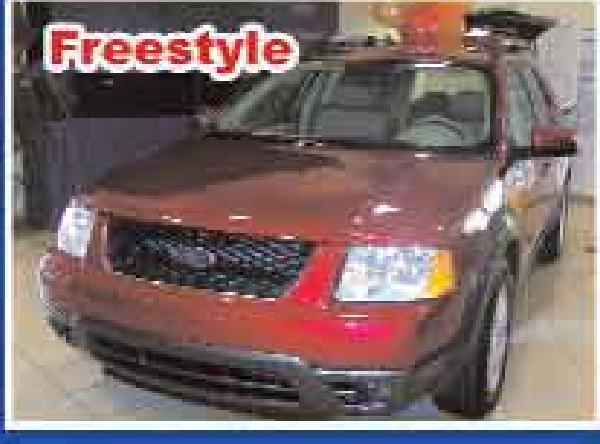
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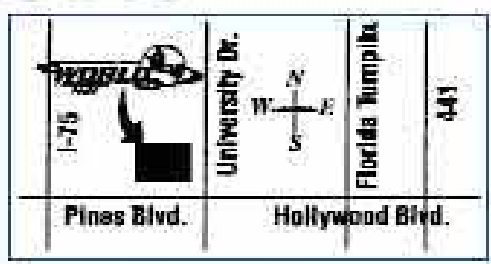
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# VIP Ahfachkee High Schoolers Tour Seminole Hard Rock

By Felix DoBosz  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Four senior high school students and teacher Valerie Whiteside, arrived by bus from the Big Cypress reservation the morning of March



Students get ready for a happy lunch at the Blue Plate.

9 for a VIP tour of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. These students, Jonathan Harjo, JoJo Osceola, Jessalyn Balentine and Raul Alvarez Jr.; from the Ahfachkee High School, were on a fact finding mission to discover all the career opportunities the Seminole Tribe provides for its citizens in the casino and hotel industry. This was the first time a tour to watch the daily operations of the Casino and the Seminole Hard Rock Live has been conducted for these students.

A continental breakfast was provided for the hungry students when they first arrived by their host General Manager of Gaming Operations Larry Frank. Some of the objectives of this program are to provide a well-rounded view of casino and hospitality operations in a real world setting with a goal of developing the necessary technical, interpersonal and managerial skills.

Director of Tribal Career Development Programs Betty Jones Goosens lectured the students about the tremendous opportunities the Tribe has implemented for its young citizens. She outlined the various programs available for all the students and how to take advantage of the many career opportunities the Tribe provides.

“It is the goal of the Tribe to train Tribal members about our hotel and casino operations so that they become qualified to assume middle management and executive positions for the future,” Goosens said.

“The three year program allows an individual to work in all the departments of both casino and hotel operations. Interns work in every position from the entry-level to the director’s position in each department.

“After the first two years, they return to each area and focus more on working with the managers and directors to determine which area they want to specialize in. When they complete the program, they are placed in the department they selected to practice exclusively in.”

Three interns discussed their general experiences in the career program. They also talked to the students about their expectations and goals for being in the program and answered all their questions and concerns.

After breakfast the students were taken to the food & beverage area, where they met with Director of Culinary



Student tour group stops by bakery and food preparation area with pastry chefs.

Operations Bob Strom and Pastry Chef Michelle Bass. They explained to the tour group all the effort required for excellent food preparation and presentation.

The students were privileged to see the results of these exquisite culinary efforts, namely pastries that are prepared daily for hundreds of guests and visitors to enjoy. The multitudes of colorful and delicious looking desserts were placed on long food trays in neat rows and then stacked on wheeled metal racks ready to be moved to their final destination, consumption.



Senior High students from Ahfachkee in BC (L- R) Jonathan Harjo, JoJo Osceola, Jessalyn Balentine, Raul Alvarez Jr.

The group then was given an exclusive tour of the entire Seminole Hard Rock Live. They were guided backstage and entered the Stars dressing rooms and the famous green room. The green room is the preparation suite; the talent waits their turn to be called before they are escorted to perform onstage. Surprisingly, the green room wasn’t green at all; rather, and orange color with music memorabilia hanging on the walls.

The tour continued to the VIP section on the fourth floor. This is where special invited guests get to experience the royal treatment with a breathtaking view of the entire 5,400 seat venue from the very top rows of the thickly cushioned black leather seats.

From there it was over to the casino floor to meet with Technically Assisted Device (TAD) Manager Mike Manarina. He spoke to the students about his experience of more than 20 years in the casino industry and how he had started at the bottom and worked his way up to manager. Manarina also explained some of the tasks that TAD attendants perform and how the bingo machines work.

At the concierge desk the group was given a brief guided tour of the check-in area and around the beautiful poolside-outdoor area as well by Guest Services




Students enjoy big view from top of the Hard Rock Live.


Assistant Manager Julian Wright. He answered all the student’s questions patiently and with professional pride. After the walkabout, the students were hungry and it was time to be treated to a wonderful lunch at the famous Blue Plate Restaurant provided by Larry Frank.

The four students were given souvenirs of their memorable tour and seemed to enjoy this enterprising trip while having a clearer understanding of the way things work at the dynamic Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel. They were excited to get back on the bus after lunch to go for a quick trip of fun and games at Gameworks, in the Sawgrass Mills Mall before heading back home to the Big Cypress.


The students would like to tell everyone at the Seminole Hard Rock, “Thanks for a great day!”




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# GLIHA, USET Hold Joint Housing Meeting

## HUD Assistant Secretary of Public and Indian Housing Attends

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Two prominent Native American organizations, the Great Lakes Indian Housing Organization (GLIHA) and the United Southern and Eastern Tribes (USET), held a meeting the week of March 6–10 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Several organization officials including Administrator of Eastern/Woodlands Office of Native American Programs Kevin Fitzgibbons, USET Chairperson and Seminole citizen Joel Frank and GLIHA Chairperson Cheryl Parish made brief introductory speeches.

Frank offered amicable remarks to those in attendance, saying: “Welcome to South Florida, Seminole Country and the Seminole Hard Rock.” He added that the conference would largely cover natural disaster preparedness; a topic the effects Florida immensely, but also the rest of the nation.

“It’s not any one area, its all areas” Frank said. “We need to be prepared and minimize disaster.”

Following these speeches, Narragansett Council Representative Hiawatha Brown offered invocation.

Immediately following, keynote speaker Orlando Cabrera representing the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), addressed the conference attendees. Cabrera, the HUD assistant secretary of public and Indian housing, continued Frank’s remarks on natural disaster preparedness.

“I wanted to begin with something close to home,” Cabrera said. “...Close to home for Floridians is hurricanes.”

In addition to disaster preparedness, Cabrera discussed housing. He said the Bush Administration “has made no secret that home ownership is the cornerstone of economic development.”

He commended the Seminole Tribe for their advantageous use of HUD’s Section 184 Loan Program, the Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program.

According to the HUD website, www.hud.gov, “The program is designed to offer home ownership, property rehabilitation, and new construction opportunities for eligible tribes, Indian

Housing Authorities and Native American individuals and families wanting to own a home on their native lands.”

The Seminole Tribe of Florida was the first Native American Tribe to take advantage of this program. With these funds, the Tribe was able to improve existing housing as well as add housing on the reservations.

The conference continued with additional active discussions on the topic of disaster preparedness. An intensive Tribal Disaster Preparedness Training session took place on March 7.

Regional Commander for the Wisconsin State Patrol Dace Pichette and Director of Training for the State of Wisconsin’s Patrol Academy Darren Price facilitated this course.

Price informed the attendees that “this isn’t something we started after 9/11,” admitting the two work with compromising situations regularly as patrol personnel. He added that himself and Pichette travel throughout the U.S. conducting this seminar.

“This is not going away,” Pichette said. “This is something you folks have to understand.”

