



Holiday Greetings From The Tribal Officials

This holiday season is very meaningful. We have seen tragedy in our land and have had strength and courage to go on. We now look at our loved ones and our lives with a new understanding and appreciation.

To all my people, I wish the joys of this holiday season. Let the days ahead bring many blessings to you and your families. Remember that Santa is coming to town, so let us rejoice and celebrate the spirit of Christmas.

The best present we could have is a safe holiday. Don't drink and drive. We all have a lot to look forward to in the New Year.

Happy Holidays,
Mitchell Cypress
Mitchell Cypress
President/Acting Chairman



Wishes for a joyous holiday season, warmest thoughts and best wishes for a very Happy New Year!

Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!

Alex Johns
Brighton Board Representative

Iwould like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

This is a time to be with friends, loved ones and to receive presents and be joyful. Have a safe and happy holiday.

John Wayne Huff Senior
Brighton Council Representative

Iwould like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. My thoughts are with everyone who lost loved ones this past year.

And I hope all the kids get everything they want for Christmas.

David DeHass
David DeHass
Hollywood Board Representative



Christmas Memories

Christmas lights are shining, sparkling, and twinkling all over the cities and nearly all the homes in Seminole and Miccosukee country. People are making plans and making sure that the Christmas list is met, by all means. Families are all excited because of that wonderful feeling we call "Christmas spirit". Children cannot wait any longer for Christmas morning, not to mention the holidays from school.

"It's the most wonderful time of the year," when moms and dads and children all climb in their cars and go to town - Miami, Hollywood, Clewiston, Immokalee, and Okeechobee - to do their shopping at their favorite shopping center. It is not unusual to see Seminoles and Miccosukees shopping in Wal-Marts, K-Marts, Targets, and malls in those cities I just mentioned. Christmas brings wonderful times for families and people all over the world.

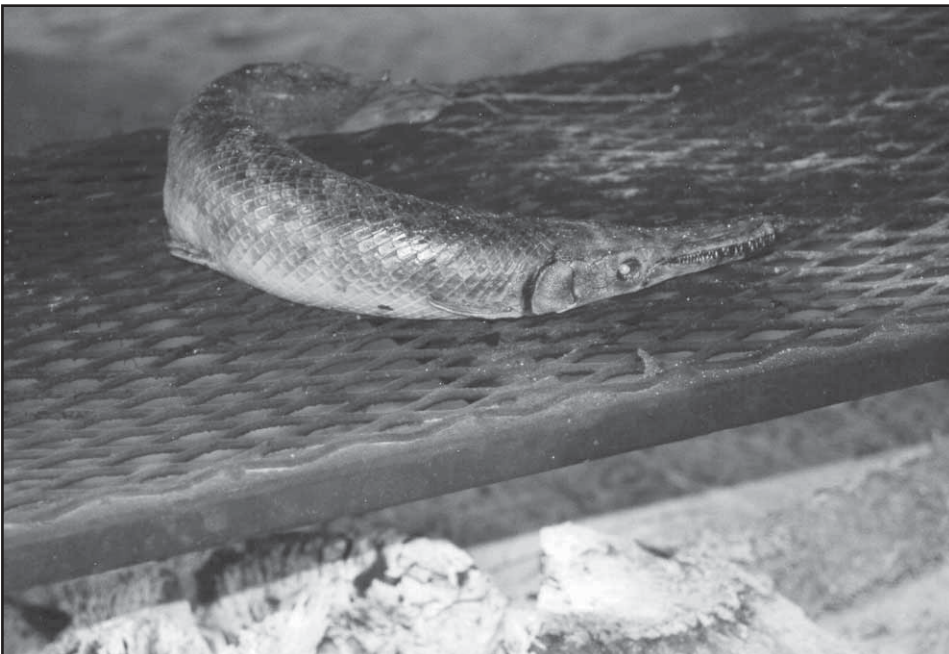
There is all the excitement of shopping and wrapping presents, baking cookies, trimming trees, and hanging Christmas lights in the yard and on the house. The calm takes place and somehow our mind reminisces about the past, and that past sometimes brings a melancholy atmosphere, because there are moms and dads who have endured the loss of their sons or daughters over the years.

I remember years ago, my sons and I were at a Christmas gathering at the Osceolas at Monroe Station on Highway 41. Amongst the many people that were there, I remember one boy. He was five or six years old at the time when we met him. He treated us with the best hospitality, he made sure we had enough to eat and that we were comfortable. He made such an impression on us, I remember that my sons and I talked about him later - how well he treated us.

He is in Heaven now. His life on Earth was short, but he lived a whole lot longer than just a few years, because of his goodness and the way he lived it.

Other Seminole and Miccosukee members who passed on this year are in Heaven, and so is my son, "Sigmund." God bless you and Merry Christmas.

Don't Miss Christmas!
Cowbone Hem-mong-ala-ka



GARFISH ROASTING ON AN OPEN FIRE: Chochahet ahbooshken, N sha baah*
*English, Creek, Miccosukee language

Letters & E-mail

6300 Stirling Rd. Hollywood. FL 33024 tribune@semtribe.com

Editor:

I just wanted to let you know how thrilled I was with the swamp buggy tour. Our tour guide, Art, was exceptional and made the trip extremely enjoyable.

Your entire operation is a great way to spend a day. I just wish that we didn't live so far away in Ohio. We only get to Florida every other year and this year I got to pick where we went. Being into ecology and conservation, plus an elementary teacher, I was so lucky to have found your web site.

My sister-in-law is not an outdoors person, but even she had to admit she had a great time.

Thank you, Kathy Balan
tv_kbalan@omalp1.omeresa.net

To whom it may concern:

I have some basic questions concerning the Seminole Tribe's interactions with Florida State University concerning their mascot:

- Has there been any legal confrontations concerning the appropriateness of the Florida State University's mascot?
- What are the general sentiments concerning the actions of the Florida State University's mascot and how it may affect the general public's perception of the Seminole Tribe and its people?
- Have you asked the Florida State University to change their mascot?

Any other information (books, websites, and videos) concerning this topic would be greatly appreciated. I am doing a project on the Seminole Tribe, and I want to give as accurate a presentation as possible. Thank you for your time.

Antoine
haitian08@aol.com

Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration, December 21

FORT LAUDERDALE — In the spirit of the season, the Seminole Tribe of Florida will have an "Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration", scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 21 at the Broward County Convention Center.

When party attendees approach the 3rd floor ballroom, they will be greeted by Christmas carolers dressed in winter clothes. Snow machines will add a holiday touch to the entrance.

The program will start with an appearance by the Seminole Tribe's Color Guard and a rendition of "God Bless the U.S.A." by Jr. Battiest. After prayer, everyone will be invited to share in the holiday meal.

The meal, which will be served buffet-style, will include: grilled steak, fried chicken, fried pork chops, mashed potatoes, green beans, collard greens, dessert and coffee. There will also be a kids' menu for the little Christmas elves.

There will be music during dinner and, besides the main ballroom, there will also be two other rooms open during the first half of the night's program:

The younger ones can visit the kids' room, which will feature Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus (who will tell Christmas stories), a decorated gingerbread house, and face painting.

The young adults can visit the teen disco room, which will be decorated, have a disco ball, and karaoke music for the teens to show off their musical chops.

In the main ballroom, the entertainment will feature Gospel songs and Christmas carols by Paul Buster, Rita Youngman, a flute recital by Megan Osceola, and others to be announced. The first half of the program will finish off with a Christmas carol/gospel medley by the Crossroads gospel music group.

The second half of the evening's entertainment will feature "The Hot Cauldron," a 13-piece dance band that will play all styles of music until midnight.

This year's Christmas Party promises to be more of a traditional affair. There will be no alcohol served. All Tribal members, Tribal employees and their families are invited to this wonderful holiday event. See you there!

Tribal Christmas Events

Attention!

On Jan. 1, 2002, the subscription rate for *The Seminole Tribune* will increase to \$30 a year. So order or renew your subscription now! Make checks payable to *The Seminole Tribune*, 6300 Stirling Rd., Hollywood, FL, 33024.

School Christmas Programs

Ahfachkee- Dec. 20, at Ahfachkee, Dinner 5:00-6:30 p.m., program starts at 6:30 p.m. Hollywood- Dec. 20, at Hollywood Tribal Auditorium, program starts at 11:00 a.m. Brighton- Dec. 18. Immokalee- Dec. 19, at the gymnasium, program starts at 3:00 p.m.

Community Christmas Dinners

Hollywood- Dec. 18, at the gymnasium, dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. Brighton- Dec. 20, Immokalee- Dec. 19, at the Casino, dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. Big Cypress - Dec. 20, at the gymnasium, 10 a.m.

GARFISH BRIAN VAVRA



Seminole Tribune

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Brett Green Celebrates 18th Birthday

By Libby Blake
HOLLYWOOD — Brett Archer GREEN celebrated his 18th birthday on Saturday, Nov. 24 at the home of his parents, Marcella and Bob Green. Also attending was maternal grandmother, Mildred Bowers.

Friends and family gathered, under a tent set up for the occasion, to wish Brett only the best and feast on an array of dishes catered by Betty's Soul Food Restaurant.

Paul "Cowbone" Buster set up a karaoke machine, and he and others took turns at the mike throughout the afternoon.

Green is a senior at American Heritage, a private school/academy in Plantation. Green, a 10-handicap golfer, narrowly missed making the school's varsity golf team by two strokes for two years in a row. Because Green



Brett Green

is a senior this year, he was not eligible to play on the junior varsity squad.

For the last two years, Brett and his father have played in Slazenger National Father/Son Amateur Golf Tournament. The father/son team finished in sixth place last year and were able to improve their game to bring home a first place (net) at this year's event, held in July in Myrtle Beach, SC.

Because it is an amateur event, no cash prizes were permitted. Instead, winners received a cut glass crystal ice tea pitcher with matching glasses, presented by Golf Magazine. The duo finished third in gross score, but could only accept one position.

After graduation in June 2002, Brett plans to attend either the University of Miami or the University of Florida. No golf scholarships are in the works, but Brett says golf is only "a secondary consideration."

Greens wants to pursue a career as an attorney, and with a GPA over 3.0, he should have no trouble getting admitted to either school.

Brett had his senior class picture mounted on specially designed plaques, which he presented to his grandmother, Mildred, and great-aunt, Elsie Bowers. He also had a special plaque made for Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola, Jr., who was unable to attend due to a previous engagement, in appreciation of his support and encouragement.

Last year, Green completed school and state required voluntary service hours by interning at the *Seminole Tribune*. It was a pleasure working with the quiet, respectful and competent young man. We at the *Tribune* would like to wish Brett a very happy birthday and hope for continued success in whatever he chooses to do in the future. Congratulations Brett!



Culture Programs Director Kiki Schaller (low right) announces winners in the art contest.

CCA Fellowship Night Draws Big Crowd

By K.B. Schaller
HOLLYWOOD — It all began Thursday evening, Nov. 8, beneath the chickee at the Chickee Christian Academy, parents, other guests, and regulars enjoyed a delectable meal of baked ziti and all the trimmings. Afterwards, the small crowd filed inside, and meandered to their seats.

First-timers didn't know what to expect as they read the program, printed on green paper, that the CCA students handed out. They listened to the Bible reading. Some even read along. The opening prayer and a song followed. Slowly, the crowd began to grow.

Rev. Arlen Payne, pastor of the Chickee Baptist Church and headmaster of the Chickee Christian Academy, then introduced students who were studying the traditional Seminole language.

When Herbert Jim, instructor from the Seminole Education Department, gave the cue, the students began singing, reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the Seminole flag in their own native tongue.

By now, the audience, especially the visitors, had leaned forward in their seats a bit more. Their interest whetted, they applauded with appreciation.

Then came the beginning music students: Allyson Billie, Talena Castillo, Zachary Battiest, and his little brother, Spencer. None had ever played the violin before instructor, Chuck Anton, came on the scene. Now they were actually making music. Real music.

Reverend Payne followed with a message, which addressed what parents could do to help their children become successful in school.

Called the A-B-Cs for Parents, the list of suggestions, printed in bold letters on blue paper, presented a number of considerations. They included:

Ask questions: Parents should insist that the child tell them what he/she is doing in all subjects and activities.

Breakfast: The most important meal of the day, a nutritious morning meal will give students the energy to participate at maximum efficiency.

Curfew: It is important to establish a time for children to be at home each night. Parents should also set a regular bedtime each evening, and stick to it.

"Students who are up until late hours do not get the sufficient rest to do their best in their schoolwork. I challenge parents to read this list over and over, as a reminder," said Rev. Payne.

Back to the program, The Resurrection Ensemble Theatre players, in costume, were next to perform. The crowd was now at near capacity. Excitement was at fever pitch. Viewers were on the edge of their seats.

Justin Lyttle, one of the moderators, explained that the play, "The Perfect Solution," was written and directed by KiKi Schaller, the school's Culture Programs Director.

Although a comedy, the script dealt with a serious issue: two friends turned away from a moral, Christian life, to frivolous worldly activities such as wearing enticing clothes, attending parties, keeping up with their favorite soap opera, and subtle put-downs of one another.

Meanwhile, their guardian angels, invisible to the two friends, work overtime trying to influence their thoughts, and put them back on the right track.

The performers were Talena Castillo, Allyson Billie, Zachary Battiest, Shadoe Billie, Spencer Battiest, and Thunder Baker. Lauren Lyttle, a featured player in last spring's play, "The Morning After," was the technical assistant. She operated the lights, coached the players in learning their lines, and performed other tasks essential to the play's success.

Gus Baker closed the production with an invitation to other youth interested in ministry's theatrical arts program. "They should see our director, Mrs. Schaller, for an audition for membership," said Baker.

As the young thespians demonstrated their talents, the audience howled with laughter, applauded, and called out the names of cast members to encourage them and express their appreciation.

After a professional-quality curtain call, theatre members and students enrolled in academic subjects, the Mikasuki language, music, and art received awards that included ribbons, certificates, and gift certificates. Several students received an Award of Excellence.

Students were also awarded certificates for Most Improved, Good Achievement, Most Cooperative, Good Conduct, Perfect Attendance, and other attributes.

Art students held their breath as the judges determined who would win First, Second, Third, and Special Awards for the beautiful works displayed on a triptych lattice board, assembled by assistant pastor Mike Harjo.

Once the points were counted, judges



Music Instructor Chuck Anton (center) accompanies students Allyson Billie (left) and Talena Castillo.

Bob, Gloria, and Kevin Vagi awarded ribbons to students in ceramics, drawing, paintings, and watercolor:

Ceramics, Level I: 1) Thunder Baker 2) Roy Stewart 3) Talena Castillo

Ceramics, Level II: 1) Ashley Harjo 2) Ashley Harjo 3) Gus Baker

Drawing, Painting, and Other Media, Level I: 1) Spencer Battiest (for Painting and Watercolor 2) Thunder Baker. Award of Excellence- Allyson Billie. 1) Nelson Osceola 2) Talena Castillo.

