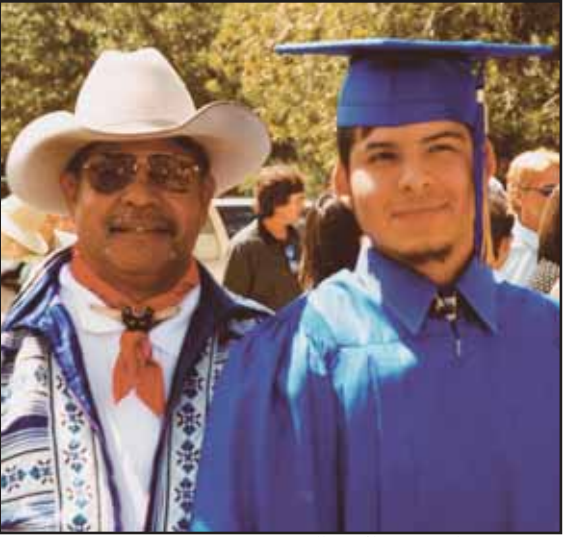




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2001, Vanguard School, Lake Wales, page 8.



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# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

*"Voice of the Unconquered"*

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Lake Placid FL  
Permit No. 128

\$1.00      www.seminoletribe.com      Volume XXII Number 9      July 6, 2001

## Florida Cattleman's Convention

**By Tommy Benn**  
**MARCO ISLAND** - Cattlemen from all over Florida converged on the Marco Island Marriott Resort Hotel, site of the annual Cattlemen's Convention and Trade Show, for a full agenda of meetings and seminars about issues affecting the beef animal industry.  
 State, Federal and local policies affecting the beef industry and the election of state officers and committee appointment were among the topics discussed by the Florida Cattlemen's

Association (FCA) membership. In conjunction with the FCA meetings, similar events were held by the Florida Cattlewomen's Association, the Junior Florida Cattlemen's Association, and the Florida Beef Council.  
 The Seminole Tribe of Florida, the 12th -ranked beef producer in the nation, sent a sizable delegation to the island resort.  
 Attending were Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns, B.C. Board Representative Paul Bowers Sr., Natural

Resources Director Don Robertson, cattle foremen Cotton Baxley and Joey Henry, herdsman Bubba Johns and Mike Henry, Stanlo Johns, Billy Joe Johns, Richard Bowers, Rudy Osceola, and many other Tribal citizens.  
 Events held during the three and 1/2 day convention included committee and directors' meetings, seminars, a quiz bowl, sporting events, and a ladies' fashion show, sponsored by Eli's Western Wear and the Lavender and Lace Boutique, both of Okeechobee.  
 The trade show, the highlight of the convention, displayed new and improved products and services such as feed, seed, equipment, minerals, supplement, fertilizer, chemicals, animal health products, and marketing and sales services.  
 4-H Director Polly Hayes set up a booth showcasing the Three C's for the Seminole Tribe's Citrus, Cane, and Cattle. Many spectators were surprised at the wide variety of ventures displayed at the Tribal booth.  
 The Seminole Tribe, also sponsored a beautiful handcrafted belt buckle, donated by Paul Bowers Sr., as a giveaway for one lucky person who registered at the booth.  
 There was also a pageant for FCA Sweetheart. Competing were: Christine Baldwin, Marion County; Jessica Bailey, Manatee County; Carrie Burkett, Brevard County; Catherine Bush, Duval County; Christin Chandley, Polk County; and Diana Daugharty, Volusia