The topics covered in this seminar included: civil disturbance, natural disasters and large, planned events. The two showed videos of incidents such as Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, La., fires and car crashes showing examples of good and poor responses.

The conference continued with other seminars similar to this Tribal Disaster Preparedness Training session. Some of the other seminars included “Creating Tribal Reality and Probate Functions to Support Housing,” “HUD Supportive Housing for Elders and for Persons with Disabilities” and also general meeting of both the USET and GLIHA organizations.

On the final day of the USET/GLIHA meeting, March 10, attendees were able to enjoy a full day of activities in Big Cypress. They took a much needed break from their official duties with a trip to the BC reservation complete with visits to the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and Billie Swamp Safari.



Shelley Marmor

**Orlando Cabrera representing the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).**



Felix DoBosz

(Seated L-R): Steve Simonton, Ray Collier, Lisa Pepe, Aaron Billie; (Standing L-R): Bob Green, Shane Ruiz, Troy Clay, Joel Frank Sr., Pete Russo, Tony Castrenze, Don Fulton, Peggy Reynolds, John Madrigal, Keith Samuels.

## Good-Bye Ray Collier of the Housing Dept.

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Ray Collier is retiring? No way, say it isn’t true. Ray has worked as a supervisor of construction for the Seminole Housing department since 1984, and before that he worked for the Tribe as a general contractor for three years.



Felix DoBosz

**Ray Collier checks out his brand new fishing gear.**



Felix DoBosz

**Monica Wasco, Ray Collier and Jackie Jones.**

He has been a South Florida resident for the past 72 years, and was born and raised in Okeechobee, Fla. Ray Collier a veteran of the Korean War, decided it was time to retire and spend sometime catching up on his favorite pastime, fishing, and remembering all his good times working for the Housing dept.

His friends and co-workers decided to throw him a little good-bye, thank you luncheon at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel on March 23. They sat around the tables talking, joking and laughing, with Ray about all the ups and downs that they all experienced working together for so many years.

Many of his co-workers and friends in the Housing department had kind words to say about Collier at his farewell luncheon.

Troy Clay, director of Housing, said: “Our office is like one big happy family and we will really miss him.”

Pete Russo, assistant director of Housing added: “He’s synonymous with housing in Brighton; he’s always stepped up to the plate whenever asked.”

Aaron Billie, housing construction manager said: “He was very dependable and very knowledgeable and didn’t mind sharing his experience with others.”

Ray looked serenely around the huge ballroom and said softly: “I’m really going to miss everybody, but I look forward to relaxing and fishing.”

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Ask The Counselor

Dear Counselor,  
I am a 19 year old young lady with a broken heart and I am totally confused. When I was 18 I met a man five years older than I am. I told him that I was a year older than I was hoping it would make him like me more.

I became intimate with him on our second date and found out a few weeks later that he was intimate with a few other girls. Even though I have a boyfriend I have been with for almost four years, I was heartbroken; not because I was fed a taste of my own medicine, but because I was actually in love with this guy.

I had experienced feelings for him in a few weeks that I had never experienced with my boyfriend in the four years. My boyfriend and I are no longer together because he became suspicious of my behavior and broke off the relationship. I spend my every waking moments thinking about this man. I am afraid to tell him that I am actually one year younger than he thinks because it might push him away completely.

I stay angry at him because he is still intimate with other girls. I truly love him and don't know what to do. Please help me.

Signed,  
Confused

Dear Confused,  
Your letter leaves me confused about what is confusing you. Are you confused about the fact that you think the older guy won't continue to exploit you and use you if he knows you are a year younger than he thinks? Or because he continues to sleep with other girls despite the fact that you have given him your heart and your body? Or perhaps you are confused because you lost your boyfriend for a manipulator that is interested in



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your body and not your heart?

Believe me, you do not yet know what love is, and you certainly don't know heartbreak. If you continue to sleep with this guy and lose focus of your self-respect and dignity, you will know heartbreak up close and personal.

What if you get pregnant by this player? What if you get a sexually transmitted disease? And that's a good possibility considering that he sleeps

around. Clear your head and start your journey on the road in taking care of yourself.

This man does not deserve you, and you certainly deserve better. Confused, let me share something with you; girls look to their father to show

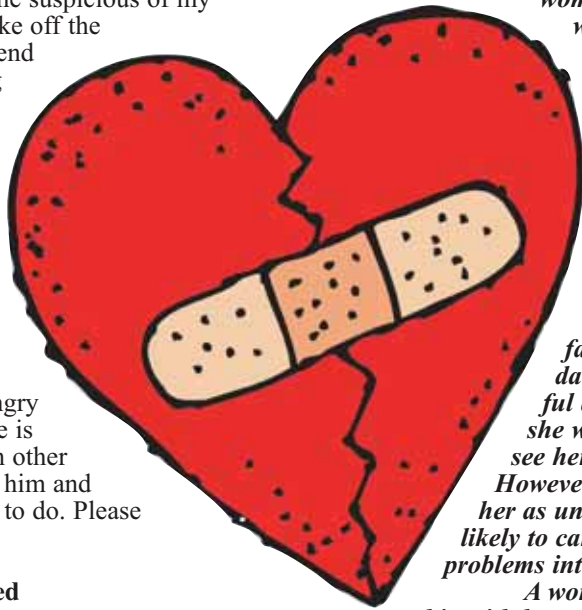
them what men value in a woman. If a young women's father rejects her, she will seek a man to meet the unfulfilled needs. If her father is warm and nurturing, she will look for a lover to equal him.

If a father thinks his daughter is beautiful and feminine, she will be inclined to see herself that way. However, if he rejects her as unattractive, she is likely to carry self-image problems into adulthood.

A woman's relationship with herself and her relationship with the men in her life is greatly influenced by the relationship she has with her father. Confused, the bottom line is fathers make a significant difference in the lives of their daughters, in the lives of their children.

As a counselor every young girl that I have counseled, who gave up on their hopes, their dreams and their future, first gave up on their father.

Signed,  
Counselor



## Don't Forget About Your Feet!

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

Anyone concerned with staying healthy knows they need to make healthy food choices, get regular exercise and regular medical check ups. For people with diabetes, staying healthy requires a little more.

Diabetics must monitor their blood sugar, take their medications properly and be aware of other health problems that may develop. Diabetics also need to be more aware of the health of their feet. High blood sugar can cause damage to the feet. Loss of feeling and poor blood flow to the legs and feet, caused by high blood sugar, can lead to other injuries and infections.

Luckily, by controlling blood sugar and by following these helpful tips anyone can keep their feet happy and healthy. For more information about proper foot care please contact your reservation's health educator.

### Healthy Foot Check List

❑ Check your feet daily for changes or injuries: Make sure to check in between your toes. Ask a family member to help if you have poor eyesight.

❑ Check your feet for blisters, cuts, scratches, red or black spots, ingrown toenails and dryness.

❑ Wash feet daily in warm water, not hot, using a mild soap. Make sure to apply lotion after you have dried your feet thoroughly and remove any excess lotion from between the toes.

❑ File or cut your toenails straight across

❑ Have any corns, calluses or ingrown toenails removed by your health care provider.

❑ Wear clean, dry, cotton socks everyday. All socks should fit loosely. Always wear your shoes, indoors and outdoors.

❑ Shoes should fit loosely, correctly and comfortably. Have your foot doctor check your shoes to see if they fit properly.

❑ Be aware of how you sit; crossing your legs can restrict blood circulation to your feet.

❑ When going for a pedicure, check to see if your salon is experienced working with diabetic patients.

❑ Report all changes and injuries to your doctor immediately.

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Team Seminole: Suzanne Davis, Edna McDuffie, Judy Jim, Cari Saldin, Melanie Wells, Brenda Bordogna, Harley Roberts, Tina Mennella, Jaime Schevis.

## Team Seminole Walks for Heart Health

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department  
DAVIE, FL — On March 11 Team Seminole joined the American Heart



Submitted by the Seminole Health Department  
Judy Jim crossing the finish line.