Drawing, Painting, and Other Media, Level II: 1) Dayne Billie 2) Harmony Stewart 3) Legus Bowers. Special Achievement- Nolan Bowers. 2) Nygel Balliram 3) Gus Baker.

All of the winning works of art were entered in the Broward County Fair's art exposition, where they will compete for more ribbons and cash prizes.

Just when the audience thought it had all the excitement it could stand, professional auctioneer Bob Vagi took center stage. Vagi donated off cakes, pies, cookies, and other items donated by the CCA staff, parents, friends, and school supporters to benefit the yearbook fund.

The bidders were competitive, furious, and dead serious. They yelled out prices. They waved their arms to get attention. They leapt up and down in their seats, and waged a number of small, good-natured bidding wars to make sure they acquired their choice of the goodies arrayed on the table.

KiKi Schaller, a member of the Cherokee Confederacy Tribe, and the school's yearbook advisor, was a newcomer to such goings-on.

"I've attended auctions before, but I never saw anything like this!" said Schaller.

For further information about the Chickee Christian Academy, a ministry of Chickee Baptist church, contact Rev. Arlen Payne at (954) 894-5651.

Pre-School Hosts Pot Luck Luncheon

By Alexandra Frank
HOLLYWOOD — On Nov. 21, a Thanksgiving Pot Luck Luncheon was hosted by the Pre-School Department.

Parents were asked to bring a covered dish, so everyone could enjoy lunch with their families, friends and staff of the Pre-School before the long Thanksgiving weekend.

Although some dishes were emptied before the others were even dug into, it seemed everyone had a chance to eat and spend quality time with their children, which seems to be highlight for so many individuals.

The pot luck lunch is also a great way to see how many good cooks there are in Seminole Country, and I hope this practice continues as long as we have children running around for which to cook. I hope the holidays find you safe and bring you joy throughout the New Year.



Mmm, Mmm, Mmm. Boy, Leona Tommie Williams sure likes pie as she samples a slice during the Pre-School Pot Luck Luncheon.

But the matron kept up saying, "Take it. Take it." So I picked up the baby doll and took it to the wash room and washed it. Then I took the doll clothes and I washed them. Then I took the doll to my room and laid it on my pillow.

That doll stayed on my pillow every day while I remained in Cherokee and finished high school. Then, I took it to my nurse training at the Kiowa Indian Hospital in Lawton, Okla. It stayed on my bed until I finished that, too.

Then I brought it back to Florida and laid it on my bed. It stayed on my bed every night until my house burned down and it was lost in the fire.

The lesson I learned from this and what I like to tell parents is that it doesn't take a lot of presents to make an impression on a child. Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Christ, a baby who was born in a stable where animals were kept.

The mother of Jesus didn't have any fine blankets, so she wrapped Him in rags and laid Him in a manger. Jesus never had fine clothes, but He came to teach love and peace and that's why Christmas is such a wonderful holiday.

Christmas is not about gifts. You don't have to give your child a mountain of things. Give them love and guidance and a good example to follow. Those are the important gifts and they're the things that even a fire can't destroy.

Doll

Continued from page 1

N.C. My family didn't have any home, so over the Christmas holidays I couldn't go home like the other kids. I had to stay at the Boarding School.

One day I was out in the hall, cleaning for my room and board, and two big boxes came to the girl's building. I called my matron. She came out and signed for the boxes.

"Oh," she said, "I wonder what's in these boxes?"

She opened one large box and what did I see? Nothing but dolls and dolls. They were gifts collected by local women and donated to our school for the young girls.

As I looked I saw an old fashioned doll that looked like a real baby. I picked it up and admired it. I was saying to myself, "Why couldn't something like this ever come in my day?" while standing there holding the baby doll.

The matron saw me and said, "You like that doll, don't you?" Then, I told her my story of wanting a doll and never getting it in my life.

I laid the doll back in the box, but the matron picked it up and said, "Here, take it and wash her clothes and clean it up and put it on your bed."

I stood there thinking, "I'm too old for a doll."

Seminole Tribe Foster Care Christmas

Seasons Greetings and Merry *Christmas* to the children and everyone! Holly Tiger and Family Services Program along with support of the Tribal Council and Board of Representatives, will be united in *Christmas* spirit and joy to bring a little Holiday happiness to the Tribal Foster children.

A Foster Child *Christmas* tree was placed at the Hollywood Tribal Center, with the gender and age of the child. They will be receiving the Special Santa package from the heart and spirit of the giving Tribal member or employee.

These packages have already begun arriving from the North Pole. Thanks for the love, We will soon be delivering these gifts to the Foster Families who will share them with the Tribal Children.

We would like to extend a big thank you to all the individuals involved especially Communications.

We sincerely hope you and yours have a Holiday filled with Peace and Love. MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!



Foster Kids Angel Tree

The Seminole Foster Kids Angel Tree is well under way. If you haven't been by to pick an angel, please do so.

The Angel Tree is on display in the lobby of the Seminole Tribal Headquarters in Hollywood.

With the support of all the Councilmen and Board Representatives, this Christmas promises to be a nice one for these children. The Tribal Officials have graciously agreed to purchase gifts for the children who are not picked, so no child will be left out.

To pick a child, come to the office, take an angel off of the tree, and go out and purchase a gift for that child (the suggested amount is \$15, but it will left at your discretion).

Information on the back of the angel will tell you the age and gender of the child. For reasons of confidentiality, the children will only be identified by number.

Wrap your gift and attach the angel to it, to help identify who will receive the gift, and return it to the gift box, located in the lobby (next to the Angel Tree).

If you would like to pick an angel, but are unable to get to the office, Holly Tiger will gladly pick one for you. You will be notified of the age and sex of the child. Then you can purchase the gift, wrap it, and return it to your respective reservation's Family Services office.

Again, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Holly at (954) 989-6840, X1309 to leave a message, or Elrod Bowers at Seminole Communications at (954) 967-3416.



Big Cypress News ❖ Achawehahyoogé ❖ Acenaofv

Big Cypress Community Thanksgiving

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS — Families and friends, young and old gathered to give thanks and feast on the bounty provided during the Big Cypress Community Thanksgiving Luncheon, held on Nov. 21 at the gym.

Robin Hernandez and her crew – Vickie, Knouse, Louise Osceola, Mabel Jim, Iris Garcia, Sarah Kirkland, and Cecilia Tigertail – outdid themselves, decorating the entire gym in a fall/Thanksgiving motif. Special platters, fresh fruit, and knick-knacks with the holiday theme were quickly gobbled up – no pun intended – by the guests to take back to their own homes.

Paul “Cowbone” Buster, and band members Solomon Cypress, Ira Billie Buster, and “Chunkie” Buster, provided musical favorites throughout the afternoon. Theresa “Elvis” Jumper and Virginia “Patsy Cline” Tommie were asked by several of those in attendance for an encore performance on the karaoke machine but both graciously declined.

“We have to spread our performances out to keep that unique originality to our act,” said the duo.

The staff from the Swamp Water Café did another fine job of catering the luncheon, providing an assortment of goodies including turkey, ham, chicken, fish and all the fixin’s.

Guests lingered well into the afternoon, not wishing the day to end. As they slowly made their way home, many were seen with plates of food and the souvenir decorations wanting, no doubt, to take the day’s memories with them.

Seniors Celebrate Thanksgiving In BC

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS — Tribal seniors gathered at the newly opened Senior Center/Hot Meals complex to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday on Wednesday, Nov. 21.

The morning started with a prayer by Jonas Cypress, followed by a few words from Council Representative David Cypress. Next, several games of Bingo were called by Marlin Billie. Cecelia Solano, Martha Doctor and Noella Nunez wandered around the room, assisting the games and handing out fresh fruit and sofkee to all.

Winners of each game received prizes, and door prizes were awarded to a lucky few. Some of the winners were Frances Teele, Johnny Tucker, Sr., Judy Osceola, Mary Robbins, Effie Osceola, Mary Sanchez, Connie Jim, and Joe Osceola Sr.

Live musical entertainment was provided by Jonas Cypress, Joe Junior Billie, and Leroy “Keno” King, and Theresa “Elvis” Jumper and Virginia “Patsy Cline” Tommie wowed the guests, with a little assistance from a karaoke machine.

Louise Billie was reportedly seen in the corner of the room doing “the twist,” but this could not be confirmed.

After a traditional Thanksgiving meal, provided by Solano and the Hot Meals crew, the November birthday babies were recognized.

Big Cypress Recreation Director George Grasshopper, assisted by Cicero Osceola, held a horseshoe contest for the men and women. After the hearty meal it was hard to get anyone outside for the exercise.

Of those who did venture out, the winners were as follows:

Men: 1st place – Leroy King, 2nd place – Johnny Tucker Sr., 3rd place – Jimmy Smith.

Women: 1st place – Ruby Osceola, 2nd place – Mary Sanchez, 3rd place – Louise Billie.


Ruby, Mary and Louise each threw three ringers during their matches while Leroy threw one.




Virginia Tommie belts out a Patsy Cline tune for the crowd.

At the Big Cypress Community Thanksgiving Dinner, a few of the seniors were asked to complete this sentence – “This Thanksgiving I am thankful for ____.”


The following are their responses:




Rudy Osceola – “holidays, no work, taking it easy, eat and be merry. Just like to party and be with old friends and making new friends.”




Mabel Frank – “everybody I get to see and get together to have a good time and wish the best for them.”




Alice Billie – “my family and friends.”




Sadie Cypress – “ the health of my family – even though my sister and two of my brothers are having health problems, they are all doing well and making progress. My children, grandchildren are all in good health and spirits and I’m very thankful for that.”



Suzie Jim Billie – “my health and a beautiful day. I am thankful for the help I get from the Tribe that takes care of me, provides food and help, to be able to get up and come over here today. It is good to see everybody around here.”



Mary Francis Cypress – “being here, good health and that I’m still able to come to things like this.”



Louise Billie – “ David Cypress and this Thanksgiving dinner. A lot of people really liked it.”



Hollywood Christmas Skins Tournament

Max’s annual Christmas Skins game
December 22 at Noon
Bonaventure Country Club
All Indian
Men and Women divisions
18 to 49
50 and over
A Handicap Card is Required to play
Pay out is for Gross and Net skins

To enter - Call Hollywood Recreation
(954) 989-9457

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Christmas Dinner and Pageant
First Seminole Baptist Church
4701 Stirling Rd., Ft. Lauderdale.
Sunday evening – Dec. 23, 2001

5:00 p.m. supper, 7:00 p.m. pageant. Everyone welcome!

Residents Join Breast Cancer Walk

By Edna McDuffie, Big Cypress 4-H
FORT MYERS — On Oct. 20, a group of Big Cypress community residents made the trip to Ft. Myers for Lee County’s first “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” 5k walk.

The group walked from downtown Ft. Myers, through Centennial Park, across the Edison Bridge, and returned.

The group included Edna McDuffie, Louise Osceola, Mable Jim, Marcia Cypress, Ruby Osceola,

Judy Jim, Donelda Mercer, Rodni Mercer, Candy Cypress, Tonia Cypress, Vera Herrera, Michaelene Cypress, Michael L. Onco, Helene Buster, Andy Buster and his daughter Veronica Buster from Miccosukee.

We helped raise money for a good cause and walked for our wellness.

Special thanks to Mitchell Cypress, Acting Chairman and David Cypress, Big Cypress Council Representative, for their support.

Battiest Family Revival Tour Makes Last Stop In Big Cypress

By Alexandra Frank
BIG CYPRESS — On Nov. 24, the New Testament Baptist Church hosted a singing revival, featuring the Battiest Family of Florida and Oklahoma, for the Big Cypress residents.

The Big Cypress reservation was the last stop of a singing revival tour of three Seminole Reservations, which started in Hollywood, then making a second stop at Brighton.

All of the revivals took place over Thanksgiving weekend. The evening started off at 5:00 p.m., dinner was served first, and then the singing began at around 6:30 p.m.

The medium-sized church was packed with both young and old Tribal members and visitors from outside the reservation.

Henry Battiest, Jr., as some of you may know, is married to June (Baker) Battiest. Henry, also known as Junior, started off the event with a group that was a mixture of other group members, which was the highlight of the event.

Junior welcomed all those in attendance to the revival and expressed his gratitude at the effort they made to attend.

Battiest then performed a few songs that moved many in the crowd to clap their hands and tap their toes.

In fact, the entire evening was filled with many an “amen” and lots of laughter. It erased the misconception that revivals are serious, humorless affairs.

Even though there were testimonies accompanying the inspirational songs, the Battiest family and their friends made the evening fun-filled and comfortable.

Groups such as the Seminole, the Master’s Touch, the Gibson’s, and, of course, the Battiest Family, sang hymns both contemporary and standard. It was a treat to see families from various parts of the United States, representing tribes from Oklahoma, New York, and North Carolina.

Thanksgiving Gospel Singing A Huge Success

By Keeno King, New Testament Baptist Church
BIG CYPRESS – The Bible says, “in the last day I will pour out my spirit.”

That spirit was evident on all of the reservations where the Native American Gospel Sing was presented. The brainstorm of Jr. Battiest, the Gospel Sing was originally created as a Thanksgiving family gathering.

But as time went along, the idea grew, pretty soon everybody wanted to come to Florida for the Thanksgiving gathering. So Jr. figured, “why not a gospel sing?” From then, a gospel sing was planned.

With a lot of background work done by Jr.’s wife, June, the idea began to take form. Groups and soloists were invited to Florida for the Native American Gospel Sing, the first of its kind in south Florida, in hopes that it would be presented annually.

The soloists invited were: Kathy Antone and Mercedes Bailey of Oklahoma. The groups invited were the Wright Family from New York, Master’s Touch of Oklahoma, Crossroad of Oklahoma, and the Gibbs Family of Florida. The Gospel Sing was hosted by the New Battiest Family of Hollywood, FL.

The Gospel Sing began at the Hollywood Chickee Baptist Church, went to the gymnasium at Brighton, and finished at the New Testament Baptist Church in Big Cypress.

The singing started off with a good crowd on hand at the Chickee Church on the first night. After a big supper, everyone came into the church to hear the gospel groups and testimonies. There were a lot of hallelujahs, amens and hand clapping as people enjoyed the gospel singing that night.

Billie Swamp Safari Featured In “Jeff Corwin Experience” Premiere

Big Cypress – The Billie Swamp Safari will be featured on the premiere episode of “The Jeff Corwin Experience,” the popular Animal Planet wildlife show, which will air in early January 2002.

Check your TV guide for the exact date and time to see Jeff help the Safari staff rescue alligator eggs from a nest in distress, and visit with a real Florida Panther.

Before Corwin left, General Manager Ed Woods and crew, who knew of his tremendous interest in reptiles, made sure Jeff had a chance to meet Superman, Florida’s largest captive alligator, who lives at the Safari.

Tune in and see the excitement! For further information on Billie Swamp Safari, please visit our website: www.seminoletribe.com/safari or call (800) 949-6101.