See CATTLEMAN, page 5



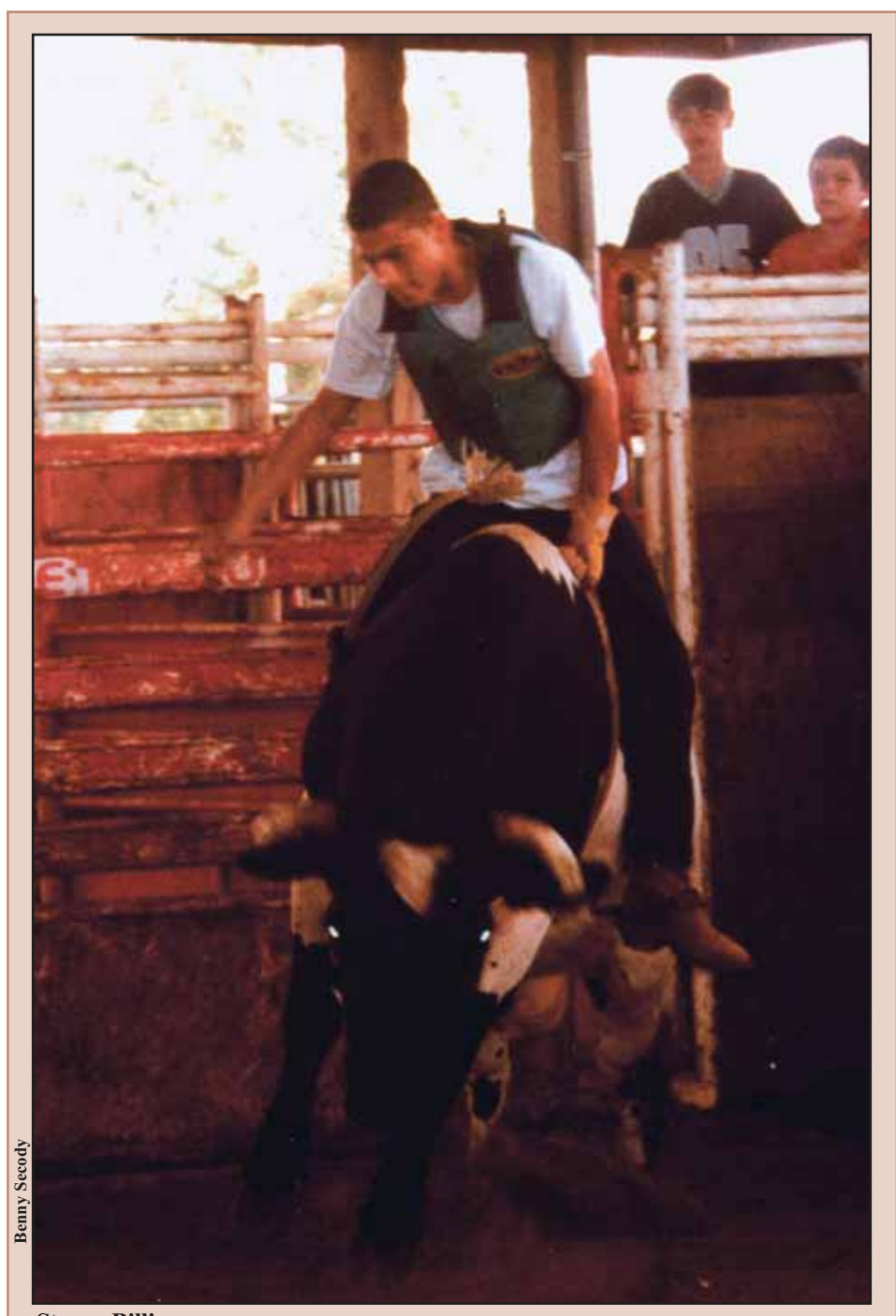
President Mitchell Cypress and Natural Resource Director Don Robertson.

## 2001 Ahfachkee High School Graduation

**By Janice Billie**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Ahfachkee School Graduation Ceremony 2001 was held at the Herman Osceola Gym on the evening of June 5. This annual ceremony honoring students graduating from high school, eighth grade and kindergarten is a much anticipated and joyous occasion not only for the students and their families but also for staff members and the community.  
 Guests from surrounding communities, Hollywood, Brighton and Immokalee along with Tribal dignitaries arrived in the midst of a severe rainstorm to recognize these young achievers and wish them well.  
 Acting Chairman and Board President, Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Councilman David R. Cypress, Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers Sr., and Seminole Tribe General Counsel Jim Shore were seated on stage with Ahfachkee School Principal Dr. Patrick Gaffney, Reverend Vincent Micco



Timmy Johns and Paul Bowers presenting colors.



Steven Billie

## Bull Riding Clinic Held In Brighton

**By Benny Secody**  
**BRIGHTON** — On the weekend of June 9-10, World Champion bull rider Gary Leffew conducted a two-day clinic for 12 young Seminole cowboys.  
 Leffew was ranked number two in the United States in 1967, and World Champion in 1970. Since then he has racked up many other accomplishments.  
 He has coached numerous Hollywood celebrities for the rodeo movies: "C.W. Coop", "J. R. Bonner", and "Eight Seconds", as well other documentaries and commercials. He is

presently working on a screenplay entitled "Red Shirt".  
 During the clinic, the second one he has conducted for the Seminole cowboys, Leffew provided drills, safety exercises, and tips.  
 Leffew also showed a video of former students, including five-time World Champion, Ted Nuce. Leffew has known the Native American cowboy since Nuce was 10 years old.  
 The second day of the clinic the youth were quizzed and asked to demonstrate what they had learned.