Association at Nova Southeastern University for the American Heart Walk. The three mile walk brought out thousands of walkers and many vendors from various local health agencies and retail companies.

The day's events began with an aerobics warm up from 24 Hour Fitness aerobics instructors, a motivational commentary from Channel 10 news staff, and entertainment from a local dance group, the Hip Hop Kidz.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida's booth provided participants with information on Seminole culture, body mass index, heart health and heart healthy foods. For the kids, the Seminole Health department provided Frisbees™ to encourage them to be physically active.

Team Seminole, led by Captain Edna McDuffie, participates in many local community walks as well as having members participate in each reservation's weekly and monthly health department walks.

For more information about walks in your area or to join Team Seminole please contact Edna McDuffie at the Big Cypress Wellness Trailer, (863) 983-5798.

Team Seminole would like to give a big thanks to the Chairman's office for his continued support in helping to increase awareness of walking as a way to better health.



Submitted by the Seminole Health Department  
Team Captain Edna McDuffie crossing the finish line.

## Team Seminole Walks Together for Healthy Babies



Team Seminole

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department  
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY, FL

— Team Seminole walkers arrived early at Flagler Park on March 18 to participate in the Okeechobee County Walk America. Seventy-three Tribal citizens, community members and Tribal employees from Brighton, Big Cypress and Hollywood came out to support the fundraising efforts of the March of Dimes.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida proudly supported our own ambassador family for the 2006 Okeechobee Walk America. Patty and J.R. Entry and sons Kyle, Brandon and Dakota were chosen by the March of Dimes to represent the

Seminole Tribe. Patty is a Tribal citizen from the Brighton reservation.

Patty and J.R. have three sons who have all been born slightly premature. Patty and Joe understand the danger of an early delivery as well as the struggle premature babies can face. The Entry family also joined in the fundraising effort. Their family team was named "Bud's Misfits."

The Okeechobee branch of the March of Dimes brought in a record \$55,000 from the Walk America campaign for 2006. The funds raised will go to research, health promotion, and helping families affected by a premature birth.

Along with the Seminole Health department, the Brighton preschool became involved with the March of Dimes. The preschoolers raised a whopping \$1,800 to help the Walk America campaign. The Brighton preschool also hosted a mini walk on March 10 to kick off the March awareness campaign.

Team Seminole awards for 2006 include:  
New Treasure Coast March of Dimes Sponsor  
Most registered walkers  
Most walkers on walk day  
Top fundraising team  
Chairman's Award

The Entry family awards for 2006 include:  
Top fundraising family  
Chairman's Award

Brighton Preschool awards for 2006 include:  
Most clever wrap around fund raising event




Submitted by the Seminole Health Department  
Entry family poster

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



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## ❖ Drive

Continued from page 1

Stretching out his arms he said, "God has given us a magnificent day to be outside and share the wonders of his world. Our ancestors would have been very grateful for such an opportunity when they rounded up their livestock and followed this same route over sixty years ago. Today we commemorate those hard working men and women who established the cattle industry in the Seminole Tribe. They spent over a week gathering up the herd from the woods and then driving them down the trail that you will follow today."

Chairman Mitchell Cypress addressed the group from horseback.

"Moses Jumper, Paul and Richard Bowers were the originators of the Junior Cypress Trail Drives," he said. "Setting around a campfire during a cattle roundup, they talked about the need to recognize their elders and keep the tradition alive for future generations. When many people think of the Seminole Tribe, they think of casinos and gambling. We are so much more."

Continuing Cypress said: "Today represents a lot of history. Each year we select one of our elders as Honorary Trail Boss. For our Tenth Annual Drive, we recognize Jimmy Smith. His father, Morgan Smith, participated in the arrival of the first cattle herd to Big Cypress.

"In an effort to establish industry on the newly formed reservation, the U.S. government brought cattle from the Mescalero Apache to the railhead at Batson, north of Okeechobee. Morgan Smith was one of the men who drove the cattle south through the woods and swamps to Big Cypress in the late 1930s.

"Jimmy Smith follows in his family's footsteps and has been a part of the cattle production at Big Cypress during his entire life. From that small beginning, the Seminole Tribe has developed into one of the major beef producers in the state of Florida."

In conclusion Cypress said: "At this time, I would like to recognize Benny Hernandez. He has worked for the Seminole Tribe for many years and has brought the livestock out here for each one of the ten cattle drives. He may not be tall, but he is the man who makes things happen and we appreciate his effort. The Seminole Tribe is very happy to invite all of you here today and hope that you will want to come back next year. Put us on your calendar."

Moses Jumper then added some comments.

"Each year, I see more and more new faces in the crowd," said Jumper. "Cattle were the first industry for the Seminole Tribe and have a great history. I am happy to be a part of this Tenth Annual Trail Drive commemorating that history and our forefathers. My only regret is the fact that due to a knee injury, I will not be able to ride with you."

Pointing to a large swamp buggy, he said: "I will be following you every step of the way from my big wheel chair, because I wouldn't want to miss this for the world. I hope we don't have too many wrecks or buck-offs this year. I know that's all part of the fun, but no dog and pony shows. We don't want anyone to get hurt."

Jumper concluded by introducing Bruce Pratt, the pastor of the Hollywood Chickee Church.

"I am a Pawnee Indian, originally from Nebraska, but most recently Oklahoma," he said. "I now make my home in Hollywood, Florida, and look forward to joining you for today's event."

Laughing, Pratt said, "I think I should warn you, the Pawnee were known as great horse thieves. I see a lot of fine animals here today and you might want to keep an eye on them. Seriously, every good thing comes from God and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him and ask his blessing for the Seminole Tribe of Florida and their friends, the beauty of the day, the sunshine and its warmth. God bless us all."

Charles Hiers-Billie, mounted on his beautiful customized Harley Davidson, carrying the flag for the Seminole Tribe, led off down

the trail as the cattle were turned out of the pens and the riders fell into place.

It was an impressive sight with more than 150 riders on some of the most beautiful horses imaginable. Muscular quarterhorses born to work cattle, tall energetic thoroughbreds racing back and forth among the riders, the never tiring Arabians, and the Pasofinos dancing down the trail, made for a horse lovers paradise.



Ayze Henry tacks up her horse for the trail drive.



Billy Johns on his Peruvian Pasafino.



Iris Wall, a member of an old Florida pioneer family from Indiantown, still works her ranch.



One of two hayride wagons that participated in the trail drive.



Honorary Trail Boss Jimmy Smith.

Immokalee Seminole Youth and Livestock Ranch provided mounts for a number of the dignitaries and followed the herd with a pick up trailer for the weary. The procession included two horse drawn wagons, swamp buggies, a chuck wagon and the red wagon with a multitude of refreshments.

Beginning at the end of the West Boundary Road, the Cattle Drive follows the trail of the original Seminole cattlemen for 12 miles before arriving

at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena. Along the way, participants had an opportunity to see the beautiful countryside, which the Seminole Tribe has developed from scrub and swamp into woodlands, pasture land, water management areas, citrus groves and produce farms.

While cattle was the first Tribal industry, the Seminoles have expanded in many directions while preserving their independence and prospering in the highly competitive world of the 21st Century.

A relay camp had been set up at the halfway point to rest the livestock and riders. Mary Jene Koenes had graciously allowed the use of a portion her cattle pasture for this purpose. Wearing her nail apron and with hammer in hand she stopped her fence work long enough to greet the cowboys and cowgirls.

A rare sight was the picket line with more than 100 horses tied in a row while their riders rested and refreshed themselves in a Red, White, Black and Yellow tent provided for their comfort.