The new Battiest Family Singers belt out a tune with Keeno King of the New Testament Baptist Church in Big Cypress.

come up on stage to join in.

Many did not hesitate, the whole front of the stage and the aisle were filled with family, friends, and congregation members. They prayed to God for help towards the young boy and the unknown illness he is experiencing and to give his family the strength to endure this troublesome time.

The revival came to a close following the kind act and, as people bought CDs by many of the featured singing groups, many others spent time talking to friends and meeting new faces.

Singing revivals are not uncommon to the Seminoles, many are held throughout the year at various reservations. If you enjoy gospel music, you will get a chance to see some talented individuals representing their church, tribe and their strong belief in God and his son Jesus at these revivals.

You may also get to make new friends, with the same feelings you have about the bible and its teachings, while enjoying a night of great music.

Big Shot Wins Breeding Filly

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS – Moses “Big Shot” Jumper Jr. was the winner of the filly raffled off at the Intertribal Agricultural Council’s annual conference, held on Nov. 5-9 at the Miccosukee Resort and Casino.

The eight-month-old filly was donated by the San Carlos Apache Tribe of Arizona. Raffle tickets were sold throughout the United States for several months leading up to the conference.

“Big”, as he is known, purchased about \$100 worth of tickets right before the drawing and jokingly told the IAC that “the horse is already in Florida so it has to be won by somebody here. You don’t want to ship it all the way back out west.”

According to Alvin Nosie, of Stockman ID Horse Ranch, and Marlan Norton, General Manager of San Carlos Apache Tribal Herds, the filly “Miss Apache Florida” is from one of the best mares in

their brood stock.

Richard Bowers, President of the IAC, picked the filly on a trip to the reservation, showing Nosie and Norton that “he had a good eye for horses.”

Registration papers for the filly have been applied for with the AQHA (American Quarter Horse Association) and will be sent to Jumper. The filly is valued between \$2,500 and \$4,000.

“Miss Apache Florida” was bred for roping, working, and breeding. Jumper said he has already had offers to buy the filly, but has no intention of selling her. Jumper and his son, Naha, will “probably make her into a roper and then use her for breeding.”

Jumper will have one problem with the filly. According to Nosie and Norton, she only understands Apache, so Jumper will “have to make the translation.”



President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress with weight loss contest participants and fitness instructor Vicky Barogainnis (far right).

Weight Loss Winners Rewarded

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS – Winners were rewarded for “working on their health and getting fit,” said President and Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress at a

cates, was on hand at the event to present the awards to the winners of the recent weight loss contest. This was the fourth in what Cypress hopes to continue as a series of weight loss contests “to

are an important part of preventive health. The contests are not about the money awards, they’re about taking charge of your body and your health,” added Cypress.

After a luncheon of cold cuts and fresh fruits, the winners received their awards from Cypress and Fitness Instructor, Vicky Barogainnis. The awards were divided into two categories – Tribal/community members and employees. These were further divided by sex.

The winners were:

Tribal/community members – Men: 1st place – Charley Cypress, 10 lbs., 2nd place – Joe Junior Billie, 6 lbs. **Women:** 1st place – Vera Herrara, 24.5 lbs., 2nd place – Carolee Nelson, 17.5 lbs., 3rd place – Wendy Cypress, 12.5 lbs., Honorable Mention – Jeannette Cypress, 11 lbs. and Alvira Muskett, 9 lbs.

Employees – Men: 1st place – Patrick McElroy, Education, 13.5 lbs., 2nd place – SaintClair Pilgrim, Health, 13 lbs. **Women:** 1st place – Teresa Ussey, Pre-School, 31 lbs., 2nd place – Claudia Perez, Pre-School, 11.5 lbs., 3rd place – Rose Gattone, Ahfachkee, 10.5 lbs.

Barogainnis said the next contest would start sometime in January 2002.



Cypress hopes to continue the series of weight loss contests to promote healthy living.

special luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 4 in the Big Cypress gymnasium. Cypress, one of the Tribe’s most ardent health advo-

promote healthy living among our people and our employees.” “Good nutrition and maintaining your optimum weight

By Libby Blake
FORT LAUDERDALE – Kimberly Royal, Operations Supervisor for Billie Swamp Safari, was named a SUNsational employee by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau at their annual courtesy awards luncheon, held Dec. 5 at the Marina Marriott Resort.

“The program recognizes and encourages hospitality and courtesy among those who directly serve Broward visitors,” said Francine Mason, Vice President for Communications at the CVB.

Royal, one of twelve finalists chosen from 94 nominees, won for going above and beyond the call of duty when a guest in an electric wheelchair visited Billie Swamp Safari this year.

The man’s wheelchair would not fit through the door for the buggy ride. Instead of leaving the man waiting while his family enjoyed the ride, Royal, with the help of other Safari staff, modified the buggy so the wheelchair (and the man) could go along.

Royal then stayed after regular working hours to personally (and carefully) drive the man and his family along the somewhat bumpy swamp buggy route. She provided blankets for warmth and made sure the guests were able to see all the animals along the route.

Royal said it was a joint effort of several employees at the Safari. “First we went to Mary (Tigertail) to get the okay to modify the buggy. Art Perez and Jay (Jacob Osceola Jr.) help me figure out



L-R: Mary Tigertail and SUNsational employee Kimberly Royal.

the design and Ronnie Davis then did the actual modifications to the buggy. Joshua Parson helped, too, and Andrew Necolettos kept the man company while we did all this,” stated Royal.

“Nancy (Ortega Sloan) even stayed and kept the gift shop open so the family could shop after we got back.”

Broward County Commission Chair Lori Parrish and CVB President Nicki E. Grossman presented the Class of 2001 SUNsational Service Courtesy awards finalists with prizes and praise.


“Based on research highlighting the importance of quality service and training, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau initiated a customized county-wide SUNsational service training program and service excellence campaign,” said Grossman.

“We honor each of the 94 nominees who have gone above and beyond in creating a wow experience for visitors. The 2001 SUNsational service awards give us the opportunity to publicly recognize and applaud those front line employees who have embodied the highest standards of hospitality.”

Royal has worked at the Billie Swamp Safari in various positions since September 1998. The *Seminole Tribune* congratulates Kim and the staff at the Safari who make every visit a pleasure.

Dr. Siudmak

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Indian Students Do Not Read

By Dr. Dean Chavers

A lady called me up from Nevada the other day and asked me to think about one of the most vexing problems we have in Indian education. Indian students do not read.

By that I mean they do not read **AT ALL**. The consequences are devastating; I will return to discuss them in the middle of this column. By not reading, I mean the typical Indian student reads **NO BOOKS** outside the classroom in the course of a year. Some of my colleagues and I have actually collected data on this phenomenon. The facts are amazing and disappointing.

At the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the students were reading less than two-tenths of a book each (actually it was 0.166 books). At Many Farms High School, the students were reading a quarter of a book each. At Dulce School District on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, students were reading less than one book per person, 0.95 each on the average. Students at Montezuma Creek, Chinle School District, and Gallup-McKinley County Schools were all reading less than one book per year each.

I could add others, but the results have all been the same. Over 90% of Indian students are not reading any books at all outside the classroom. A handful of students are reading one to five books each, and almost none is reading heavily.

The quality of the books they are reading is also not great. They favor Scary Stories, teen romances, biographies of sports heroes, adventure books, and picture books. Imagine my shock when one of the seniors at Pine Hills High School told me this fall that she had read "Crime and Punishment," the classic by Dostoevsky.

You could have pushed me over with a feather. Unfortunately, she is still the only one I have talked to in 15 years of recruiting students for scholarships who has read this book. Unfortunately, she had not read **ANY** of the other literature of American, Native American, or English classics, including Shakespeare.

The lady who called me from Nevada was distresse3d. Her son had been going to a public school and making good grades. Then he switched to a BIA school, which was so bad his grades dropped to D and F. After one year he switched back to the public school, where he is making grades of C and D.

He wants to be a pilot, and loves to read at the moment he is reading **no books at all**. I told his mom to get him reading, at all costs. He is only a freshman in high school, so he has time to recover and get on the road to good study habits.

The consequences of Native students not reading are obvious to us at Catching the Dream all the time. We will have an applicant with a GPA of 3.8, who should score at the top of the scale on the ACT. Instead, the typical Indian student with a 3.8 will score at the 35th or 50% percentile.

This score is disappointing to many of them, because they want to go to Harvard or Stanford. None of the Ivy League colleges will take them with an ACT score that low.

Let me give you verbatim some of the reasons/excuses they give us for scoring so low, which are like a broken record to us; we hear it over and over. These are only from the Fall 2001. The thought of standardized tests instills fear in me.

- I am not comfortable taking standardized tests.
- Standardized tests are very intimidating.
- I am always so nervous.
- I hardly did any studying at home.
- I concentrated on time instead of the questions.
- The test scores are only estimates.
- I did nothing to prepare for these tests.
- They test how well you can take a test.
- SAT scores reflect your socioeconomic status.
- I do not do so good (sic) with any kind of

- standardized testing.
- I came from a high school where I did not need to study.
- In high school I did not have much motivation.
- This score is not a true indication of my ability or desire to succeed in college.
- I feel that they do not adequately show my knowledge, abilities, effort, or enthusiasm.
- My test scores really did not reflect my aptitude.
- I always had a hard time remembering what I learned.

I could go on, but these comments are illustrative of the ones we get. Well over 80% of our applicants, all of whom are Indian, have high GPAs and at the same time average or low ACT or SAT scores. The data I have seen make me believe without a doubt that **THE LACK OF READING LEADS TO LOW COLLEGE TEST SCORES**. Nothing else causes it so well.

I wish I could get to all these students before they start high school. I would tell them, as I do as many students as I can reach, "Read at least **one book a week** all the way through high school." This is the best piece of advice anyone can give Indian students who are planning to go to college, as well as their parents.

Fortunately it is possible to recover from this lack of reading, even as late as your senior year. We had a student who did that last year. She had a 3.8 GPA in high school, and had wanted to go to Dartmouth since she was a little girl.

Luckily, she took the ACT the first time it was offered, in October. (**ALL INDIAN STUDENTS WHO ARE SENIORS should do the same thing.**)

When she got her scores back she was devastated. She had scored a 19, which is the 45th percentile. None of the Ivy Leagues will take a student with that score.

When she called me she was crying. She thought she would never get into an Ivy League college. "Take the test again," I told her, "And study for it with one of the prep tests. And start reading all you can."

She started reading heavily, and studied with one of the prep tests. She took the ACT a second time and scored a 21, which is the 50th percentile. The third time she scored a 22, still not good enough. The fourth time she scored a 25, which is the 82nd percentile. She got admitted to two Ivy League colleges. She was the happiest person in the world, she told me.

Indian students should take three lessons from this. One, start **RIGHT NOW** reading heavily. Read the classics—Mark Twain, Trail of Tears, the Long Walk, your Tribe's history, biographies of Lincoln and Franklin, "David Copperfield," etc. and much more.

Two, take the ACT or SAT as early as possible. Take the practice test in the tenth grade, and take the PACT and PSAT in the eleventh grade. Take the test itself as many times as possible.

Third, prepare for the tests. There are study centers such as Sylvan and Kaplan if you can afford them. If you cannot, there are study books and prep tests you can take on your own time, and that are affordable.

The people in your Tribe need you. They need you to get an excellent college education and help them make their world a better place. Start preparing now, whether you are in the sixth grade or the twelfth grade. And **read, read, read. And study, study, study**, a lot. And take all the college prep courses you can, regardless of what the teachers and counselors say. Fight them. Don't let them put you in the bonehead or non-college-prep courses.

Dr. Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement program for Native students. His address is Nscholarshaol.com.

Education Hires New GED/Counselor

By Barbara Wilmes, Acting Director of Education

The Education Department recently employed Julia M. Johns in the GED/Counselor position for the Seminole Tribe. Julia holds a Master of Science degree in Education.

Julia and her husband, Deland, are the parents of one child, Cheyenne, 22 months old. Julia has eight years experience at Westchester Community College with the placement of public assistance persons in education programs, college preparatory work, and GED and college entrance exams. Julia also has taught pre-school as an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher, and ESL as an Adult Education Level I and Level II teacher.

Julia says that she enjoys reading, relaxing,

and spending time with her husband and son, and enjoys travel and exploring new areas. Julia is happy to be here and would like any Tribal member in to visit with her in her office, on the second floor of the DSO, or by phone at (954) 989-6840, x1224.



Julia Johns, GED/Counselor

Seminole Students In GA Want To Hear From You

By Ella DeHass, Acting Hollywood Education Counselor

Dahlonega, GA – Seminole Students attending Hidden Lake Academy would like to hear from you.

On Nov. 8-9, three staff members from the Education Department conducted a school and student visit at the Hidden Lake Academy in Dahlonega, GA.

The Seminole students were very happy to have visitors and get caught up on the latest news from home.

They are homesick and want to hear from you! You can write to them at: Hidden Lake Academy, 830 Hidden Lake Road, Dahlonega, GA, 30533.



(L-R) Front - Brian Osceola (Tampa), Jerry Balentine (Big Cypress), Dominique Osceola (Hollywood). (Back) Owachige Osceola (Big Cypress), Zena Simmons (Brighton).

ACT Registration Deadline Is January 4

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment on February 9, 2002, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is January 4. Late registration postmark deadline is Jan.



18 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all Ivy League

schools. The test fee is \$24 (\$27 in Florida). Colleges use ACT scores, along with a student's high school GPA and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course placement for new students.

The ACT Assessment is given in all 50 states. It is curriculum-based, designed to measure a student's academic achievement. It measures what a student learns in school. There are four sections to the exam: English, reading, math and science reasoning. The Act Assessment was taken nearly 2 million times last year by college-bound students.

For more information, including registration forms and free test prep materials, contact your high school counselor or register online on ACT's website—www.act.org.



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Education Staff Celebrates Christmas

By Alexandra Frank

CLEWISTON – On Dec. 7, the Clewiston Country Club served as the site for an annual Christmas Party for the Education Staff of the Big Cypress, Brighton, and Hollywood reservations.

The party, sponsored by President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress, was hosted by Patrick McElroy, Education Counselor – Big Cypress. Mr. McElroy said this was the fourth party held for the Education Staff.

The staff enjoyed a lunch, catered by the country club's own kitchen staff, of fried chicken, roast beef in gravy, and a scrumptious dish of potato casserole and other fixings. Of course, there was cake for dessert, which was eaten and enjoyed by all.

However, the most anticipated event, the giving of gifts, was saved for last. McElroy asked



everyone to gift according to the number they were assigned, and that if a recipient did not like the gift picked from the 31 available, they could exchange it with another individual.

Needless to say, this caused one of the most humorous situations I've ever witnessed. There were two items that inspired some individuals not to be shy about a gift they coveted. One item was a blue duffel bag that, for some reason, went from one person to two other individuals, before finally settling with a third gift seeker.