See BULL RIDING, page 16

## Theresa Boromei Team Makes Top Ten In Vegas

**By Libby Blake**  
**LAS VEGAS** — Brighton resident Theresa Boromei put together a top-notch women's team to compete in the 21st Annual VNEA International Pool

Tournament, held May 29 - June 3 at the Riviera Hotel and Casino. Boromei's team placed ninth out of over 130 teams in the women's division, for a \$1,000 payday.  
 Boromei's teammates were Peggy Nunez, Charlene Haynes, and Amy Poulter. Nunez and Haynes shoot pool at the Players Pub in Okeechobee, and Poulter shoots out of Riverside Billiards in Stuart. Dedicated shooters, Nunez, Boromei, and Haynes usually place in the top five at most local pool tournaments.  
 Teams from all over the world come to Las Vegas to compete in the VNEA tournament. This year, the tournament floor was awash in the national colors and flags of the countries of Russia, Croatia, Germany, Australia, Malaysia, the Bahamas, and Canada.  
 The Seminoles, whose usual lineup includes Tony Billie, David Cypress, Randy Clay, O.B. Osceola, Jr., and George Grasshopper, had to play their first round match

with only four players. Previous commitments kept everyone but Billie and Osceola from making the event this year.  
 Billie and Osceola teamed up with feared Naples players, Andy Tennant and Neil Martin, and lost their first round match by two balls against a team that had all five players. The team picked up Boogie Nunez, who came to support his wife, Peggy, before the next round. The Seminoles finished in the money, placing 126th out of more than 600 teams.  
 The Immokalee teams, the Play'AZ and the High Rollers, were eliminated early and didn't fare much better in the Sportsmen rounds. The Play'AZ lineup includes Maria Billie, Ralph Sanchez, Roy Cantu, Juan Salinas, and Libby Blake. The Higher Rollers included Tommie Benson, David Billie, Raymond Mora, Angel Citrone, and Frankie Delarosa.  
 The Classics, a familiar name to many of the pool players in the Tribe, placed 13th in the team division. Jay Huffman, Okeechobee and Stuart charter holder, captained the team of Corey Penrod, Al Koklys, Jim Rose, and Joe Giaccone. The Classics play out of Riverside Billiards in Stuart.



L-R: Peggy Nunez, Charlene Haynes, Theresa Boromei and Amy Poulter.

## Big Cypress High School Grads

**By Janice Billie**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — As the hot days of June arrived, another school year came to an end. For some, it is the end of twelve long years of education, discipline, tests, grades and teenage drama. It is the

beginning of a new era, the arrival at a threshold of change.  
 It is many things, but most of, it's a time of celebration and joy. A time to recognize the students who have endured and achieved a goal. The Big Cypress Community honors their high school graduates of 2001.  
 Happy Jumper, 19, the son of Moses and Laquita Jumper, graduated from Shulter High School in Henrietta, OK, on May 5. Happy's main interests are competing in rodeo events. He started roping at the age of four and has dedicated much time and energy to team roping, bull riding, steer wrestling, and calf roping.  
 Happy earned the All-Around Cowboy title at the Creek Festival and Rodeo in Oklahoma. He was also State Team Roping Champion at the age of 13.  
 When he's not practicing for upcoming rodeos, Happy likes to go hunting and fishing. He's presently working for the Cattle and Range program fixing fences, riding horses and tending to cattle.  
 Happy hasn't any immediate plans for college but is leaving his options open. He credits his parents for encouraging and pushing him to get his high school diploma.



Happy Jumper

See GRADUATES, page 6



Reflections By Patsy West

Alligator Tales

**By Patsy West**

The Seminole Tribe’s involvement with the capture of the two-foot long caiman found in Central Park this week was yet another page in the Florida Seminoles’ long history with alligators. The Seminoles enjoyed a lucrative alligator hunting economy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries when the soft alligator hide underbelly was in demand for the leather industry.