Richard Bowers took control of the rest area and began by thanking County Commissioner Bill Maddox and his wife for their sponsorship of refreshments. He then acknowledged the Seminole Police Department, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance Service and Seminole Broadcasting for their fine efforts. Next came a brief history of the cattle drive, Junior Cypress for whom it is named and the past honorary trail bosses. Bowers then introduced this year's trail boss, Jimmy Smith.

Jimmy Smith was born in the woods somewhere between Ft. Pierce and Okeechobee, Fla. 73 years ago. His father was the legendary Morgan Smith who drove the Mescalero Apache cattle from Batson to Big Cypress and started the cattle industry for the Seminoles. His mother Julia Billie eventually had her own herd carrying the Bar5 brand. He climbed in the saddle at a very early age and learned ranching from the bottom up.

By the time Smith was 14 years old, he was on his own and seeking jobs to support himself. Like so many of the Seminoles of his era, he was a day worker on the major South Florida ranches—Collier's Immokalee Ranch, Alico, Lykes Brothers and Davis, to name a few.

It would be modest to say that he is a self-made man. Despite his 73 years, he still owns approximately 75 head of cattle with the JS brand and shares a pasture with his nephew Mike Smith, and sisters, Jenny Johns Garcia and Alice Nunez.

Smith told the gathering: "I haven't been on a horse in three years, but I still help with the vaccinating, worming and working of my cows. My sisters are riding the horses today but I am riding in the chuck wagon. I think a lot about the time I was nearly run down and killed by a cow in my young days."

Sitting beside his wife, Rosie, he talked about the alcohol and drugs which have become a major setback on the reservations. He wished to tell our young people that he has been in recovery for ten years and they have been the best years of his life. It is never too late to become sober and turn your life around.

Chairman Cypress thanked Smith for his words of wisdom and recalled the brave elders who had built the Seminole Tribe into what it is today.

"Last year was a scorcher, but we have had a great ride on the first half and the promise of a wonderful second leg of our journey," he said.

Richard Bowers then introduced Vivian "The Texas Tornado" Villarreal. Villarreal is the sixth-ranked women's pool player in the world. The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Seminole Sports Management sponsors her.

Villarreal said: "I have proved today that I am not a cowgirl, but I have had a wonderful time. Since my last visit, I have filmed two shows and contracted for several more. I played the Black Widow last night and defeated her 7-6 on the pool table."

She then told a humorous story about Chairman Cypress and "the Black Widow's web," before thanking the Seminole Tribe for their sponsorship and inviting everyone to see the competitions being held at the Hard Rock in Hollywood.

Benny Motlow reminisced about the old days



(L-R) Jimmy Smith and Rudy Osceola.



Jimmy Smith was a passenger in the chuckwagon during the cattle drive.



(L-R) Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Alice Sweat, Trail Boss Jimmy Smith, Jenny Johns Garcia and Richard Bowers.



Pauletta Bowers holding Savannah Fish.



Charles Hiers-Billie leads off the trail drive with the Tribal flag.



when you worked for \$10–15 per day and were happy to have the money. Finally, it went up to \$25 per day and we thought we had it all. Times were hard, but we had families to feed and our pride and self-reliance kept us going.

Richard Bowers introduced Iris Wall of the Cracker Horse Association of Florida. Born 76 years ago on her family's ranch near Indiantown, she remembered the Seminole day workers and her old friend, Betty Mae Jumper. Not too long ago, she had a fish fry and the highlight of the day was sitting around identifying the old timers in a photo from one of the old cattle drives more than 50 years ago.

She ended by saying: "I am a cowgirl. When my husband died, I turned the lumber business over to the family and I began to run our ranching operations. Cattle runs in the blood of my family. I would like to say how proud I was of the Seminole Tribe when I attended their recent Veterans' Day Celebration. Their patriotism is something to be honored."

Moses Jumper confided, "I was sitting around the campfire with Paul and Richard Bowers one night many years ago and we talked about wanting to preserve the wonderful feeling and memories that the cattle drives gave to us. In that setting, the Junior Cypress Cattle Drive was born.

"Every year it has gotten bigger and better. It is a pleasure to welcome everyone here and impossible to thank all the fine people who have made it possible. I would however like to mention Benny Hernandez. He cares for the livestock and makes them available for our use and then attends to them at the end of the trail. He has been with us since the first drive and I hope will help us with many more to come."

Moses Jumper is not only a storyteller but has published three books of poems. For everyone's delight, he then recited "Indian Cowboy Dreams," which received a round of applause. Jumper talked about his mother, the history of horses among the Seminoles and his great pride in the warriors who have fought in the armed forces to preserve our freedom.

"Today is a tradition," he said. "The original round ups were done by mosquitoes and horseflies around the waterholes. We were beat up from all day in the brush and weary around the campfire at night, but none of us would trade our memories."

Old Florida Cracker Storyteller Butch Harrison entertained the audience with his tales of old Florida and told a humorous account about an alligator sharing the bed of an obnoxious young man. Being a Florida native, he grew up on the East coast and has spent his lifetime as a fishing guide, photographer, wildlife conservationist and storyteller.

Benny Motlow recalled growing up around Paul Bowers, who is one of his idols.

"When I was a young man, I sure could get into trouble," he said. "Paul would shake my hand when I was good, and straighten me out when I was bad."

Pointing at Bowers, he said: "When I think of Paul, I don't see the man you are looking at now. I remember him in his '72 Thunderbird pulling a trailer with his cowboy hat tipped down over his eyes and his crooked grin. He had the attitude and self assurance of Steve McQueen's Junior Bonner. I can't thank Paul enough for everything he has meant to me."

Like all good things that have to come to an end, the rest stop was over and it was time to head'um up and move'um out! The second leg of the journey brought the riders into the Big Cypress community where the roadside was lined with appreciative spectators. At the journey's end was the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena where a fantastic barbeque had been prepared for the riders

delight.

Numerous vendors were on hand with souvenirs of the day ranging from horse tack, clothing, western furniture, pictures, jewelry, hats, toys, blankets and various memorabilia. While gathered beneath the food tent, the participants offered a continual chorus of thank you's to the Seminole Tribe and were making plans for next year.

Before partaking of the delicious meal, Joe Osceola offered a blessing. Osceola is one of the Tribal elders, who have been very active in the cattle industry for many years and have made it a family tradition.

His daughter Janice, not only grew up helping with his ranching efforts, but filmed the cattle drive for Seminole Broadcasting. She was accompanied all day long by his great-granddaughter, Ragan Osceola, whose grandfather is cattleman Jonah Cypress and she is also the great-granddaughter of Junior Cypress for whom the Cattle Drive is named.

At the end of a long day on the trail the Tenth Annual Cattle Drive participants were treated to a performance of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA).

Arena announcer Wendell Cooper of

Okeechobee, Fla. was assisted during the evening's production by Council Delegate for the Crow Nation Dale Oldham. Oldham has a distinctive, deep, clear voice which has placed him in popular demand as an announcer since 1969. In the past he has spent 50 of the 52 weekends in a single year announcing rodeos, pow-wows, horse races and boxing events.

Oldham's accomplishments don't end here.

**Indian Cowboy Dreams**  
*A tribute to Morgan Smith, one of the Seminole Tribes First Indian Cowboys*  
As a young boy I stood in awe, as I watched these rugged men of old  
They were dark with their jet black hair, topped with "ole Stetson hats," and faces that were bold!  
Their jeans were worn as were the faded long sleeve shirts they wore with pride...  
The boots, the spurs, they had it all, even to the horses they would ride...  
I knew these men before I'd heard of Gene, Roy, and Wayne,  
I didn't know these movie cowboys stood for a way of life that would cause our people so much pain!  
The Indian Cowboys I knew were for real! And something told me, that's what I needed to be, Big Morgan Smith cracking the whip, and riding along with old Samson Dixie...  
Those were the days of the big roundups, the family feast and the long cattle run,  
There were no one day shows or being late, and you stayed til the work was done!  
I would spend the nights at the Morgan's Camp lying under the ole tin roof while having my Indian Cowboy Dreams.  
Awakening to the sounds of the squeaky old army saddles and feeling the coolness of the morning fog as the men would have that important coffee and cream...  
I loved it all and for a boy of nine, it was all I wanted to be,

He has been a college professor since 1971 teaching Native American studies. Retiring in 2005, he took the position of Crow Tribal historical preservation officer and reduced his public appearances to approximately 20 events per year.