The most outrageous event centered on a "Precious Moments" clock. The event's most sought after gift, it must have changed hands eight times before being claimed by final owner, Moses Osceola. That gift was treated as if it were the last "Precious Moments" knick-knack on the planet.

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Safety Tips For The Holidays

The health officials at the Broward County Health Department want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. We offer these holiday safety tips:

Beware of Holiday Lighting – Take care when handling candles. Be sure they are kept away from decorations or other combustible materials. Don't leave children or pets unattended in a room with lit candles, and always keep candles, as well as matches and lighters, out of reach of children. Never display lighted candles in windows or near exits where draughts may blow them down or near curtains.

Test Tree Trimmings – When decorating with lights, be sure to purchase only those labeled by a testing laboratory. Never use candles to decorate Christmas trees. For outside decorations, use only those lights labeled for outdoor use. Don't overload electrical outlets, and always unplug all lights before leaving home or going to bed. Never put electrical lights on a metal Christmas tree.

Prepare for Holiday Parties – Decorate only with flame-retardant or noncombustible materials. Avoid using candles during parties. If guests will be smoking, provide them with large, deep ashtrays and check them frequently. After the party, check inside and under upholstery and in trashcans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.

Keep Christmas Trees Fresh – Choose a fresh Christmas tree and secure it in a sturdy stand. Place the tree away from heat sources and exits, and water it daily. If you purchase an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire-retardant. If you plan to hang

stockings on your fireplace, do not use the fireplace for fires.

Be Cautious with Portable and Space Heaters – Place space heaters at least three feet away from anything combustible, including wallpaper, bedding, clothing, pets and people. Never leave space heaters operating when you are not in the room or when you go to bed. Don't leave children or pets unattended with space heaters.

Cook with Care – When cooking, do not wear loose fitting clothing. It can be ignited by hot burners. Always turn pot handles in. Don't store items on the stovetop; they could catch fire. Keep kitchen appliances clean and in good condition, and turn them off after use. Don't overload electrical outlets, and don't use appliances with frayed or cracked wires.

Designate a Driver – When attending a party, always designate a non-drinking driver. If you are the host of a holiday gathering, be sure there are non-alcoholic beverages available for guests who are driving. Don't let guests drive if they have had too much to drink. Have someone else drive them home or call a taxi.

Buckle up – During the holiday months, people travel more than ever. Wearing a seat belt is the easiest and best way to prevent injury in a motor vehicle collision. Ensure that all passengers are also wearing safety belts.

This is a time of year for celebration of numerous meaningful holidays. We hope that everyone enjoys the season safely and in good health.

Universal Orlando Offers Holiday Vacations For Grinchmas

ORLANDO — To launch the holiday season and its 2nd annual Grinchmas special event, Universal Orlando is offering Florida residents special holiday season getaway vacations that include multi-night hotel stays, multi-day passes to both of the resort's theme parks, admission to all of the clubs at CityWalk, special meals and entertainment, and much more.

Vacation rates will be low as \$49 per person, per night, with accommodations at Orlando area hotels or the resort's two Triple AAA four-diamond hotels for travel through December 31, 2001.

The Universal Orlando resort will be bustling with holiday activity through the end of December. Special activities include: Grinchmas at Universal's Islands of Adventure, a winter wonderland that brings to life the whimsical world of the Grinch as created by Dr. Seuss; special menu items like the Grinchmas "Roast Beast Platter" at Circus McGirku's Café Stoopendous in Islands of Adventure; carolers at Universal Studios Florida; Rock 'n Roll ornament making and decorating at the Hard Rock Hotel; holiday storytelling at the Portofino Bay Hotel; and live bands and spectacular fireworks for New Year's Eve.

Vacation offerings include:

Florida Resident Universal Area Vacations: From \$49 per adult, per night (hotel taxes included), guests can enjoy two or more nights' accommodations at a variety of Orlando area hotels; a 2-day ticket to both Universal Studios Florida and

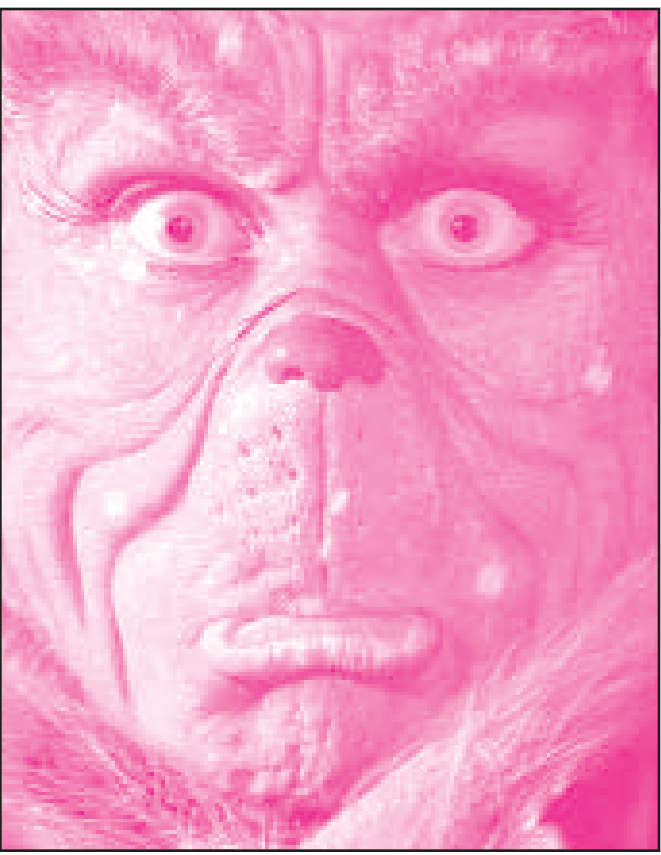
Islands of Adventure; and a CityWalk Party Pass good for admission into all nightclubs for adults 21 and over.

Florida Resident Universal Orlando Resort Vacation: From \$79.50 per adult, per night (hotel taxes included), guests can enjoy two or more nights' accommodations at the world-famous Hard Rock Hotel or the exclusive Portofino Bay Hotel; a 2-day ticket to both Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure; and a CityWalk Party Pass good for admission into all nightclubs for adults 21 and over.

Both packages can be customized to add air, rental car, other Orlando area theme park tickets, the Grinchmas "Roast Beast Platter" at Islands of

Adventure and more. Prices are based on adult double occupancy and require a two-night minimum stay. Children's rates are also available. Packages are subject to availability. Some restrictions and blackout dates apply.

To take advantage of the special holiday offers, Florida residents should call 1-800-407-4275.



Be Careful

Continued from page 1

Just as this holy day was planned out and followed through before us. A day unlike any other, this is the time to take the initiative to plan your visits with family to be a gratifying and memorable day.

Be prepared to be responsible while out and about; designate a driver so that we will be able to celebrate New Year's together. Most of the time, you're better off just staying at home, then going out later when you're more coherent, anyway. Make that extra commitment to be considerate of others and, especially, to yourself.

Are we prepared to be ready for any

tragedies if one occurs again? Of course, there are incidents that can't be prevented, but taking extra precautions never hurt anyone. Always be aware that accidents can happen without warning, and keep an open mind of everything and everyone around you. Count your blessings if any type of events transpire in our midst, this too could be a part of our pre-arranged plan.

Take the energy and love you possess inside and share it amongst those you come into contact with during this holiday. Smile and acknowledge one another for his namesake, for that one moment may change an eternity. If not for the love of the Creator, where would we be? Let us all rejoice and be humble, for the day is at hand.

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Your Money – How To Save On Electricity

By Ken Goosens

[Editor's Note: Ken Goosens works for the Tribe in Housing Finance and counsel's Tribal members on loans and credit. The opinions expressed in the column are his own.]

Death and taxes may be unavoidable, but electric bills are a close third. Those bills come every month, and nobody gets out of paying them – not a soup kitchen feeding the homeless, not a grandmother with six foster kids, and much less you.

Power is cut off if that bill is not paid. The monthly electric bill can be \$200 for a 1200 square foot home that runs air conditioning all the time. What can you do to lower that bill?

Sign up for the "On Call" conservation program with Florida Power and Light to save almost \$100 per year. A device inside your house lets them briefly suspend power to your air conditioner and hot water heater in order to conserve electricity during periods of peak demand. Installation is free and a credit goes on your bill every month.

In South Florida, we have negligible heating cost but air conditioning can easily be 40-50% of our electric bills, so the largest savings come from keeping air conditioners off as much as we can and still be comfortable. Here are the top things you can do to reduce cooling costs.

1. Set your thermostat higher. Just putting your thermostat to 78 degrees instead of 70 will

lower your cooling bill by 24-48%. Definitely, set your thermostat higher whenever you will be away for at least a day. A programmable thermostat will automatically vary the temperature by day of week and time of day. If nobody is home Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., program these controls to set the temperature at, say 78 degrees, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and, otherwise, 72 degrees. Get everyone's consensus, so that no one keeps resetting the thermostat cooler.

2. Never set your thermostat below the temperature you want. Putting the thermostat lower does not cool the house any faster. The air conditioner runs full out when it runs at all. Putting the thermostat at 60 degrees rather than 70 degrees will not cool the house faster, but will cause the air conditioner to run needlessly after the house cools to 70 degrees, because you will forget set it back up.

3. Cool the house by pulling in outside air through open windows and doors whenever outside air is cool enough. Even running fans rather than the air conditioner is much less expensive.

4. Install a high efficiency air conditioner. However, do not replace an air conditioner that is running fine but inefficiently. When you need to replace your air conditioner, be sure to get a highly efficient one. They cost more initially but save money since the cost of running, an air conditioner is much more than the initial cost.

5. Eliminate air leaks in the house. Look everywhere that hot exterior air can come in and cool

interior air can escape out.

People overlook the most serious offender because they do not see it. The air ducts that distribute the cooled air throughout the house often leak air, cooling your attic. For \$30, Florida Power and Light will do an air duct test for their customers, recommend professionals to do any needed repairs, and give a rebate toward repairs.

You may also do your own duct inspections and repairs. Feel all around the duct with your hand for any escaping cool air, especially at any joints and bends. The best choice for repair is special adhesive mastic; available from Home Depot and Lowe's, that is made to seal air ducts. A fiberglass mesh may also be smeared with the mastic and run across a larger area or opening to seal it. Often, ducts leak because tape was used to seal them, which dried out and lost adhesion. If you do use tape, use a special aluminized tape for air ducts that resistant to moisture, heat, and cold rather than common "duct" tape.

Other serious leaks occur at doors, windows, and where anything comes into the house, including wires, pipes, and electrical switches. Feel around them with a wet finger along the edges to detect any airflow, checking both inside and outside the house. Do not forget doors seldom opened, such as a utility or garage door. You may need to add a tight jam to seal a door bottom, to caulk around windows, to line door or window edges with foam or felt, or fill holes with adhesive patch cement.

6. Add attic insulation if it is missing or thin. Florida Power and Light will do a free inspection for its customers and recommend contractors. You may inspect the attic or crawl space yourself. Fix bare board patches in the ceiling, holes where interior light shines through, and spots with less than three inches of insulation. Cellulose insulation normally takes a blower machine to apply, or you can spread rolls of fiberglass. Be careful not to cover recessed lights and not to block off air that vents along the edge of the house.

7. Change clogged air filters. The electric fan pushing the cooled air through the house has to work longer and harder if the filter is clogged up. You want to filter without impeding the flow of air. A clogged filter reduces cooling efficiency by 10%.

After air conditioners, the next largest users of electricity are water heaters (17%), refrigerators and freezers (15%), lights (11%), and clothes dryers (6%). If you can, get natural gas water heaters and clothes dryers, which are much cheaper to operate than the electric versions.

Here are the best ways to reduce costs for these electrical devices:

1. Buy high efficiency appliances to lower operating costs by 20-40%. Paying more initially makes sense, but do not junk a working unit. Get a clothes dryer with a sensor that turns off the heat when clothes are dry, and keep clean the lint filter as well as any screen over the exhaust vent.



Front-load washers are much more efficient than top-loaders mainly because they use less water and detergent, but also clean better. Better water heaters generally have better insulated tanks.

Fluorescent lights not only use one-fourth the electricity, they last years longer and generate 70-90% less heat, so you get a triple saving. Compact fluorescent bulbs screw into sockets in place of incandescent bulbs, but their higher price makes sense only for lights on 4 hours or more per day.

2. Program your hot water heater to come on only when you really need hot water. Suppose you need hot water only in the evenings for washing dishes, clothes, and your bodies. A programmable timer lets you set the hot water to come on say at 6:00 p.m. and shut off at 11:00 p.m.

3. Use a water-conserving showerhead with a quick shut off valve. Reduce the use of hot water by running less water during the entire shower. Wet yourself first, turn the lever to stop the water, soap all over, then flip the water back on and rinse. Modern low-flow heads maintain good pressure.

Finally, save money by keeping the sun from heating your house. Here is what helps the most.

1. Select a house color that is light and reflective, especially for the roof. Do not replace just to save electricity, but do try to save if you have to paint or replace the roof anyway. Also, metal roofs reflect heat much more efficiently than asphalt shingles and last the life of the house, rather than having to be replaced every 15 years.

2. Shade the house with trees. Good shade can lower your cooling costs by 20%. Select trees that are wind resistant, especially for hurricane-prone Florida. Even easier, reduce your air conditioning costs by up to 10% just by keeping the direct sun off the outside condenser of the air conditioner, but never block the flow of warm air it throws off.

3. Add a reflective film on glass in the house that gets direct sunshine. The principle is the same as car window tinting. With a kit, you can install film that reduces heat by 70% but still admits most light, or pay a professional. The cooling effect comes not from darkening, but from a radiant heat barrier that keeps heat out and coolness in.



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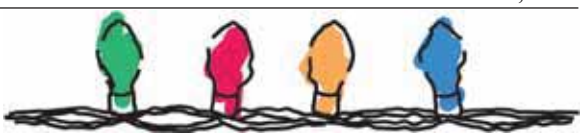
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Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament

By Libby Blake
BRIGHTON – Tribal member Alice Sweat planned and organized the Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament, held on Dec. 1 at the Brighton gymnasium.

Youth, adults, and seniors competed in 8-Ball play. Adult and seniors scotch doubles was also played. Cash prizes were given for the top five places in each division, except the youth, who received Wal-Mart gift certificates.

JR Huff manned the barbecue, cooking up hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch. Alice, with the help of family members, provided all the fixings. Dinner was catered by Diane Smith and Diane Snow, who served up beef with gravy over white rice.

The youth were divided by age groups: 12-17 years, 6-11 years, and five years and under. Bryan Arledge was the only 12-17 year old boy to sign up, so he took home the top place. Two girls in that age group signed up, and after the competition, Dixie Tommie came out on top over Missy Huff.

In the 6-11 years group, Pierson Hunsinger took the top spot for the boys. Second through fifth were Justin Aldridge, J.T. Smith, Cordey Jumper and Ty Huff. The girls division ended up a battle of Alice's granddaughters.