Early in the last century, alligator eggs were gathered by Seminole hunters to supply a popular “pet alligator” market. The newly hatched babies were purchased from the Seminoles and shipped in little boxes from curio shops and tourist attractions to children “up north.” Some tourist attraction personnel, like Henry Coppinger Jr. of Miami, were concerned about the treatment of the baby saurians and included instructions on their care. Of course, these babies could have grown over 10 feet long in their native habitat!

What did happen to the six-inch long reptiles when they reached Chicago or New York? Some arrived dead, others were vigorous, ravenous, and ready for a swim in a guest room sink or bathtub. When the children or their parents tired of them as pets, how long would a northern Mom allow the little critters to remain in the house or basement? In the 1930’s there was a four-foot alligator found dead in the sewers of New York. Was THAT the catalyst for the “scary” sci-fi movie about an alligator found in the sewers of New York? So, the two-footer found last week was doubtless an attempt to get rid of an unwanted pet.

It is the Florida Seminoles who have been the greatest promoters of alligators, adopting the sport called “alligator wrestling” early last century. While Seminoles technically wrestled alligators

in the process of catching them in the wilds, alligator wrestling as a tourist attraction feature was created by Henry Coppinger Jr. of Coppinger’s Tropical Garden Tourist Attraction in Miami.

Learning from Henry’s success, alligator wrestling provided income for many young Seminole men at tourist attractions, who asked the eldest member of the Snake clan (the relative of the extinct Alligator clan) for permission to manhandle the reptiles. Seminoles wrestled alligators in the 1930’s at the Chicago World’s Fair and the New York World’s Fair.

The tourists’ thrill of watching alligator wrestling promoted the Florida Seminoles unlike any other activity. Seminole and Miccosukee wrestlers have traveled all over the country and abroad to Paris and Singapore with alligator wrestling acts promoting the Tribes. Modern day alligator wrestling shows are some of the most informative available on the saurian, as the wrestlers discuss the history, physiological characteristics, and environmental issues concerning the species. While alligator wrestling promoted the Florida Tribes as unique tribal entities, tourism brought long-lasting economic prosperity to the tribal peoples in their pre Bingo days.



Bobby Tiger a Miccosukee alligator wrestling legend, “bulldogs” an alligator at his attraction on the Tamiami Trail in the 1950’s. Postcard from the Seminole/Miccosukee Photographic Archive, Ft. Lauderdale.

today in select tourist attractions located on Seminole and Miccosukee Reservations in Southern Florida and at special events. Little wonder that the Florida Seminole Tribe sent a representative of their Okalee Indian Village to Manhattan last week to “rescue” the



Virginia Mitchell

Ush peh oochapee (Corn field)

Bingo And Economic Self-Determination

**By Libby Blake**

**HOLLYWOOD** — Twenty-two years of litigation, investigations, promises, threats, support, outright lies and condemnation have followed the efforts of Howard Tommie to start his people on the road to financial freedom and prosperity.

Over these years, truth has been confused with fiction – whether intended or not. There’s an old saying, “Repeat it often enough and it becomes fact.” People, by nature, are quick to blame and slow to give credit. How did the Seminoles really get involved in bingo and when? Has credit been given where it was deserved?

Seminole Bingo began operations December 14, 1979 on the Hollywood Reservation. Chairman at the time was James E. Billie. Most of the credit, in the press and in history books, has been given to Billie because it opened under his tenure.

To understand anything, one must first know the facts. To get to the facts, one must learn the history.

Gaming has been a part of the Indians culture since before the first European (though some would argue the Vikings) set foot on America. It was included in most, if not all, tribal ceremonies and celebrations. When the settlers faced difficulty subduing the Indians through warfare, they found another way – take away their culture and make them dependent on the white man for their every need.

Christian reformers held to the belief that Indians should be converted from their heathen ways to save their souls and be held individually responsible for their success or failure in American society. The Dawes General Allotment Act of 1887 stated that the Indians’ future would be best served by abandoning tribalism, taking up individual land allotments and becoming productive farmers

and citizens. This stance was ironic in that these same people came to America seeking freedom from religious persecution and oppression.

This philosophy of assimilation would prevail until the 1920s when a gradual momentum developed toward Indian control over tribal economic, social, and political affairs. Many feel President Richard Nixon’s congressional message on Indians (July 1970) was the defining moment in establishing the Indian self-determination principle, even though it was never fully implemented.

The Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act of 1975 established the concept of tribal sovereignty and set the stage for economic recovery by the Indians.

In 1971, a young Howard Tommie ran for Chairman with the promise of Indian self-determination. He appealed to the younger generation but was also able to bridge the generation gap and handily defeated Betty Mae Jumper. It also didn’t hurt that Tommie was a member of the large Bird clan while Jumper was from the much smaller Snake clan. Tommie himself remarked to a reporter at the time, “I do belong to a large clan and that was very helpful.”

Regardless of why he won, Tommie didn’t sit around waiting for the BIA or IHS to dictate policy, as he believed previous leaders had done. He aggressively went after federal funding, especially education monies. Many of the programs started under Tommie’s leadership are still in existence today, including social services, employment and education assistance, community health representatives, emergency medical assistance and doctors on the reservations, mental health and alcoholism programs, drug abuse counseling, Head Start, special education, and the tribal law enforcement program.

Tommie frequently traveled to Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. forming relationships with those in power. He served on the litigation committee of the National Congress of American Indians and testified at congressional hearing in support of the 1975 Indian Self-Determination Act. Tommie gained national recognition as an outspoken and articulate spokesman for the Seminoles.

When Joe Dan Osceola resigned as president of the board in early 1971, Brighton cattleman Fred Smith ran and won in the spring election. Smith was from the same generation as Tommie, had traveled extensively, and shared Tommie’s ideas on expansion of tribal enterprises.

It was under Smith’s leadership that the board set up regulation and restrictions for the Tribe’s commercial frontage along U.S. 441 and made leases available to Indian businessmen. Regulations Tommie would later use.

Tommie’s second term saw four of the most far-reaching changes in modern Seminole history. First, he brought closure to the Seminole land claim by urging acceptance of the Indian Claims Commission’s award in 1976, although distribution of the funds would take another 14 years. Second, Tommie set a major precedent in eastern Indian water rights when he negotiated a water compact with Florida that defined tribal water rights and usage.

The third and fourth issues were the most audacious in the case for tribal sovereignty – “smoke shops” and high-stakes, unregulated bingo. These two ventures brought adverse publicity to the Seminoles and Tommie, in particular. The *Miami Herald* ran articles critical of Tommie and other affluent Seminoles. This led to divisions in the Tribe between the “haves” and “have-nots.”

In the book, *An Assumption of Sovereignty: Social and Political*

*Transformation Among The Florida Seminoles 1953-1979*, author Harry A. Kersey Jr. asked Tommie directly how much the Tribe benefited economically under his administration from these ventures. “The response evolved into a lengthy justification of the benefits which his administration had produced for the tribe, and if in the process a few individuals become wealthy, well, that was a natural outcome of the entrepreneurial, capitalist system...”

On the whole, he (Tommie) believed that while a few individuals were enriched the entire tribe had gained more... Howard Tommie’s account of his administration provides insight into the motivations, conflicts, and concerns driving many American Indian tribal leaders during the self-determination era.... The memoir also illustrates how easily leaders – Indian or non-Indian – can blur the line which divides personal and public interests.... Ironically, the very enterprises which generated great wealth for the Seminole tribe also encouraged entrepreneurial skills that produced private gain.

While such activities were not illegal, in the early stages they benefited relatively few Seminoles directly and created social and political cleavages within the Indian community... Tommie’s chairmanship was a great success. He exploited every facet of the Indian self-determination movement and delivered the Seminoles to the brink of economic and political independence, at a cost to his personal reputation.”


Another Tribal member to take a shot to his reputation was Marcellus Osceola. In 1976, taking advantage of a federal court decision exempting the Colville tribe of Washington from paying state sales taxes, Osceola, with the approval of the Tribal council, opened the

See BINGO, page 7


When you need a Tribune Reporter contact...

- Brighton**


freelance Photographer/ Reporters are Sandi M. Osceola who can be reached at (863) 467-3630, or at (863) 801-5021, and Tommy Benn at (561) 308-0101.




**Tommy Benn**
- Big Cypress** photographer/ reporters are Janice Billie, available on her cell phone at (863) 447-1312 or at home (863) 983-8355, and Candy Cypress at (863) 983-6332.