The Junior Eastern Indian Rodeo got underway at 6 p.m. with a generous crowd in the bleaches. The clown offered his encouragement to the young-

The wet season, the hanging moss, the Big Cypress Swamp it was a place where a young boy could really be free!  
The names are etched in my mind of these Indian Cowboys of yesteryear:  
Charlie Micco, Naha Tiger, Josiah Johns, true cattlemen who knew no fear!  
Braided bull whips, Mexican spurs, and high in the deep seated saddle they sat.  
These wee "real men" from the tip of their boot to the top of their "Tom Mix Hat"...  
I would play in the "Ole Red Barn", and wait as the bullets in my toy gun I would load,  
I would listen and from far off I could hear the horse's hooves, as they walked on the shell rock road...  
These men stood for a way of life that I'm sure once again, we would all like to see,  
Good Cow Dogs, Cracker Cattle, a good horse and the glades where a man could really be free...  
These men were my Heroes, and their names you won't hear on TV,  
But to those of us who remember, their names will always be a part of our history...  
And as long as there is a horse to ride, a steer to rope, and a bunch of good dogs that work as a team,  
I'll remember back to those days when as a boy, I slept under the "Ole Tin Roof," as these men rode tall in my Indian Cowboy Dreams...  
—*Moses Jumper Jr.*

sters by making wagers with them on the results.

Sarah Descheene got a good grip on her sheep and made it all the way down the area before being dislodged after her mount went airborne. As always the mutton bustin' was a favorite with the following results: 1.Ahnee Jumper, 2.Sarah Descheene, 3.Danny Rodriguez, 4.Kirkland Boney.

The wild pony and bareback competition found the youngsters on some very nasty critters. J.J. Johns' white pony was full of the devil and was not satisfied with bucking him off, but kicked him after he hit the ground. Pony riding results are: 1.Josh Johns, 2.Austin Holmes; Junior bareback: 1. Ethan Arnold.

There were an abundance of entries in calf riding and some very energetic rough stock. Michael Garcia didn't just get bucked off, but did a double somersault as he hit the ground. Kelton Smedley had an excellent ride with a 3.16 score, followed by Jobe Johns and Blevins Jumper.

There were several tense moments in the steer riding when Cody Motlow got hung up and dragged into the fence, but you can't keep a good man down and he eventually walked away unharmed and sporting a first place position.

Josh Johns took second and Andrew Holmes was third. Andre Jumpers steer bucked so hard it tore his chaps off. Zane Ducheneaux had a fantastic ride and ended by throwing his hat in the air. Unfortunately, Ducheneaux's hand had touched the bull half way down the arena and caused a disqualification, but it still will be a ride to remember.

The junior bulls gave Ethan Gopher, Justin Aldridge and Seth Randolph a run for their money. One bull went to bucking in the chute and another wouldn't react for a good ride resulting in a second shot for the contestant. Seth Randolph took first and Ethan Gopher was second.

Four to eight year old barrels finished with the following scores: 1.Kalgary Johns, 2.Jobe Johns, 3.Ahnee Jumper, 4.Cyrus Smedley.

There were a number of beginners on lead line with their moms and siblings running the patterns for them. Rayvan King, son of Ray and Jody King, did his debut appearance by himself on a white pony. Although the animal refused to cooperate, King

stuck with him and not only rode the length of the arena, but stayed on board when the pony raced out of the arena. That pony didn't know what kind of a tough hombre he was messing with.

Nine to 12 year old barrels had one buck off and two broken patterns, but four riders came home with the money. Results: 1.Nauthkee Henry, 2.Acealyn Youngblood, 3. Adrienne Cypress, 4.Regan Tigertail.

There was a big surprise in the 13 to 18 year old barrels when Rebecca Osceola blew everyone's doors off with an 18.215 and took first place. Osceola has been practicing a lot and entered a few barrel races, but would have to be considered a novice. However, her March 25 ride was spectacular and made her want to practice all the more. She had very stiff competition from Janae Braswell and Taylor Johns who were hot on her heels.

It was a rough night in the junior breakaway with the animals winning in many cases. With six entries, the only perfect catch was Dalton Berry with a 50.2 score.

The legends breakaway brought three elders success: 1.Amos Tiger, 2.Parker Jones and 3.Norman Johns.

The special attraction for the evening was Sid McFarland and his son Trent. Hailing from Montgomery, Ala., Sid has 36 years of rodeo under his belt, while Trent has been clowning professionally for 13 years.

During Sid's career, he has appeared in rodeos from Madison Square Garden in New York, N.Y. to the Cow Palace in San Francisco, Calif. From north to south, he has played Canada to Nicaragua. Moving for a time to Cody, Wyoming, to be more centrally located on the rodeo circuit, he eventually returned home to Alabama.

Sid McFarland wasn't always a clown. He has competed in bareback, bulls and steer wrestling and can boast of a combined time in casts of over two-and-a-half years. A firefighter by trade he has one more year to retirement and then plans not to let a day job get in the way of his rodeo clowning. His son Trent is a registered nurse and looks forward to a long career in the medical field before he can make rodeo a full time proposition.

The sanctioned evening performance included bareback, saddle bronc, and bulls with favorites Shawn Best, Freddie Warbonnet and Greg Louis taking top honors. Greg Louis walked off with the money in the steer wrestling while Alfonso Tigertail, Cort Herrera and Hilliard Gopher excelled in the calf roping.

In the women's events the results were as follows: Breakaway: 1. Mindy Fish, 2. Clarissa Bowers, 3. Leanna Billie; Barrels: 1. Boogie Jumper, 2. Sheyanna Osceola, 3. Clarissa Bowers, 4. Perrie Whidden, 5. Lisa Osceola.



Cattle begin the 12 mile drive from the West Boundary Road to the Junior Cypress Arena.



(L-R) Vivian Villarreal, Curtis Weeks, Adriane Cypress and Ayze Henry wait for the cattle release at the pens.