Ali Nunez came out the winner followed by cousins Destiny Nunez, Stevie Brandtley and Brianna

Nunez, and sister Ami Nunez.

Alice's grandkids weren't done yet. In the five and under group, three of her grandchildren placed. Ari Nunez took first, followed by Daniel Nunez and Joshua Boromei. C.W. Ortez took the fourth and final spot.

While the youth competition took place in the gym's poolroom, the adults and seniors battled on the main floor, where tables had been set up for the tournament.

Over 50 people turned out the first ever Holiday Pool event. A one game, double elimination format was played in each division for men and women. Big Cypress Recreation Assistant Director Jack Gorton ran the brackets throughout the day.

Mike DeWitt, owner of Discount Pool Cues and All-Weather Billiards, set up shop, offering cue repairs and an assortment of cues, cases, and accessories for sale. DeWitt also donated several items to Alice for a raffle. Proceeds from the raffle went to the Brighton seniors.



Winners in the Men's 8-Ball Tournament: Roy Snow, Jacob Osceola, Jr., Tony Billie.

Osceola, 5th place – Maydell Osceola.
Men: 1st place – Tony Billie, 2nd place – Jacob Osceola, Jr., 3rd place – Roy Snow, 4th place – David Nunez, 5th place – Dallas Nunez.

Women: 1st place – Linda Billie, 2nd place – Linda Tommie, 3rd place – Anita Nunez, 4th place – Theresa Boromei, 5th place – Mary Jo Micco.

Scotch (Mixed) Doubles: 1st place – Joe Junior Billie/Linda Billie, 2nd place – David and Anita Nunez, 3rd place – Tony and Janel Billie, 4th place – Boogie and Peggy Nunez, 5th place – Daniel Gopher/Debbie Carter.

Senior's Doubles: 1st place – Ronnie Doctor/Mabel Osceola, 2nd place – JR Huff/Jenny Johns, 3rd place – Buddy and Alice Sweat, 4th place – Russell and Juanita Osceola, 5th place – Moke and Maydell Osceola.

After the competition, an open 9-Ball tournament was held. 26 men and 11 women anted up \$20 each to play. The winners were:

Men: 1st place – Corey Penrod, 2nd place – Glenn Olson, 3rd place – Mike DeWitt, 4th place – Boogie Nunez, 5th place – Sean Tucker.

Women: 1st place – Anita Nunez, 2nd place – Janel Billie, 3rd place – Linda Billie, 4th place – Juanita Osceola, 5th place – Debbie Carter.



Winners in the Women's 8-Ball Tournament: Mary Jo Micco, Theresa Boromei, Anita Nunez, Linda Tommie, Linda Billie.



Seminole Casino Team Takes Trophies In Backbone Celebrity Classic

By Ernie Tiger
KEY LARGO– The winds were heavy off the east on the morning of Friday, Dec. 7, because of Tropical Depression Olga.

Because of the weather factors and recent scouting of the Islamorada and Flamingo inshore waterways, our team of Capt. Eric P. VanDemark, myself, and Mike Tiger made the Flamingo waterway the destination for our first day of fishing in the Second Annual Boy Scout Backbone Celebrity Classic.

Driving to and from the Flamingo waterway was the only negative factor about the first day of fishing. Flamingo lies an hour from the private luxurious Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, where the tournament is held.

Capt. VanDemark had heard of recent sightings of large schools of Redfish in Flamingo and assured us that, with the prevailing easterly winds, Flamingo would be the ideal spot to fish during the tournament because of its waterways and sheltered location from the winds that day.

Trying to amass the highest point total during the tournament, our team decided to use circle hooks, which added more points to the fish landed that day.

Circle hooks, considered one of the most humane ways to catch and release fish, are also one of the more difficult hooks to land fish with, because of the small diameter and circle shape, which punctures and dislodges the fish easily. We lost one Redfish and other assorted point fish during the first day of the tournament because of the circle hooks.

However, I managed to land a Redfish on a circle hook, which averages a hundred in the point system with a sample clipping of the tail.

Biologists are studying the tail clippings to learn more about the health, population and migratory habits of the Redfish in the Florida Keys.

Capt. Eric VanDemark located a school of finger mullet for bait to use later in the day. Angler Mike Tiger used a finger mullet to land a 19-inch Sea Trout on a circle hook, it proved to be the tournament's largest trout to be landed and released.

Landing trout consistently on Friday morning, we decided to focus on them on the first day to get quick points on the board, and use the second day of fishing to locate larger pockets

of fish. Mike and I managed to catch our trout during the 1st day of fishing. On the second day of fishing, after the storm had passed, the trout were scattered all over the flats, making it more of a hide-and-seek day. In the end, we managed to finish sixth in the tournament out of thirty teams.

Capturing first place was Fly fisherman Stu Apte and partner Steve Stanley, whose team held the first place position on the first and second days of the tournament.

Apte's team will represent the BackBone Celebrity Classic at the Rolex/IGFA Inshore Championship in May of 2002 in Islamorada, where the world's most talented light tackle anglers will compete for international recognition, trophies and Rolex watches.

In addition, the tournament's night festivities included a BackBone

Representative Max Osceola, Seminole Casino General Manager Larry Frank and Sales and Marketing Director Adam Sak.

Team Grand Champion
Paul Winthrop, Tavernier, FL, Jack Currett, Ocean Reef, FL, Capt. Dave Denkert, 1450pts. 2) Bill Hutchinson, Novato, CA, Ed Hughes, Charlestown, RI, Capt. Jimmy Moore, 1375pts. 3) David Hochey, Ft. Lauderdale, Stanislav Cay, Stan Connelly, Atlanta, GA, Capt. Barry Hoffman, 950pts.

Celebrity Team Champions
1) Stu Apte, Tavernier, FL, Steve Stanley, St. Petersburg, FL, Capt. Rick Murphy, 3150 pts. 2) Mike Leach, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, Steve Arch, Miami, FL, Capt. Jim Anson, 925pts. 3) Rich Andrews, Vail, CO, Jeff Cardenas, Key West, FL, Capt. Greg Poland.

Team Tagging Trophy
Brian Gabriel, Palm Beach, FL, Chico Fernandez, Miami, FL, Capt. Darrick Parker. **Team Circle Hook Trophy**

Mike Tiger, Mt. Juliet, TN, Ernest Tiger, Hollywood, FL, Capt. Eric VanDeMark, 14 Circle hooks.

General Division Champion
Bill Hutchison, Novato, CA

Spin Division Champion Steve Stanley, St. Petersburg, FL, 1425pts.

Fly Division Champion Brian Gabriel, Palm Beach, FL, 225pts.

Largest Fish Permit- 30" Bill Hutchinson, Novato, CA

Tarpon- 28" Jim Hammel, Miami, FL

Bonefish- 32-1/4" Marc Gordon, N. Potomac, MD

Redfish- 28 1/2" Steve Stanley, St. Petersburg, FL

Snook- 33" Stu Apte, Tavernier, FL

Snook- 32-1/2" Richard Owsley Ocean Reef, FL

Trout- 19" Mike Tiger

Top Female- Susan Grant, Marathon, FL
Top Male- Steve Stanley, St. Petersburg, FL



Mike Tiger happy about his point-winning trout.

Dig, which was held after a sumptuous four-course meal. Participants dug through sand with shovels for a chance at many prized gifts, such as items from Scout Boats and prints by renowned underwater marine artists Guy Harvey, Marjorie Smith, and Jean Cochran.

The Seminole Casino hosted a casino night on Friday night. The participants gorged themselves on Maine lobster before trying their luck at the tables, where funny money or "Backbone Bucks" won could be traded for gifts that were auctioned off later that night.

The Seminole Team would like to thank the sponsors for making this trip possible: Hollywood



Joe Junior Billie shot his way to a first place finish in the Men's 55-59 division.

B.C. Seniors Host Pool Tourney

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS – Seniors from Big Cypress and Hollywood got together for some friendly competition shooting pool at the new Community Center on Friday, Dec. 7. While the event was for all Tribal seniors, those were the only two reservations represented.

President/Acting Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress, and Board Representative Paul Bowers donated the prize monies for the seniors pool tournament. Joe Junior Billie organized the event.

The seniors were divided by age, 55 – 59 years and 60 and up, and sex for singles double-elimination 8-Ball play. Play got started at 10:30 a.m. after a few words from David Cypress and a special prayer, offered by Betty Osceola.

Everyone broke for a special lunch of baked chicken and ribs prepared by Cecelia Solano and crew at noon. Martha Doctor ensured that all the seniors were well taken care of by continually providing drinks and snacks throughout the day.

After lunch, scotch doubles 8-Ball was held. Since there were nine women and only eight men, Paul Bowers graciously volunteered to partner with one of the women so all present could participate.

Winners of each event were as follows: **Women 55 – 59:** 1st place – Louise Osceola, 2nd place – Mabel Osceola, 3rd place – Ruby Osceola. **60 and up:** 1st place – Annie Jumper, 2nd place – Patsy Billie, 3rd place – Louise Billie, 4th place – Betty Osceola, 5th place – Sadie Cypress.

Men 55 – 59: 1st place – Joe Junior Billie, 2nd place – Ronnie Doctor, 3rd place – Leroy King, 4th place – Rudy Osceola, 5th place – Russell Osceola. **60 and up:** 1st place – Tommie Billie, 2nd place – Alan Jumper, 3rd place – George Billie.

Scotch Doubles: 1st place – Ronnie Doctor/Mabel Osceola, 2nd place – Russell Osceola/Louise Billie, 3rd place – Joe Junior Billie/Annie Jumper, 4th place – George Billie/Louise Osceola, 5th place – Paul Bowers/Ruby Osceola.



Joe Junior Billie, Ruby Osceola, Louise Osceola, Annie Jumper, Louise Billie, Russell Osceola, Ronnie Doctor, Mabel Osceola.

2002 North American Indigenous Games

Alex Nelson, Executive Director for the 1997 North American Indigenous Games said, "Sports play an important role in the lives of Aboriginal youth throughout Canada and the United States. They offer our young people an opportunity to develop on many levels-physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual. The North American Indigenous Games will bring together thousands of young athletes, their coaches and managers, in the spirit of competition, friendship and cultural sharing."

The "Team Florida" NAIG Council Representative, USA Region 12 for Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina is Bo Young.

The Chief De Mission Staff is Michele Thomas and Rita Gopher of the Kristin Reservation and Bo Young and Kristin Duda from the Hollywood Reservation.

Sports Coordinators:
Archery- Steve Young, Hollywood.
Golf- Joe Frank, Big Cypress. **Athletics-** Bo Young, Hollywood. **Rifle Shooting-** Gloria Wilson. **Baseball-** Joe Collins, Hollywood. **Softball and Fastball-** Ricardo Osceola, Brighton. **Basketball-** Cicero Osceola, Big Cypress. **Swimming-** Kistin Duda. **Boxing-** To be announced. **Tae Kwon Do-** To be announced. **Wrestling-** Kenny Bayon, Hollywood.

Important, attention to all youth born in 1981-1989 interested in playing golf for **TEAM FLORIDA**, there will be practices held on Mondays and Wednesdays,

beginning on January 7, 2002 from 4:00 p.m. until dark. If anyone needs further information, call Brighton Chairman's Office or John Madrigal.

John Madrigal- the following dates are important for everyone interested in going to the 2002 Indigenous Games: **Track and Field-** Sat., Dec. 22, both adults and youth at Moore Haven Junior- Senior High School, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Swimming and Baseball- Wed., Dec. 26 at the Hollywood Gymnasium, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Volleyball- Dec. 27 at the Brighton gymnasium.

Youth Basketball- Friday and Saturday, Dec. 28 and Dec. 29 at the Big Cypress gymnasium at 10:00 a.m. You must be born between 1981 and 1989 to participate in the youth division.

In order to qualify, you must attend try-outs. These try-outs will be held for all Tribal members and first descendants interested in going to the games with Team Florida. If you need more information, call Brighton Recreation at 863-763-3866 or Brighton Chairman's Office at 863-763-4128.

Volleyball Practice- Every Wednesday night, starting Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. Practice will be held at the Brighton Gymnasium. This practice is for all girls born in 1981 through 1989 that are interested in playing on Team Florida in the 2002 Indigenous Games.



Hollywood Holiday Basketball Tournament

December 21 - 22, 2001
Men & Women Divisions
All Indian
Entry Fee: \$200
Deadline to enter: December 19 at 5:00 p.m.
For more information or to sign up, call Hollywood Recreation at (954) 989-9457.

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Air Travel Tips for Diabetics

By Suzanne Davis

Since the September 11 tragedy, the FAA has stepped up security measures at airports and there are new guidelines to flying the skies with diabetic supplies.

The following are some helpful tips from the American Diabetes Association to help your next departure proceed smoothly:

1) Insulin Syringes

Passengers may board airplanes with syringes or insulin delivery systems only if they can produce a vial of insulin with a professional, pharmaceutical pre-printed label that clearly identifies the medication. No exceptions will be made.

Because the prescription information is on the outside of the box that contains the vial of insulin, it is recommended that you do not discard your insulin box so that it may be presented.

2) Lancets

This is the device you use to get the blood when you are testing your sugar. It is fine to board the plane with lancets, as long as they are capped and brought with a meter.

The meter also needs to have the manufacturer's name labeled prominently on them, for example "Accu-check". All meters received from the clinic are in compliance with this standard.

3) Glucagon Kits

For those patients who have been prescribed a glucagon kit, for extreme cases of low sugar, keep the kit intact with the pre-printed

label from the pharmacy.

4) Specific Airline Requirements

These are general guidelines, some airlines may require additional precautions.

Travelers are urged to phone their carriers one day in advance of scheduled flight departure to verify the airline's diabetes medication and supply policy.

5) Difficulty at the airport

If you experience difficulty with security as a result of your diabetes supplies, contact the "FAA Grounds Security Commissioner" at the airport, which will be able to assist with resolution of the problem.

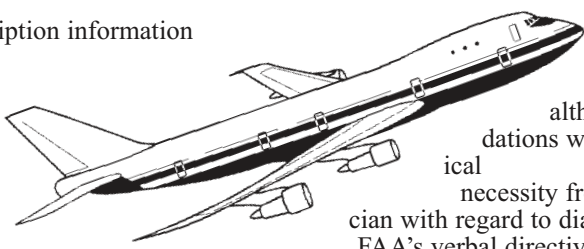
6) Letter From Physician

Please note, although the first recommendations were to have a letter of medical necessity from the prescribing physician with diabetic supplies, the FAA's verbal directives to the ADA say those will not be accepted, due to forgery concerns.

7) Please keep in mind that passengers are still encountering long delays at the airports and on the runways. Please be sure to keep your medication and insulin in your carry-on luggage.

Also, plan ahead by keeping a healthy snack with you in the event you miss a meal. Remember, sugar that is too low can be just as bad as sugar that is too high.

We hope that these tips will prove helpful for your next trip. Have a great time and a wonderful holiday from the Seminole Health Department. Merry Christmas!