**Janice Billie**
- Hollywood** photographers are Ernie Tiger, Elizabeth (Libby) Blake, and Virginia Mitchell. They can be reached at *The Seminole*



**Ernie Tiger**
- Tribune* at (954) 967-3416, or fax flyers in at (954) 967-3482. When you are unable to reach certain individuals, please call the *Tribune* office and we will assign any available reporter for your event.



**Elizabeth Blake**
- Immokalee** photographer/ reporters are Benny and Barbara Secody, and they can be reached at (941) 573-8667.

**Tampa** photographer/reporters are Gary Padgett, at (863) 621-2811 or Mark Madrid at (863) 665-2201.



letters/e-mail

6300 Stirling Rd. Hollywood. FL 33024    [tribune@seminoletribe.com](mailto:tribune@seminoletribe.com)



**Dear Friends of the Indigenous, the Buffalo, and the Earth,**

I am appealing to you to support the Sicangu Lakota (Rosebud Sioux Tribe) in its struggle to avoid becoming the home of the world’s third largest hog farm. The first phase of 24 barns is already in place and in spite of tribal opposition and legal intervention by several organizations, Bell Farms (Sun Prairie) continues construction on the second phase. When completed, there will be 13 sites of 24 barns each. The waste disposal digester at site #1 is not properly functional, as predicted.

As indicated in my letter to Mr. Bell, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe is valiantly battling the matter in the judicial system, with its sovereignty in serious jeopardy. Meanwhile, we are establishing a vigilance camp, to be called Camp Sovereignty, in the vicinity of the hog farms. We can no longer tolerate the severe corporate oppression of Bell Farms. We can no longer tolerate the threats to our environment, to the quality of justice, and to our sovereignty.

There are several options for you to consider. You may join me in a letter to Rich Bell by snail mail (sorry we are not able to access an email address for him yet) to: Bell Farms in Wahpeton, ND. Phone number is (701) 642-4021. Fax is (701) 942-9237.

The RST tribal officials are working against incredible odds. Tribal council resolutions and letters of support

from tribal officials would be greatly appreciated. Individual messages of concern are just as powerful. Rosebud Sioux Tribe, POB 430, Rosebud, SD 57570, Phone: (605) 747-2381.

If you’re looking for a quick, convenient way to indicate your support or to support and/or join the camp vigil for the environment and for justice, check the Camp Sovereignty website.

To see this hog farm to full-scale operation, Mr. Bell would have to crush the tribe. I believe he is capable. We have determined spirits. We need public outrage (and lots of prayers too).

Thank you from my heart,  
**Rosalie Little Thunder**  
[wakinyela@yahoo.com](mailto:wakinyela@yahoo.com)

**Dear Editor:**

I have read with great interest the interview that was done by one of your reporters, it was excellent. Being a Navajo from Tuba City, Arizona and living in Huntsville, Texas, it was such a pleasure to have read an article on our former “Chairman” without any bias.

Your paper’s article should be printed in the Navajo Times, I am sure that my Tribal members would be appreciative of other Tribal interest in our great leader.

Keep up the good work!

**Joe Bergen**  
**Huntsville, TX**

**Ya’at’ehh, (Hello) and good afternoon,**

My name is Edith Charleston, I am of the Dine’ people of the Navajo Nation. My clans are the Edgewater clan born for the Near to the Water clan. My paternal clan is Folded Arms and my maternal clan is BitterWater.

I am writing to you this afternoon in your article that I read in your Seminole newspaper about our former Navajo Nation President Mr. Peter MacDonald. It was an excellent article; I totally and completely commend the author of the article, Barbara Secody. She did a great job informing anyone and everyone about the respectable Peter MacDonald.

I am currently living here in Savannah, GA. with my husband and our two children. My husband’s occupation is what brings us here; he is currently enlisted in the Army stationed here at Hunter Army Airfield, so we will be here in Georgia for another two years.

I am far from home and I am hungry for any knowledge of my homeland back on the Navajo reservation, so I go looking for any news that may have to do with the Dine’ People. That is how I came across the article in your newspaper. Barbara Secody gave an excellent interview and I am thoroughly impressed! I have not heard much of anything about Mr. MacDonald until I read the article by Barbara Secody, now I feel like I am up to date on the former president of our great Navajo Nation.