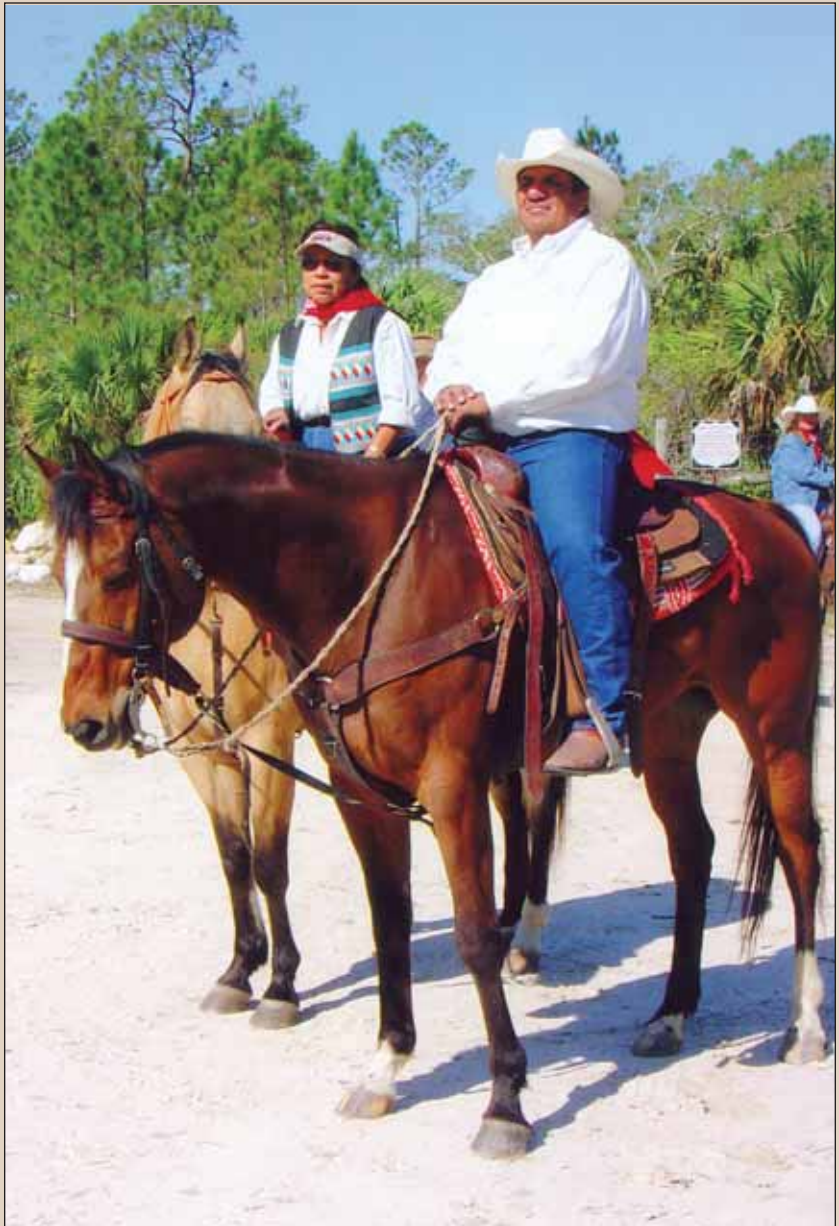
And away they go!



George and Sally Billie joined the cowboys and cowgirls for breakfast at the Swampwater Cafe.



Moses Jumper introducing Bruce Pratt of the Hollywood Chickee Church.



Jenny Johns Garcia and Benny Motlow



The magnificent three (L-R): Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Benny Motlow, and Richard Bowers.







# 40th Annual Howard Tiger Memorial Basketball Tournament

**By Tony Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The longest running memorial tournament around is the Annual Howard Tiger Tournament. Honoring the individual who played and brought focus to many of the sports played on all the reservations today, is something everyone looks forward to each year.

This year the tournament was held on the March 9–11 for the legends and adults. The youth would play the following weekend in honor of Howard Tiger. This illustrious basketball tournament consists of three different age groups legends, adults, and youth. The legends division consists of the elders who paved the way for all of us.

They round up able bodies who still get up and down the court to compete for a few friendly games. It is always a joy watching the elders compete and have a good time playing this wonderful game. The women's side of the legends was a bit limited this year and the men were hard to find also. Through word of mouth and a few phone calls the men rounded up enough to have a game.

It was back and forth for most of the game, then a couple steals, and a couple three point shots went down and the lead opened up for the home team. The teams were mixed and matched with people from different reservations, and a couple employees were asked to join in on the fun. In the end, everyone had a great time and the elders gave us a good basketball



**Aaron Billie shooting over John Billie in the Howard Tiger Legends Tournament.**

lead.

The guys from Str8 Ballin had other plans though. Committing fouls to stop the clock and using their timeouts wisely, the guys from Str8 Ballin gave themselves a chance to steal the win from the Trail Kings. Although the Trail Kings missed a few freethrows and was not getting stops they still had the game in hand.



**Chris Osceola protects ball from the defense.**

game to watch.

The next group to hit the hardwood was the adults. Due to the other activities and families not being in town, March 11 is the day all the action kicked off. The teams topped off with five men's teams and four women's teams.

The Lady Sem Rec team started the day off with a overwhelming win over the Contenders. The



**Richard Osceola coaches his team on the court.**

press and youthful legs of the Sem Rec team was simply too much for the Contenders to handle. The Sem Rec men's team then captured a win in the next match up.

The game began sluggish and a bit sloppy in the beginning, but both teams woke up and the game became more interesting. With three-pointers raining from everywhere and intense defense being applied, the Sem Rec team ran away with the victory in convincing fashion.

The action continued all day with good games from the men and women. But perhaps the most exciting game of the day was the Trail Kings and Str8 Ballin match up that took place. The game was back and forth with big offensive runs by both squads. With a minute to go Trail Kings looked as if they had the win in the bag with a five point



**Seminole Legends after the big showdown.**

# Youth Play in Adult Howard Tiger Memorial Tournament

**By Tony Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The adults had their time to shine and now it was time for the real die hard ballers to step on the court and strut their stuff. The youth tournament was exciting and entertaining as ever this time around. Everyone who came to play and have a good time did just that.

The seven and under group was ready to go as soon as they stepped on to the court. It was easy to see that all the kids have been working on their skills and improving. The score and team play was a great example of that. With Big Cypress and Sem Rec 1 meeting up in the final game the heat was on.

Diving on the floor, hard fouls, big rebounds, and



**Lady Seminoles win with their dominating defense.**

The 14 and under girls championship came down to the Lady Seminoles and Brighton. Coming from the loser's bracket the Lady Seminoles were determined to not let this game slip away. Brighton got a few come from behind wins to advance to the championship game and was also looking to go all out to take home the championship trophy. The game ended the same way it began, intense!

The young ladies that were on the court playing this wonderful game were giving it their all and each player was doing everything in their power to make sure their team was the victors. Both teams gave their all and it was a shame one of them had to suffer a defeat.



**Adult Straight Ballin' proudly brings home the 2nd place trophy.**

even some good passes were all on display. The youngsters from B.C. were a little more fine tuned and was able to put the ball in the hole a few more times than the Sem Rec team. In this age group all the participants are winners and it was just great to see them out there playing hard and having fun.



**Joseph Osceola shoots the jumper inside the paint in championship game.**

The 10 and under brackets were competitive and full of action. The Brighton team faced the Sem Rec 2 team in the semi-finals and gave them a good game. The Sem Rec team had a few more kids that were an impact on the game and

control, the Lady Seminoles had the edge with just a few minutes to go and played smart and got a few key defensive stops to lock up the win. Brighton gave a supreme effort but ended up falling a little short. The way these young ladies compete this will be an intense match up every time they meet.

The 14 and under boys championship game was between Brighton and Big Cypress. Being these were the only two teams in this age division they played a best out of three series. Brighton won the first game by simply making shot when it mattered and playing tough defense. But the next game was won by B.C. which created a



**Moses Billie gets a good shot under the basket but fell short in the Semi-Final men's game.**

tie breaker match up and that everybody was ready for.

Big Cypress jumped out to a nice lead and then Brighton went on a run to close the deficit with just under three minutes to play. Big Cypress then began to execute and tighten up on the defensive end. Brighton gave a great effort but could not get over the hump and pull out the come-from-behind win. The 17 and under boys had the same scenario only having two teams in the age division.

But the Str8 Ballin guys from Hollywood pulled their forces together in a close championship game and were crowned the champions. The game had many excited points and tons of talent that were being showcased. This is another rivalry in the making and both teams will be ready for the challenge every time.

The 17 and under girls were the Lady Seminoles older group split up into two teams. The teams were fairly even and the girls were competing, biting, scratching, laughing, fouling and pushing like they were not team mates. It was good to see them competing so hard against each other trying to make each other better.

They were all winners because they played hard, had fun, and showed sportsmanship. But in the end the Lady Seminoles 1 team came away with the slight moral victory and claimed the championship. It was all laughs and good time when the final horn sounded, but I know all the kids had a great time throughout the tournament and look forward to the next one.



**Lady Seminoles take the championship in the women's adult tournament.**

ended up coming away with the win to move on to the finals against the talented Big Cypress squad.

The championship game was being controlled by B.C. with transition baskets and a trapping defense. Big Cypress had a big lead until about six minutes to go and then the Sem Rec team came storming back behind a full team effort.