Diabetes Research Program Scheduled to Begin January 2002

By Michael James

On Jan. 1, 2002, a Tribally-sponsored Diabetes research program is scheduled to begin. Coordinating the research efforts will be Suzanne Davis, Diabetes Coordinator and Helene Buster, R.N. Buster will be leaving the Big Cypress Clinic for one year to assist in the research study.

The goal is to go into the homes of all tribal members from the ages of 10 years old and older and conduct a simple finger stick test to determine undiagnosed diabetes and educate those at risk for diabetes and related health problems.

They intend to target those who are unable to visit the clinics or those who are simply uninformed about this disease, which is becoming one of the most serious health challenges facing Native Americans in the United States today. The disease is very common in so many tribes, and morbidity and mortality from diabetes can be severe if not fatal.

Information and education cannot be given enough with regards to this disease. Diabetes mellitus is a group of diseases characterized by high blood levels of glucose. Diabetes results from defects in insulin secretion, in insulin action, or both.

Most Native Americans have type 2 diabetes, which usually develops in adults, but can develop in children or adolescents. As serious as diabetes is, people can take measures to reduce the likelihood of disability and death.

Type 2 diabetes can be managed with healthy eating, physical activity, oral diabetes medications, and or injected insulin. Type 2 Diabetes is now very common in children age 10 and older, the beginning age of the research program to begin in January.

According to a recent study conducted by Indian Health Services, of the 2.3 million self-identified American Indians who receive care from the IHS, about 70,000 had diabetes.

There are two categories of risk factors that increase the chance of type 2 Diabetes. The first is genetics. The second is medical and lifestyle risk factors, including obesity, diet, and physical inactivity.

Genetic background is a determining factor in the prevalence of type 2 Diabetes. In some tribes, the more full-blooded individuals were found to have the highest prevalence of type 2 Diabetes, as compared with those of more mixed heritage.

Although the specific genes responsible for the inheritance of type 2 Diabetes have not been located, the Journal of Clinical Investigations published a report where NIDDK scientists studying the Pima Indians have identified a gene called FABP2 that may play a role in insulin resistance.

More recently a study published in the journal *Diabetes* has shown that a variant more common in Pimas than Caucasians in the PPPIR3 gene is associated with type 2 diabetes and insulin resistance.

A major risk factor for type 2 Diabetes among all races and ethnic groups is obesity. Although the study of obesity and energy metabolism in certain Native American populations has not been revealed, one theory of predisposition has been

proposed.

In 1962, the "thrifty gene" theory suggested that populations of indigenous people who experienced alternating periods of feast and famine gradually adapted by developing a way to store fat more efficiently during periods of plenty to better survive famines.

The degree to which obesity is a risk factor for diabetes depends greatly on the location of the excess weight. Central or upper body obesity is a stronger risk factor type 2 Diabetes than excess weight carried below the waist.

Changes in physical activity and diet have changed significantly for many members of Native American groups over the past several decades. Diets are higher in fat and calories than traditional diets and physical activity has decreased.

There are so many complications that arise from Diabetes, heart disease being one major resulting problem. Among all American Indian populations, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death.

A study published in the *American Journal of Epidemiology* revealed that cardiovascular mortality in Arizona, Oklahoma, North Dakota, and South Dakota was higher in American Indians compared with that of non-Hispanic whites in the United States.

Other health problems resulting from diabetes: strokes, although the incidence of stroke rates among Native Americans is not known; hypertension or high blood pressure; retinopathy- the deterioration of the blood vessels in the eye caused by high blood pressure; cataracts; nephropathy or renal disease and lower extremity amputations.

Everyone has, in some way, been affected by this disease. Whether it was a family member or friend, we all have witnessed what this disease has done in the Seminole community.

The *Tribune* has reported on individuals plagued by this problem, even reported on an individual why he was having dialysis. That is why it is so important that all participate in the research program beginning in January.

Here are some important points to remember:

- *About half of American Indian adults have diabetes; most have type 2 diabetes. Rates do vary markedly among tribes.
- *Type 1 diabetes in American Indian youth is relatively rare; however, recent reports highlight an increasing incidence of type 2 diabetes in children and adolescents.
- *American Indians have genetic, medical and lifestyle factors for type 2 diabetes.
- *American Indians with diabetes have a high incidence of diabetes complications such as eye and kidney disease, cardiovascular disease and lower extremity amputations.
- *Cardiovascular disease was the leading cause of death in American Indians, and diabetes is a high contributing risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

Hollywood Gathers for "Light the Night"

By Jeanne Hatfield, Health Educator

HOLLYWOOD - November was National Diabetes Month. In recognition of this, the Health and Recreation Departments held an event called "Light the Night" on Nov. 13.

The evening began at the gym, where Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola, Jr. and others spoke on the importance of diabetes awareness. The group of over 60 community members and staff walked a path around the reservation, while holding balloons.

However, these were no ordinary balloons. Each balloon had written on the outside of it, "Light the Night - Fight Diabetes!!". Inside each balloon was a little light that kept on shining all night long, symbolizing the light of hope and promise in the fight against this disease.

In addition, everyone was given a beautiful "Light the Night" t-shirt, designed by Lawrence Osceola.

It was a great time and a lot of people showed up to light the night. After the walk, Paul Buster led the group in prayer before releasing the balloons to the heavens. All of the participants were then treated to a healthy and tasty meal to wrap up the evening.

Many people expressed that they were very excited to be a part of this event. This was truly a special night because it was a wonderful way for



Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola, Jr. joined the Nov. 13 "Light the Night - Fight Diabetes" event.

people to come together and show their support in the fight against diabetes.

As simple as it may sound, taking a 30-minute brisk walk each day can help stave off adult-onset, or type 2, diabetes. It can also blunt the effects of the disease in those who already have it.

Although November has come and gone, we should all remember that the more we are aware of this disease and the more we can do to fight it.

Light The Night To Fight Diabetes

Submitted by the Big Cypress Health Center

BIG CYPRESS — The Light the Night and Fight Diabetes event was held on Nov. 14 at the old Hot Meals building. The event began with an inspiring prayer led by Pastor Hummingbird.

With SPD's sirens blaring, and each member of the group carrying a glowing, bright red balloon, the assembly began with an illuminating walk down the main road to the new Preschool building, through the driveway and back.

Outside of the Hot Meals building, we offered our families, friends and community members who strive each day to live a healthy diabetic life. Inside, everyone enjoyed a savory baked chicken dinner with plenty of friendly conversation.

FITTING IN EXERCISE

Some of the conversation touched on finding the time to exercise. Finding the time to exercise is often as much of a challenge as a new aerobic workout. In fact, the number one reason given for not exercising is lack of time. That's why it is important to come up with a regular exercise schedule - one that lets you know where and when you're planning to work out each week.

Of course, plans can change - but its better to skip a scheduled exercise session than to have no schedule at all. If you save your workouts for whenever a spare moment "pops up," you'll end up exercising infrequently. Intermittent exercise increases your risk of injury because the muscles, bones, tendons and ligaments can receive too much stress, too soon.

Your own schedule might involve a variety of workout times - morning workouts on some days, for example, and lunchtime or after-work exercise sessions on other days. The key is to find a blend that works for you and to stick with it.

You may find it helpful to buy an inexpensive calendar and schedule your planned workouts in advance. (You can check off each workout when you're finished and even make notes for yourself.)

Basic Scheduling Options

Weekends usually provide the best time for full exercise sessions. Try to work out on Saturday and Sunday, and pencil in your planned workout times before the weekend begins.

You may need to fit your exercise into your

preplanned weekend activities. For example, if you're planning to go to a beach or park, try scheduling a vigorous workout on the beach or a bike ride through the park.

You may prefer an early morning workout, because you can shower afterwards and get on with your workday. When you get out of bed, spend 10 to 15 minutes "puttering around" before you begin your exercise session (a cup of coffee or tea is OK, too, if you like).

This gives your body a chance to shake off the effects of sleep. Be sure to warm up fully at the beginning of your workout. Many swimmers in particular find they enjoy starting the day with a session of laps in the pool.

If walking or biking is your favorite aerobic activity and you don't perspire so heavily that you have to shower after a light workout, then walking or cycling to work (or your local bus or rail station, if you're a commuter) can be another way of fitting in some aerobic exercise.

Simply wear athletic shoes and keep an extra pair of dress shoes at the office. Or bring a pair of athletic shoes to work and fit in a walk on the way home.

If you do not work outside the home or you're self-employed and working from your home, you might enjoy breaking up your day with a workout break.

Instead of taking a 20-minute break to read the paper and have a snack, stretch the break out a few minutes longer and enjoy a 45-minute walk, bicycle ride or swim, or put a favorite aerobics tape in your VCR. You'll find that this exercise break is even more relaxing than putting your feet up.

Lunchtime can also be a good time for a 45-minute walk, cycle or swim. If you're a swimmer or prefer the facilities of a health club, your pool or club should be close to your place of business.

You will probably need at least an hour for this type of workout. You may find that working out in the late afternoon or early evening fits your schedule best. It is generally recommended that late evening exercise be avoided as it may make falling asleep difficult.

The key is to find an exercise schedule that fits your lifestyle and includes activities you enjoy.

Light the Night – Brighton Style

By Melissa Hines, Brighton Health Educator

BRIGHTON – On Thursday, Nov. 15, the community of Brighton came together in their fight against diabetes. The Light the Night walk was originally scheduled to be a walk around the rodeo arena, but Mother Nature had other plans, so we had to develop an alternate walking route, 15 laps around the gym.

Several community members spoke about their fight with diabetes and their ways of preventing diabetes with two main components – exercise and diet. Pastor Wonder Johns started the walk with a speech and a prayer for the community and those fighting the battle with diabetes.

Connie Whidden, Health Director and Martha Jones spoke encouraging words to the participants. Board Representative Alex Johns came out to show his support for the cause, speaking on the importance of prevention and management of diabetes.

I would like to thank the community members who came out to make this event such a success and the speakers for sharing their experiences and knowledge. Together as a team, we can come closer to winning the battle against diabetes!



Suzanne Davis and Health Director Connie Whidden attended the Nov. 15 "Light the Night" event.

Tribal Members Compete In Dublin Marathon

By Michael James

DUBLIN, IRELAND – On Oct. 23, 2001, 10 Tribal members boarded the jet for an 8-hour trip, stopping in Newfoundland and landing in Dublin, Ireland for the Dublin marathon.

The Oct. 30 marathon is a 26.2 mile run. Marathon runners Helene Buster, Veronica Langley, Patty Waldron and Spencer Mims achieved what they had been training for months: finishing the marathon within the time limit.

The group stayed in Ireland for 8 days, while there, they visited a few sights in Dublin, including Trinity College, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and rode on a bus tour of the beautiful green countryside.

This was Helene's third marathon. In January 2000, with the aid of the book, *Sixteen Weeks to Non-Runners Marathon Book*, Helene started training for her first marathon, which took place in California two months later in March.

Her training started slowly and in moderation. The first week she ran/walked 4 miles, the next day she increased her distance to 6 miles and, by the end of the week, finished by doing ten miles. The book is an easy, step-by-step training schedule written for those who have never run a marathon.

After finishing the California marathon, Helene was motivated and began training for her second marathon in Tampa, which took place in December.

Unfortunately, while training for her third marathon, which was to take place in Alaska, she strained the tendons in her ankle and was unable to participate. Once she recovered, Buster set her sights on Dublin.

This marathon was particularly special, because of the support that was in attendance. Michele Thomas from the Brighton Chairman's office, her son Trevor, Helene's husband Andy, Veronica's husband Bill Langley, Nery Mejicano, Wanda Billie, the flight attendant of the plane, the pilot and co-pilot were there to show their support.

The runners literally had their own personal cheering section. The group encouraged the runners along the 26.2 mile run, and were at the end, cheering them on.

Although the runners were given an eight-hour time limit to finish the 26.2 miles, Buster finished in 6 hours. She says her time was slowed because of a ruptured blister. She ended up walking part of the marathon.

The weather was also a factor, the day of the marathon was one of the coldest and windiest days the runners experienced of the eight days they were in Ireland . . . and it never warmed up.

Helene is in training for her next marathon,

on Jan. 6, 2002, which is a 26 mile run at Disney World. In June, Buster plans to run the "Midnight Sun Run" in Alaska, which is the 26 mile run she missed earlier, due to injury.

This was Patty Waldron's first marathon ever. She participated in local 5k runs in the past, but never 26.2 miles. Waldron, who works at the Brighton Health Clinic as Medical Records Administrator and Clinic Supervisor, is married and has one daughter and one grandson.

Patty has always made exercise a part of her life. "I took care of my mom who had diabetes and heart disease and saw what she went through, I knew I didn't want to end up that way," said Waldron. "I asked the doctor what it was that I could do and he said exercise and a healthy diet."

When Patty decided to run in Dublin, she also received the book *16 Weeks to Non Marathon Runners Book*, which helped her to pace herself. She started training the summer before the run: in addition to her already established exercise regimen, Waldron began running twice a week.

Waldron completed the marathon in Dublin in 5: 46:19. She, too, has the "marathon bug". She plans to run a marathon in Naples, and a marathon in Nashville in April, 2002. Her goal, she emphasizes, is to finish both runs in less time.

Waldron also hopes that she can encourage others to take care of themselves, exercise and eat healthy.

Spencer Mims, aviation technician for the Tribe's Gulfstream jet and helicopters, was simply supposed to accompany the plane to Ireland.

However, when he heard about the marathon, Mims decided to participate as well. Mims, who has worked for the Tribe for over a year, began training in August 2000 when he participated in the weight loss contest at Big Cypress. His weight loss was attributed to running. Mims, incidently, won the contest.

Mims began to train seriously about eight weeks before the group was scheduled to leave for Ireland. The popular marathon book was also given to Spencer, and it helped him coordinate his training schedule.

In this, his first marathon, Spencer finished with a time of 4 hours and 51 minutes.

Spencer has worked in the aviation industry for 22 years and currently is working on his private license. He still trains two to three times a week, running on the treadmill and lifting weights in the gymnasium at Big Cypress.

The trip to Ireland lasted eight days and ended on Oct. 31. The marathon takes place every year in Dublin and is considered an official holiday.

In five minutes they will be on a school bus.
Somebody on the bus may ask them if they want to try drugs.



Now would be a good time to talk to them.

Who is your child's best friend? What does your child do for fun? What did your child do at school today? Does your child know about drugs? These are a few simple things that a parent should know about their child. Take the time to become involved with your children and communicate to our youth that drugs are not a part of our Native cultures.

For more information on talking to your kids about drugs, please call 1.800.788.2800.

Communication. The Anti-Drug.