I am grateful that there are people like her who write such informative and interesting articles. I have already e-mailed your newspaper to dozens of my friends to let them know that our Former Leader is featured in his own article in the Seminole newspaper! Thank you for putting out a wonderful paper, the article of Mr. MacDonald has made me an avid and faithful reader of your newspaper. May the Great Creator bless you. Ha’go’anee’ (bye)

Sincerely and respectfully,  
**Mrs. Edith Charleston**

**Dear Seminole Tribune,**

I’m hoping that you will print my letter, I’m looking for a friend of mine, he’s a Seminole Indian. Jerry Lee Balentine and I go back to 1994. I’ve tried to contact him several times in the past. I know that he is okay – I read the S.T.

Jerry I miss you primo – contact me as soon as possible. I told you that you will be my Amigo until the end, my Spirit is always near you, don’t hesitate, acknowledge I’m here. Write to Baker C.I. P.O Box 500, Sanderson, FL 32087.

Sincerely,  
**Robert Ramirez**  
**El vato**

P.S. Thank you *Seminole Tribune* and best of luck with the new project. Your Amigo, Robert Zool.

**Seminole Tribune**

Publisher: James E. Billie  
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**The Seminole Tribune**

is a member of the Native American Journalists Association, the Florida Press Club and the Associated Press. Letters/e-mails to the Editor must be signed and may be edited for publication. Subscription rate is \$25 per year by mail. Make checks payable to *The Seminole Tribune*, 6300 Stirling Rd., Hollywood, FL 33024. Phone: (954) 967-3416. Fax: (954) 967-3482. Or subscribe on the Internet at [www.seminoletribe.com](http://www.seminoletribe.com)

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Community News

“Best Buds” Blooming New Business

By Libby Blake  
**OKEECHOBEE** — Residents in the Okeechobee area now have another choice for all their floral needs. Theresa Boromei and sister-in-law Deanna Nunez have opened Okeechobee Best Buds on the Brighton Reservation. The duo is operating out of their homes until a suitable location can be found in town.

The two entrepreneurs, who recently graduated from South East Floral Design school, decided to go into business together. “We were sitting around trying to come up with some kind of catchy name when one of us, I don’t remember who, said something about us being buddies. It just went from there to best buds, because we are not only sister-in-laws but best friends,” said Boromei,



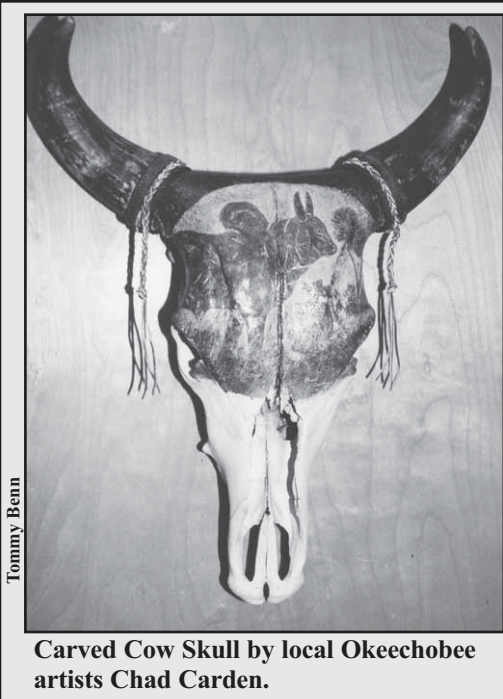
Sample design creation.

“It’s a little play on words and it suits us pretty good.”

Working out of their homes for now, Boromei and Nunez said they can deliver anywhere in the region – anything from a simple flower arrangement to complete designs for special occasions, such as weddings, parties, etc.

They are looking for the right building in Okeechobee to set up a permanent shop but have had no success so far. “Just starting out, we need to look for not only the right location but also at the right cost,” said Nunez.

For all your floral needs large or small contact Okeechobee Best Buds. Until a permanent location for the shop is found you can call Nunez at (863) 634-6759 or Boromei at (863) 634-6649.



Carved Cow Skull by local Okeechobee artists Chad Carden.

Calling All Seminole And Miccosukee Artists

By Tommy Benn  
The Absolutely Art Gallery 1 of Okeechobee is organizing its first Seminole and Miccosukee Art Show. Kelly Raulerson, owner of the Okeechobee-based studio, wants to hold a local Native American Art Show in the very near future. She is calling all Seminole and Miccosukee artists to display their art in her Okeechobee Gallery.

The Gallery is currently featuring a local Artist of the Month program and would like to feature Seminole and Miccosukee artists as well.