Everyone who was on the floor contributed in getting their team back in the game. Unfortunately, when the final horn sounded the comeback fell short and Big Cypress hung on to claim the much deserving win. Both teams fought hard and wanted to win badly, but the team from Big Cypress was the better team on that day and did what it took to win. They played as a team and more importantly, played with passion and had fun.



**3rd place Moses's Team.**



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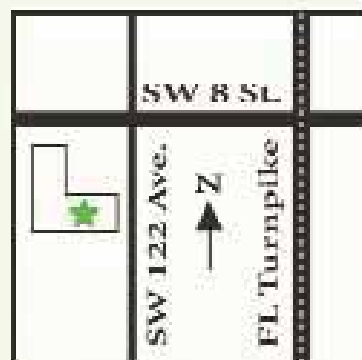
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# ❖ RezDog

Continued from page 1

Native American women facing breast cancer.

A portion of the proceeds from calendar sales will go toward the Native American Cancer Research Corporation.

Being the first and only all-Indian swimsuit calendar of its kind produced, there are obstacles, according to RezDog owners and calendar producers, Mary and Keith DeHaas.

“Were trying to breakdown some of those stereotypical barriers still out there,” said Mary DeHaas. “We are not just buckskin wearing maidens.”

As the first American Indian family owned and operated federally-trademarked company in the U.S., making a difference is important.

“As an Indian owned and operated venture, we feel it is time for us to step up and take care of our own...”said Keith DeHaas.

The financial issues involved are another obstacle, as well. At a cost of \$40,000 annually for expenses, raising the funds to develop such a project each year can be difficult. The Seminole Tribe of Florida has made a difference as one this year’s sponsors.

The final outcome is worth it in the end though, according to Mary DeHaas.

“I really enjoy the creative process, of starting out by finding, and selecting the 12 girls, it’s so exciting... There is an absolute joy in featuring Indian women in a mainstream way.”

The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino was selected as this year’s location for its great appeal and popularity.

“It showcases the girls in an interesting setting,” Mary DeHaas said. “We chose places which have a significant Indian quality to them.”



Keyah Osceola gives a smile for the cameras as she models her father’s custom chopper



The 12 calendar models pose together outside the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood.

One of the chosen 12 who debuted in her first professional shoot was Seminole member and Hollywood native, Keyah Osceola, 19. She says she is glad to be representing her reservation and the community.

“I feel really, really lucky,” Osceola said. “It’s actually a big honor to be doing this, I am actually the first Seminole, and I’m especially proud.”

Having the support of her family and friends is a high priority from a tradition standpoint as well. “My grandparents are big on tradition and they’re proud of me.”

Osceola is of the Panther clan and was discovered by Mary DeHaas at a pow-wow at the Hard Rock. Her plans are to attend Florida State University and major in architecture or clothing and design of wedding dresses.

The idea and emotions behind the calendar come from overcoming personal misfortune and tragedy in the DeHaas household. The mother of Mary DeHaas, Edna Boardman, is a cancer survivor. RezDog co-owner and husband, Keith DeHaas lost his mother, Rita Ann McLaughlin, the 1955 Miss Indian America, to cancer in 1987.

With these hardships, along with constant requests for a calendar, and the desire to help and sponsor Native American women interested in modeling and entertainment careers, the calendar was born. Each year’s edition has since then been dedicated in Rita’s honor and memory.

Beginning in May, fans and supporters can pick up their copy of the calendar or video at any Native American gift shop nationwide or at [www.RezDog.com](http://www.RezDog.com).

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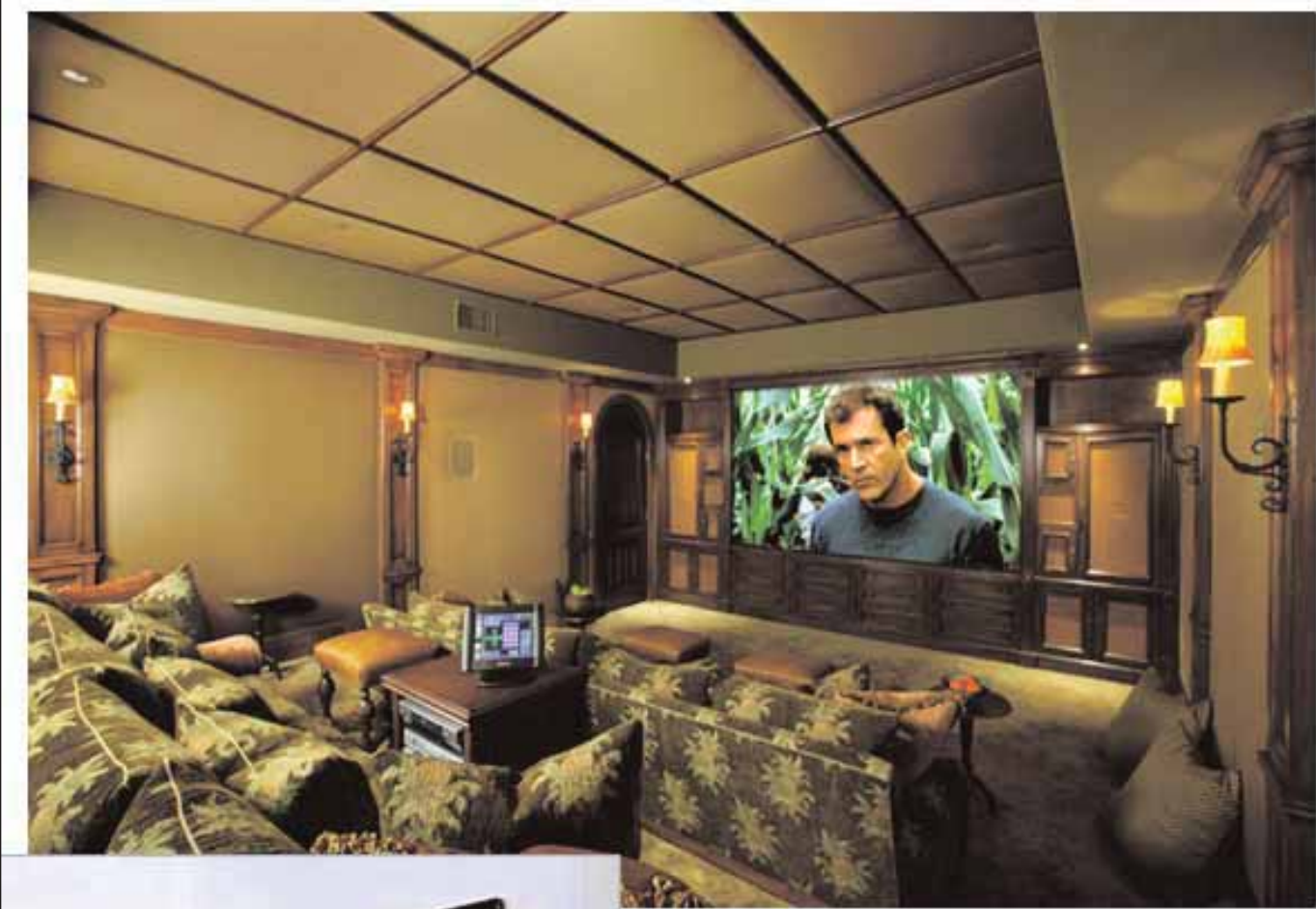


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# NAMMYs Launches National Voting, Invites Media to Participate in Nomination Process

## Awards Show Presented By Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino

### Nominees to be Announced April 15

**Submitted by NAMMYs**  
The Eighth Annual Native American Music Awards, or NAMMYS, has commenced the nomination selection process with the launch of its national voting campaign. More than 150 national recordings were submitted for nomination consideration and are now featured on the NAMMYS' website, [www.nammys.com](http://www.nammys.com), where registered advisory board members can listen to select music tracks from each recording before casting their vote.