Office of National Drug Control Policy
www.theantidrug.com

Announcements ❖ Ahnahhegeh ❖ Nakorkerkecetv



Happy Birthday • Heech-ka-ta-hon-ka En-neh-ta-ke Sha-faach-kee-ke

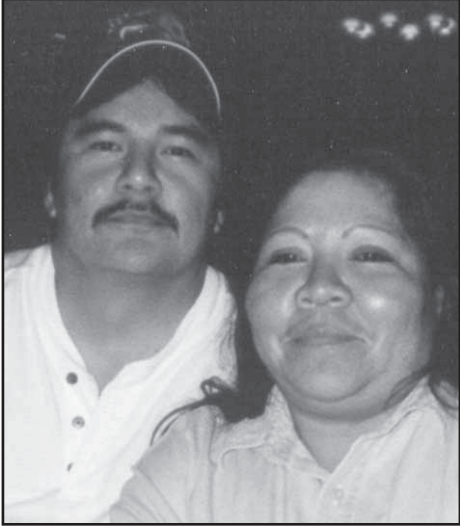
Anniversary



To Sophia: Happy 17th Birthday from Mom and Dad.



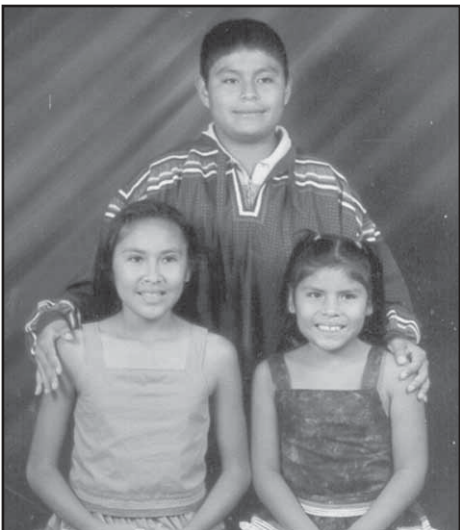
To Pelona: Happy late Birthday from you Mom and Dad and many more.



To David Eagle Sr.

Happy Birthday on January 28th. I just thank the Lord for letting us see each other again. Especially from Chilocco High School. Have a good one!

Yours truly,
Rosetta J.



Happy Belated Birthday December 5 To Chelsea Mountain
Happy Birthday December 30 Byron Billie
From John Billie Junior & Esther Gopher & Kristen Billie



Happy Birthday Sarah McDonald on 11/26, we hope you enjoy your special day and got everything you wanted (and deserved).
You are a great boss, friend, cousin, mother, sister, wife and all around human being. We hope you have a great year and celebrate many more birthdays with all those who care about you!



Chawndra, I wanna wish you a **Happy Birthday**, I love you and I miss you too. **Chawndra** you've grown up to be a beautiful person with 2 beautiful children. I am so proud of you and I know Grandma would be too. I wish I knew then what I know now, things would have been different. Also, have a Merry Christmas!
Love Ya. Love, **Mom**

Merry Christmas to all my children, I love you and I miss you, **Chawndra, Susan, Jason, Stephanie, Beaver, Daylyn, Kadin, Claireece, Angelina, and Ooshkeneheche**. I love ya, Love, **Mom**



Happy 17th Birthday to Ms. Paige Marie Osceola, born on December 9th. Love, **Mom (Marilyn)**

Happy 18th Birthday to Daniel Lee Bullard, born on December 16.

Deadlines

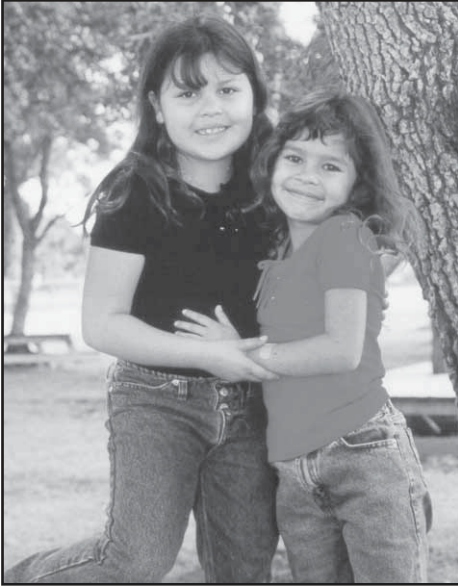
January 11, 2002 Issue
December 28

February 1, 2002 Issue
January 18, 2002

February 22, 2002 Issue
February 8, 2002



Happy Birthday to Arianna Nunez. Ari turned 5 years old on Dec. 1, 2001. Love and kisses, **Daddy David, Mommie Anita, Ali, Apple and Ami**.



Happy Birthday to Ami Nunez. Ami turned 7 years old on Nov. 2, 2001. Love and kisses, **Daddy David, Mommie Anita, Ali, Apple and Ari**.

To: Mom/Grandma Eva.
Happy Birthday and many more. We all Love you.
From: Alana, Cagey, Joey, E.G. and Blue Jay, Eli and all your grandyoungins.



Happy Birthday to our Dad, Vinson P. Osceola, born on December 28. We love you always; **Victor and Shelli Osceola**.

Another year and another candle you will have to surrender to. You are always in our prayers and we wish you all that you deserve. Look at it as better and wiser, as you've been in our eyes and hearts. Love you **Vinson**, have a great day! Forever; **Mom (Virginia), Sister (Valerie), Brother (Wesley), Brother (Jesse), Son (Victor), and Daughter (Shelli)**.

Happy Birthday to Glenda Waser of the Information Systems Department, who was born on December 4, hope you had a great day and got everything you wished for!

From all your friends here at the Tribal office: Teresa, Linda, Carol, Sandi, Joann, Dee, Alexandra, and too many to others to mention!

Happy Birthday to Mildred Bowers of the Accounting Department, born December 4, no, you can't have any Krispy Kreme donuts, but I hope you had a good birthday celebration.



December Birthdays

- Mary Billie Dec. 26
Louise Doctor Tigertail Dec. 25
Jack Henry Motlow Dec. 30
Louise Motlow Dec. 2
Maude Geneva Frank Dec. 11
Joe Dan Osceola Dec. 20
Mildred Booth Bowers Dec. 4
Mary Jane Robbins Dec. 31
Lottie Mae Huff Dec. 31
Guy Robert Osceola Dec. 9
Raymond H. Cypress Dec. 27
Patricia Ann Bowers Dec. 3
Alice Tiger Dec. 23
Freeman Joe Bowers Dec. 6
Jack Smith, Jr. Dec. 9
Teresa Jumper Dec. 11
Joe Benjamin Osceola Nov. 19
Sarah Ann Sampson Dec. 13
Billy Joe Johns Dec. 27
Bobbie Jennie Baker Dec. 31
Frances Jimmie Pelkey Dec. 15
Gary C. Billie Nov. 22
Josephine Motlow North Dec. 24
Mike Hall, Sr. Dec. 27
Jesse Billie Nov. 5
Robin Buster Dec. 20
John Mckinley Osceola, Jr. Dec. 20
Richard Lee Doctor Dec. 14
Betty Ann King Dec. 27
Diane Jim Snow Dec. 2
Linda Sue Tommie Dec. 2
Tom Tommie Daniels Dec. 3
Boettner Roger Jumper Dec. 6
Diane Osceola Dec. 18
Carolyn Billie Dec. 22
Ronnie Jimmie Dec. 28
Timothy Henry Motlow Dec. 31
Edmond Perry Billie Dec. 15
Fred Hall Dec. 24
John Hall, Sr. Dec. 24
Donna Frank Dec. 28
Johnny Jones Dec. 20
Virgil Doctor Dec. 2
Terrijo Denise Nelson Dec. 21
Clifton Eugene Huggins, Jr. Dec. 29
Stanlo Jeffery Johns Dec. 7
Marla Henry Wilson Dec. 9
Todd Kevin Osceola Dec. 14
Joyce Jumper Dec. 29
Donna Madrigal Turtle Dec. 30
Fredona Jean Frias Dec. 9
Karen Marie Tommie Dec. 14
Jack Elliot Chalfant Dec. 24
Mary Jane Billie Dec. 27
Abelardo Edwin Garcia, Jr. Dec. 2
Dollie Michele Thomas Dec. 12
Dean Cameron Youngblood Dec. 14
Michael Buck Henry Dec. 21
Richard Lyle Osceola Dec. 9
Helena Cypress Dec. 19
Halbert Ellis Morehouse Dec. 23
Freddie Tommie Dec. 23
Tina Lee Jim Dec. 24
Israel Osceola Colon Dec. 8
Laura Ann Billie Dec. 21
Sam Charlie Micco Dec. 21
Vinson Phillip Osceola Dec. 28
Matthew Michael Haught Dec. 8
Cornelius Theodore Cypress Dec. 11
Rosavell Billie Dec. 15
Shane Cypress Dec. 15
Kashane Stephen Tiger Dec. 19
Todd Christopher Johns Dec. 21
Wayne Nelson Osceola Dec. 30
Keith D Billie Dec. 1
David Allen Stivers Dec. 3
Carol Osceola Dec. 15
Stacy Marie Jones Dec. 17
Jessica Billie Buster Dec. 8
Leah Joan Osceola Dec. 9

- Michele Cypress Dec. 11
Gwendolyn Gay Isaac Dec. 12
Gary Neal Waggeber, Jr. Dec. 18
Kimberly Carol Willie Dec. 25
Carmalita Betsy Osceola Dec. 16
Marlin Rose Miller Dec. 3
Sunny Hayes Frank Dec. 9
George Barry Micco Dec. 21
Marissa Kay Baker Dec. 12
Carla Cypress Dec. 28
Jodi Rene Clay Dec. 24
Dawn Marie Snow Dec. 17
Tony Lee Osceola Dec. 6
Trishana Mary Storm Dec. 17
Victoria Josh Dec. 20
James Lester Holt, II Dec. 21
David Earl Nelson Dec. 27
Jana Rae Elizabeth Billie Dec. 7
Roy Alvarado, Jr. Dec. 17
Patricia Lynn Osceola Dec. 17
Duane Shore Jones Dec. 21
Vanessa Lynne Osceola Dec. 21
Randolph Tucker Dec. 29
Janine Catrina Cypress Dec. 3
Markell Alan Billie Dec. 4
Christopher Lee Plunkett Dec. 12
Thomas McGown Storm, Jr. Dec. 16
Natoshia REXANNE Osceola Dec. 23
Chawndra Jo-Ellen Billie Dec. 29
Latoyia Talacey Thomas Dec. 4
Jeremiah Lee Sanchez Dec. 5
Charlie Jackson Tiger, Jr. Dec. 26
Camilla Adrienne Frank Dec. 29
Justin Travis Osceola Dec. 15
Crystal Leshun Sneed Dec. 22
Kristin Marie Drake Dec. 27
America Marie Ramirez Dec. 2
Lansey King Dec. 11
Daniel Lee Bullard Dec. 16
Toahooke Billidine Bowers Dec. 22
Joshua Leon Sneed Dec. 30
Nicki Louise Osceola Dec. 6
Sophia Pauline Perez Dec. 7
Robert William Tiger Dec. 8
Paige Marie Osceola Dec. 9
Nolan Stuart Bowers Dec. 21
Jessica Ann Osceola Dec. 23
Timothy Nolan Gopher Dec. 9
Leanna Leshamia Sapp Dec. 10
Kyle Allen Johns Dec. 12
Joel Micco Bowers Dec. 13
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Donald Wayne Green Dec. 30
Clairissa Lindsay Tiger Dec. 9
Reuben Henry Billie, Jr. Dec. 12
David Thomas Anderson, Jr. Dec. 17
Cody Jacqueline Motlow Dec. 26
Byron Lee Billie Dec. 30
Shadoe Adrienne Justina Billie Dec. 31
Randi Lee Willie Dec. 31
Heather Lorraine Billie Dec. 4
Joshua Daniel Osceola Dec. 20
Zachary James Battisti Dec. 22
Maranda Jonell Bear Dec. 1
Kory Dion Sanders Dec. 1
Cierra Mildred Baker Dec. 4
Chelsea Blair Mountain Dec. 5
Joni Helen Josh Dec. 7
Brittany Billie Dec. 8
Robert Gerald Tartsah Dec. 13
Aaron Stephen Tommie Dec. 24
Angelo Eugene Tommie Dec. 24
Jonathan Thomas Fish Dec. 28
Ariana Celeste Cypress Dec. 6
Brittany Shantel Thomas Dec. 13
Tomasina Nichole Gillian Dec. 25
Melanie Danielle Jones Dec. 1



Happy 1st Anniversary 12-2-01 and Happy Birthday 12-28-01 to the Best Man on Earth, Vinson Osceola! I'm the lucky one! Thanks for all the love you give. I love you, Camellia Smith Osceola.

To The People

You know I've sat many night thinking, and Writing about what life means. What does jail mean? What my purpose is? I have yet to find answer.

The older dudes in here are either to far gone in their insanity. Or they just think they know more than they really do. However, I tend to find myself Drifting in deep thoughts of home.

Home is on the 64th Avenue. The home of the brave, The land of the crazy. Wishing I was on the block Kickin' it with family and friends my dogs, the females.

Everyday I awake. I curse the day I entered this cell. I curse myself for committing the crimes of which I've committed. Lord knows I do I've received No mail, I've received no visits, I have received No love.

I am alone.