The NAMMYS, in cooperation with Digital Endeavors, are issuing complimentary memberships to national and local media interested in participating in the nomination selection process. For further information, contact [Nammys@aol.com](mailto:Nammys@aol.com).

With native roots from Alaska to New Zealand, more than 30 awards categories display the depth and diversity of this year's growing Native American music scene. Awards categories include: Best Rock/Pop Recording, Jazz/Blues Recording, Gospel/Christian Recording, Instrumental Recording, Traditional Recording, Pow Wow Recording, Rap/Hip

Hop Recording, and Spoken Word among others.

The voting deadline, for both paper ballots and website votes is April 15. Nominees will be announced by April 15. An estimated one million people are expected to participate in the national voting process upon its completion in June.

The NAMMYS, which *USA Today* urged, "to take seriously" and *Indian Country Today* has called "Awesome & Incredible" promises to deliver another magical evening of pride and musical excellence this year. The Native American Music Awards has been acclaimed for having "all the professionalism and production values of much larger events like the Grammy Awards and the American Music Awards," according to the American Federation of Radio Television Artists.

The Eighth Annual Native American Music Awards is scheduled to return to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Fla. on June 8. Visit [www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com](http://www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com) or [www.Nammys.com](http://www.Nammys.com) for more information.

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Ray Thomas, Field Representative  
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South & Eastern States Education Agency,  
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## IMPORTANT NOTICE:

### Mandatory Animal Registration Drive

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkērkēcetv

## Happy Birthday



**Happy 17th birthday** to my twins, **Adriana and Bianca**, on April 7. There are moments when all parents wish that time could just stand still and their daughters could stay little girls forever. I have known that feeling many times.

When you were growing up and wish somehow we're always be together me and my twins. Then almost overnight you all changed into fine young beautiful ladies who had learned so much and grown in every way. But you all will always be my little girls.

When I held the both of you as babies, I knew that you girls were special now I realize just how special. Somehow you girls still continue to amaze me, especially by being good mommy's to your sons. I could not be more proud of you girls.

Happy 17th birthday!  
Love always,  
Mom

We would like to wish our "Little Big Man" **Jayden a Happy 2nd Birthday** on April 20. Grandpa and Grandma love you so much.

You have been here just a short two years but you have brought us happiness. Stay strong Little Big Man, because you will always be your mommy's keeper. Happy birthday, and many, many more.

Love,  
**Grandma Kathy, Grandpa Norman, Uncle Lucas**



**Happy Birthday Jayden!** Other people may say happy birthday Jayden, but your family says to have a great birthday with lots and lots of love in it.

You have only been in our lives for two years and that's only a short while but you only bring us more and more happiness in our lives.

Have a great day on your day, happy 2nd birthday.

Love,  
**Auntie Lapee**

I want to wish **Eileen F. Cypress a happy birthday**. Happy birthday Faye! We're not getting older, we're getting wiser! Hope you have a great day and take care of yourself. You are in my thoughts everyday.

With lots of love,  
**Toongie**



Birthday wishes going out to **Miss Jewel Alice Frank** who will be turning 2 years old this April.

Baby Hooks you have brought so much joy and love into our lives this past year. Everyday you surprise us with a new rendition of yourself that always tickles us.

There is not a day that goes by you haven't made us laugh and amaze us with whatever you learned. You'll make a great big sister!

We all love you and want you to have loads of fun at your party!

Love forever; **Mom (Valerie), Pop (Colin), Grandma (Virginia Mitchell), Eddie, Jesse, Victor, Shelli and Wanda, Grandpa (Michael Frank), Winson and family, Myra and kids, Faye and family, Bonnie and family, Agnes and family, Shirley and family, Great Grandpa Wm Mitchell, Jackie and family, Tammie and Ray, Vickie and Bill and Grandma Betty.**



**Happy birthday to Deila E. Harjo** who will be 9 years old, **Jazmine Essence Billie** who will be 7 years old and **Michelle Ann Jimmie** who will be 9 years old. I love you all very much; smile and have fun.

From your father,  
**Markell Billie**

**Happy belated birthday Carolee Nelson** who turned 25 on March 31. You have been through a lot this past year, we hope the best for you and we still love you.

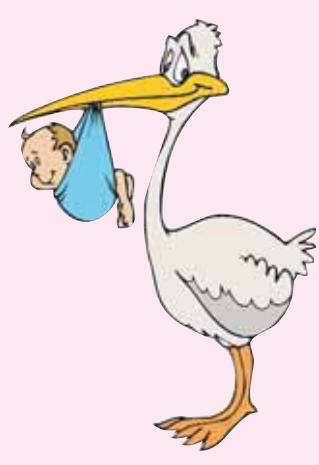
Love,  
**Your family**



## Coming Soon...



Melody Negron, accounts payable clerk from the Accounting department, celebrated a joint baby shower and birthday on March 24., at the Hollywood Headquarters. Her co-workers enjoyed sharing the moment with her. Bulletin: March 29, 3:30pm, Jordan Matthew was born, 6 lbs., 13oz., congratulations to Melody and Ismael Negron.



Fitness Director Vicky Barogiannis received a surprise birthday party from Big Cypress staff following a youth conference meeting on April 15. How old is she? She's not telling. Being fit and staying in shape makes you ageless and keeps you young at heart! Contact the Fitness department for a current class schedule or to make an appointment for a personal training session.

## In Memoriam



I would like to say a sincere thank you for all the last several months. We have been preparing to see our mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother Frances B. Willie moved on to be with her savior Jesus Christ.

Throughout this time of hardship, my heart was blessed to see our entire family come together.

Special thanks to the Miccosukee Tribe and Dr. Berger and his nursing staff for their 24 hour care.

Also, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, President Moses Osceola, Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr., Council Rep. David Cypress, Council Rep. Andrew Bowers and



Trail Liaison William Osceola; as our leaders your support is a great tribute to the dedication you have for our Tribe.

A special thank you goes out to the First Seminole Baptist church and Pastor Paul Buster. Also, Betty Osceola, Vivian Osceola, Jo North and Leona Tommie Williams; these ladies made sure everyone was well taken care of after the funeral.

Last but not least, thank you to all the individuals as well as Tribal programs for the beautiful flowers you sent to honor our mother.

Thank you all.  
On behalf of my Family,  
**Marie Osceola**

## In Memory of Barnabas "Barney" Tommie

November 3, 1953—March 4, 2006



It is with heavy hearts that we say good bye We are going to miss you very much You could always find something to laugh about Your laugh was one of a kind and contagious Most guys wrestle gators with grim concentration You would smile and laugh in the middle of it It is with sadness but also with a smile that you will be remembered We wish you well on your journey

## New Kids



We would like to announce our newest edition **Armani Otilia Louise Torres** of the Bird Clan. Born December 14, 2005, weight 7 pounds 15 ounces and 19 inches long. Proud parents are **Doreen Cypress and Christopher Torres**. Grandparents are **David Cypress** of the Otter Clan and **Martha Doctor** of the Bird Clan. Brother and sisters are **Akol, Akira, Asiana Billie**.



**Lila Osceola and Tony Heard** would like to announce their newest addition, baby **Tyla Zelynn Heard** was born on Saturday, March 18, 2006 at 9:11 a.m. weighing 8 pounds and 15 ounces, 20 ¼ inches long. Her proud grandparents are **Moses Osceola, Marilyn Ahhaitty, Walter and Covetta Heard**, big brother **Bronson** and sister **Staillee**, and uncle **Blake Osceola**.

The Communications department would also like to congratulate the Osceola and Heard family for a job well done! She is a beauty!

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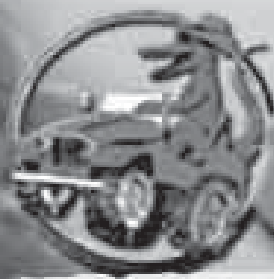
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