By: Markell Alan Billie


- Darryl Dean Fuentes Dec. 7
Dejong Jones Frank Dec. 9
Ryan Bert Osceola Dec. 11
Daylon Sam Youngblood Dec. 12
Dylanie Shayne Henry Dec. 2
Eric Scott Robinson Dec. 4
Anthony Lance Balentine Dec. 8
Ashton Danielle Baxley Dec. 10
Madison Alan Tiger Dec. 17
Ashley Ann Escobar Dec. 29
Jordan Nathaniel Rodriguez Dec. 29
Renee Amber Stivers Dec. 1
Quinnton Lee Tiger Dec. 3
Nelson Wayne Billie Dec. 10
Marcell Reece Tubby, Jr. Dec. 13
Ryan Matthew Cypress Dec. 15
Jordan Jess Jumper Dec. 27
Dakota Desiree Wheeler Dec. 30
Darren Louis Jim Dec. 1
Taylor Henry Bettiest Dec. 6
Elena Michelle Jim Dec. 7
Valentino Noah Romero Dec. 9
Janet Rae Smith Dec. 15
Karlito Nicholas Wargolet Dec. 19
Paul Billie Dec. 22
Blair Scott Osceola Dec. 30
Echo Joseph Wolf Dec. 1
Marissa Marie Osceola Dec. 2
Warren James Gore Dec. 12
Wyatt Hunter Motlow-North Dec. 15
Christian William Alexander Dec. 19
Jonathan Devon Bowers Dec. 23
Arianna Dakota Nunez Dec. 1
Trystyn Marianne Storm Dec. 4
Anthony Henry Joe Dec. 10
Silver Elizabeth Wolf Dec. 10
Cameron Neil Osceola Dec. 11
Ethan Ray smith Dec. 11
Alyssa Courtney Thomas Dec. 15
Eliza Michelle Mora Dec. 24
Carmen Jean Billie Dec. 30
Gerret Hyde Osceola Dec. 30
Tyra Shancee Baker Dec. 6
Royce Gerret Osceola Dec. 10
Alonzo D'An Bowers-Tommie Dec. 12
Wyatt Toby Youngman Dec. 14
Joel Roman Arroyo Dec. 16
Chloe Marie Smith Dec. 19
Blige Sean Christophe Cypress Dec. 21
Ignacia Kaloni Rodriguez Dec. 21
Little Bobby Osceola Dec. 26
Isaiah Osceola Pichardo Dec. 26
Samuel Lee Osceola Dec. 30
Tameron Pryce Wilcox Dec. 31
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Makayle Danielle Gonzales Dec. 13
Crysten Camie Smith Dec. 15
Miguel Jesus Dillon Dec. 25
Kelvin Timber Bert Dec. 30
Howie Cid Moncada Drake Dec. 1
J-Wayco Jessy Billie Dec. 9
Chahechom Daniel Osceola Dec. 9
Gherri Dean Lea Osceola Dec. 12
Brain Lee Bishop Dec. 16
Eyanna Lee Billie Dec. 17
Hunyan Rayne Strickland Dec. 18
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Candace May Davis Dec. 22
Myron Cypress Dec. 25
Chaska Nodin Osceola Dec. 26
Mason Brandon Micco Dec. 31
Phyllis Maydell Osceola Dec. 1
Jillian Yvonne Rodriguez Dec. 1
Silas Tristian Madrigal Dec. 4
Sage Leana Motlow Dec. 7
Rocky O'Shane Garcia Dec. 12

Holiday Search-A-Word

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STOCKING
TURKEY
WREATH



Jobs ♦ Tahgathkegé Ahhuglahpehgé

Hollywood

Job Title: Accountant Location: Hollywood, Accounting Open Date: 12-05-01 Salary: \$45,000 annually with benefits	Job Title: Cook Assistant Location: Hollywood, Preschool Open Date: 11-20-01 Salary: \$18,150 – 22,000 annually with benefits	Job Title: Office Clerk (P/T) Location: Hollywood, Utilities Open Date: 10-03-01 Salary: \$8.00 per hour with benefits	Job Title: Snake Handler Location: Hollywood, Okalee Village Open Date: 9-10-01 Salary: \$20,800 with benefits
Job Title: Alligator Wrestler Location: Hollywood, Okalee Village Open Date: 9-10-01	Job Title: Executive Administrator Location: Hollywood, President's Office Open Date: 10-10-01 Salary: \$ negotiable with benefits	Job Title: Patient Services Coordinator Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$21,840 annually with benefits	Job Title: Surveillance Operator Location: Hollywood, Gaming Open Date: 11-20-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits
Job Title: Building Custodian Location: Hollywood, Building & Grounds Open Date: 11-29-01 Salary: \$24,960 annually with benefits	Job Title: Foster Care Worker (1) Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-03-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits	Job Title: Plumber Location: Hollywood, Housing/Construction Open Date: 10-17-01 Salary: \$24,960 annually with benefits	Job Title: Telecommunications Manager Location: Hollywood, Information Systems Open Date: 11-20-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits
Job Title: Commission Officer Location: Hollywood, Gaming Open Date: 10-31-00 Salary: \$28,000 annually with benefits	Job Title: Librarian II Location: Hollywood, Tribal Library Open Date: 11-07-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits	Job Title: Receptionist Location: Hollywood, Communications Open Date: 11-07-01 Salary: \$18,720 with benefits	Job Title: Transporter Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits
Job Title: Community Outreach Coordinator Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$29,100 – 35,600 annually with benefits	Job Title: Maintenance Worker/Janitor Location: Hollywood, Okalee Village Open Date: 9-10-01 Salary: \$14,560 with benefits	Job Title: Secretary II Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$26,000 annually with benefits	
	Job Title: Medical Records Assistant Location: Hollywood, Health Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$26,000 – 32,000 annually with benefits	Job Title: Senior Administrative Assistant Location: Hollywood, Radio Adjusting Company Open Date: 7-19-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits	

Immokalee

Job Title: Commissioner Location: Immokalee, Gaming Open Date: 10-31-00 Salary: \$28,000 annually with benefits
Job Title: Maintenance Worker Location: Immokalee, Building & Grounds Open Date: 10-24-01 Salary: \$14,500 with benefits
Job Title: Surveillance Operator Location: Immokalee, Gaming Open Date: 3-07-01 Salary: \$17,680 with benefits

Tampa

Job Title: Commission Officer Location: Tampa, Gaming Open Date: 10-31-00 Salary: \$28,000 annually with benefits
Job Title: Surveillance Operator Location: Tampa, Gaming Open Date: 3-07-01 Salary: \$17,680 with benefits

Big Cypress

Job Title: Cook Location: Big Cypress, Ahfachkee School Open Date: 10-03-01 Salary: \$9.00 per hour	Job Title: Library Coordinator Location: Big Cypress, Tribal Library Open Date: 11-07-01
Job Title: Community Health/Representative Location: Big Cypress, Health Open Date: 11-29-00 Salary: \$18,700 annually with benefits	Job Title: Maintenance Worker Location: Big Cypress, Building & Grounds Open Date: 12-05-01 Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits
Job Title: Counselor Location: Big Cypress Open Date: 11-29-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits	Job Title: Operator Maintenance Trainee (2) Location: Big Cypress, Utilities Open Date: 9-10-01 Salary: \$18,720 annually with benefits
Job Title: Instructional Aide Location: Big Cypress, Ahfachkee Open Date: 11-29-01 Salary: \$9.00 hourly with benefits	Job Title: Secretary Location: Big Cypress, Family Services Open Date: 10-17-01 Salary: \$20,800 with benefits

Brighton

Job Title: Carpenter Location: Brighton, Housing/Construction Open Date: 6-25-01 Salary: \$33,280 annually with benefits	Job Title: Nutritionist Location: Brighton, Health Open Date: 8-09-01 Salary: \$35,000 annually with benefits
Job Title: Commission Officer Location: Brighton, Gaming Open Date: 10-31-00 Salary: \$28,000 annually with benefits	Job Title: Operator Maintenance Trainee Location: Brighton, Utilities Open Date: 8-16-01 Salary: \$18,700 with benefits
Job Title: Companion Care Coordinator Location: Brighton, Health Open Date: 11-20-01 Salary: \$ Negotiable with benefits	Job Title: Surveillance Operator Location: Brighton, Gaming Open Date: 9-10-01 Salary: \$18,500 annually with benefits
Job Title: Maintenance Worker Location: Brighton, Building & Grounds Open Date: 10-03-01 Salary: \$14,500 with benefits	Job Title: Water Quality Sampler I Location: Brighton, Water Resources Department Open Date: 9-10-01 Salary: \$18,500 annually with benefits

Coconut Creek

Job Title: Commission Officer Location: Coconut Creek, Gaming Open Date: 10-31-00 Salary: \$28,000 annually with benefits
Job Title: Surveillance Operator Location: Coconut Creek, Gaming Open Date: 3-07-01 Salary: \$17,680 annually with benefits

2002 Tribal Fair Poster Contest

Poster Contestant Groups:
Group One: Kindergarten, First Grade
Group Two: Second Grade, Third Grade, and Fourth Grade
Group Three: Fifth Grade, Sixth Grade, and Seventh Grade
Group Four: Eighth Grade, Ninth Grade, Tenth Grade
Group Five: Eleventh Grade, Twelfth Grade

Entries due: At Parent Advisory Committee designated location on or before December 27, 2001.
Dates: Contest begins September 1, 2001, Contest ends: December 27, 2001 and Judging will take place on January 10, 2002. Three judges selected specific to reservation/area.

Display: All winners displayed at the Tribal Fair 2002. All non-winners displayed on specific reservation/area preferably at the local Tribal Library. Winner featured in The Seminole Tribune.

Theme: Education - What It Means To Me.
Participants: Members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Hollywood Reservation, Big Cypress Reservation, Brighton Reservation, Immokalee Reservation, Tampa Reservation and Non-Residents.

Contest: Standard poster board size.
Media: Collage, Poem with artwork, Painting, Pen and Ink Sketches, WaterColors, Mixed Media.
Judging: Visual, Creativity, Layout/Organization and Copying/Reproduction will not be judged.
Awards: 1. First Place will receive \$100.00, 2. Second Place - \$75.00, 3. Third Place - \$50.00, 4. Honorable Mention - \$20.00 plus medallion, 5. Honorable Mention - \$20.00 plus medallion, 6. All non-cash awarded participants - ribbon "For Participation"

Christmas Notice

The New Testament Baptist Church in Big Cypress invites everyone to visit on Christmas Day, Dec. 25. There will be a Christmas church service, with Harry Douglas of Oklahoma bringing the message.



Christmas Celebration!

Trail Ranch Independent Baptist Church
Jack H. Motlow, Senior Pastor

Sunday, December 23, 2001
Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.
Lunch at 12:00 noon
Dinner at 5:00 p.m.
Services at 6:00 p.m.
Christmas Play – "A King is Born"

Tamiami Trail
5 miles past 40 mile bend

Aerobic Classes

Currently Held On:
Mondays at 5:15 p.m.
Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m.
Thursdays at 5:15 p.m.
In the Big Cypress Gym

Get in shape for the reservations rally!!

If you have any questions, please contact Vicky at (954) 804-4035.

Take a cyber-tour of Indian Country



Indian Circle

web ring

www.indiancircle.com

a compilation of Federally Recognized Indian websites all over the internet

Marketplace

online shopping plaza

www.seminoletribe.com

Visit the Seminole Tribe without leaving your chickee.

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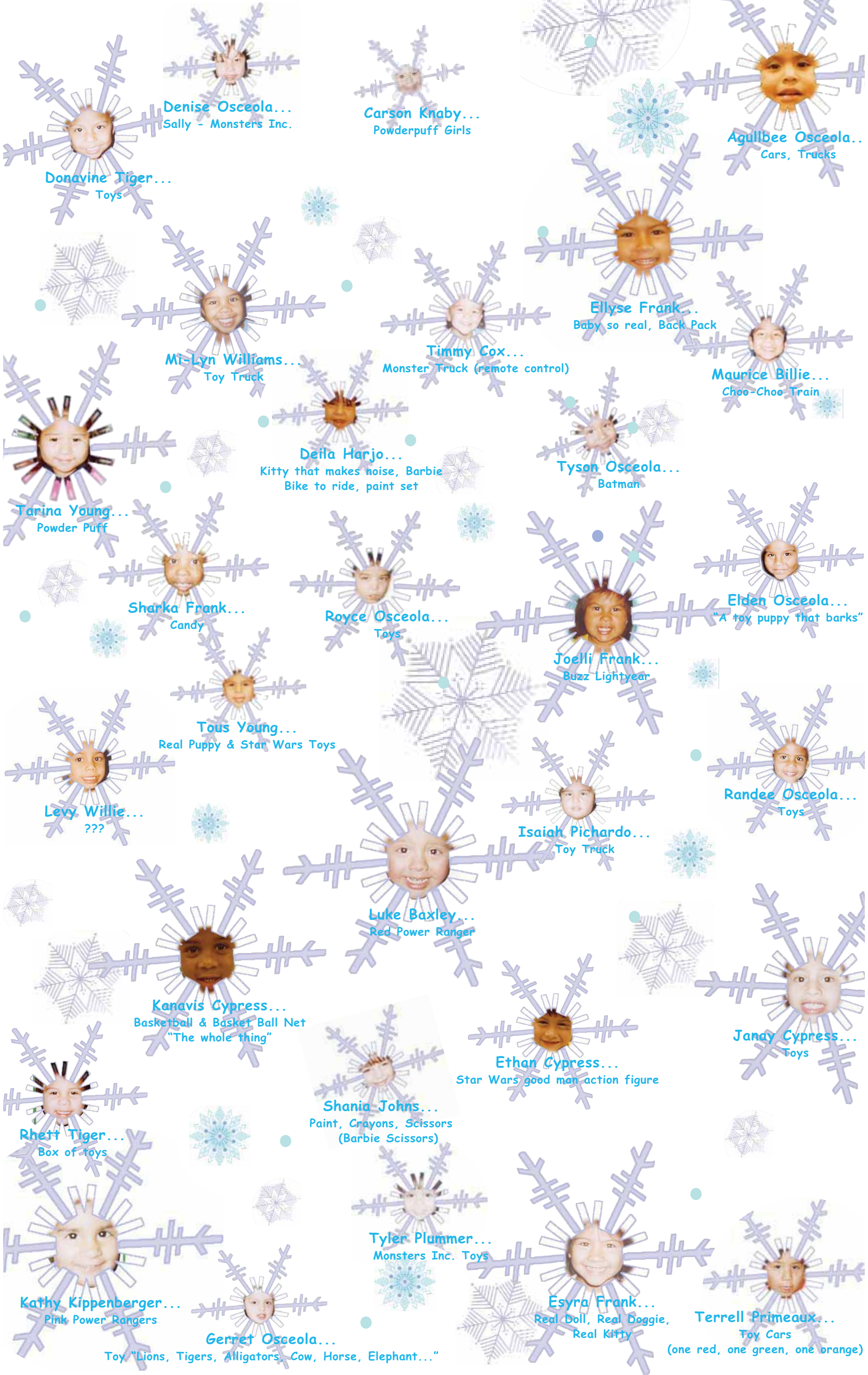
Chickee Baptist Church

64th Ave. and Josie Billie
Hollywood Seminole Reservation

Sunday Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

Rev. Arlen Payne: Pastor
(954) 894-5651

All I want for Christmas...



Denise Osceola...
Sally - Monsters Inc.

Carson Knaby...
Powderpuff Girls

Agullbee Osceola...
Cars, Trucks

Donavine Tiger...
Toys

Mi-Lyn Williams...
Toy Truck

Timmy Cox...
Monster Truck (remote control)

Ellyse Frank...
Baby so real, Back Pack

Maurice Billie...
Choo-Choo Train

Tarina Young...
Powder Puff

Deila Harjo...
Kitty that makes noise, Barbie
Bike to ride, paint set

Tyson Osceola...
Batman

Sharka Frank...
Candy

Royce Osceola...
Toys

Elden Osceola...
"A toy puppy that barks"

Joelli Frank...
Buzz Lightyear

Tous Young...
Real Puppy & Star Wars Toys

Levy Willie...
???

Isaiah Pichardo...
Toy Truck

Randee Osceola...
Toys

Luke Baxley...
Red Power Ranger

Kanavis Cypress...
Basketball & Basket Ball Net
"The whole thing"

Jandy Cypress...
Toys

Ethan Cypress...
Star Wars good man action figure

Rhett Tiger...
Box of toys

Shania Johns...
Paint, Crayons, Scissors
(Barbie Scissors)

Tyler Plummer...
Monsters Inc. Toys

Kathy Kippenberger...
Pink Power Rangers

Esyra Frank...
Real Doll, Real Doggie,
Real Kitty

Terrell Primeaux...
Toy Cars
(one red, one green, one orange)

Gerret Osceola...
Toy "Lions, Tigers, Alligators, Cow, Horse, Elephant..."