Ms. Raulerson also holds art classes on Wednesday afternoon from 3-5 pm. She sells art supplies and will order supplies for the artist’s specific needs.

The Gallery specializes in custom framing and matting.

Contact her at the studio: 115 Southwest Park Ave., Okeechobee, or by phone: (863) 763-1199, for more information.

Employment Assistance Department Up-Date

**HOLLYWOOD** — Greetings from the Employment Assistance and Training Program. The staff currently consists of Ms. Yolanda Ponce De Leon, who is the program’s Employment and Training Counselor, and myself, Moses Osceola, Director. The program offices are located on the third floor in the DSO Memorial Education Building, 3100 N.W. 63rd Avenue, Hollywood, FL. An easy way to locate the building and offices is to come to the Gym; we are located at the north end of the parking lot. Our telephone number is (954) 989-6840, ext. #1313, and 1314, our fax number is (954) 898-8856.



DSO Memorial Education Building in Hollywood.

Our mission is to help our Tribal members, and other American Indians to find permanent, well-paying jobs. In pursuit of this, qualified applicants will be assisted in any way possible to obtain a good paying job. If training is required, the program will help participants to obtain this training, if employment or industry skills need upgrading, this can also be provided. If high school diplomas are needed, the program will assist individuals in getting one. Job vacancy ads are received every week, so if you are in need of employment, we invite you to come to our offices to review the job ads and see if anything interests you. Job ads are received from the Tribe, Broward County School Board, various area City governments, the Dept. of Transportation (DOT), and private businesses. There are all manner of jobs available from computer operators, programmers, bookkeepers, accountants, school teachers, teacher aides, coaches for various sports, cooks, office managers, etc.! If you want a good job, there are many out there! We will assist you anyway we can.

We are preparing to begin our youth summer employment on all the Reservations. Brighton will have two (2) youth coordinators – see Louise Gopher for applications at the Education building. In Big

Cypress, Desiree Jumper has already started as the Youth Coordinator – see her for applications at the Learning Resources Center. In Immokalee, see Norita at the Library for applications, and in Hollywood see Yolanda for assistance. In Tampa, see Carol Foret at the Library, and for Ft. Pierce, a Youth Coordinator is needed. If anyone is interested and willing to work hard for the youth, please call our offices as soon as possible.

The summer programs will begin at each reservation as its schools let out for the summer. Under the new Federal program, youth will be allowed now to work throughout the year, so youth are encouraged to find a job in a field they are interested in and to continue working during the school year if they so desire. Youth must be ages 14 – 18; college students 18 - 21 may also work. Please remember to submit copies of photo I.D. and Social Security cards with your applications, and to complete and sign all forms, especially the W-4, and Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification form. Youth will receive \$6.00 per hour. If you have any questions, please call our offices, or see your local coordinator.

We invite you to stop by anytime to review your needs, and file an application for services. Qualified applicants will be assisted in every way possible.



Yolanda Ponce De Leon



Moses Osceola

Museum And Billie Swamp Safari Welcome Japanese Exchange Students

By Lucy Evanicki  
**BIG CYPRESS** — On June 19, Japanese students from Takizawa High School in Chiba, Japan, their principal Mr. Takizawa and several students from the Western High School Boys and Girls Clubs, in Pompano Beach, visited the Big Cypress Reservation to learn about the Seminole Tribe’s culture and history.

Their first stop was Billie Swamp Safari.

After visiting with Louise Billie, and watching her sew traditional patchwork, the group took off in airboats to learn about alligators and their natural habitat. The swamp buggy eco-tour also was interesting to the students, especially learning how the Seminoles built their camps in the early 1800’s.



Museum tour guides Mornin Osceola, Ira Buster, and Daisy Jumper with Japanese Exchange Students.

Luckily, Satoko Sagae, the Japanese, Distance Learning Teacher at Pompano Beach and Western High School was along to interpret so the Japanese students could have a full learning experience.

One of the highlights of the cultural exchange came at lunch, in the Swamp Water Café, when the Japanese visitors tried alligator nuggets for the first time. They were definitely eager to try new things, some even had venison!

After lunch, Mary Tigertail and Lee Tiger presented Seminole medallion necklaces to the visitors and bade them farewell as they left for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki



Pompano Beach and Western High School Japanese and Distance Learning Teacher Satoko Sagae, and Tsutomu Takizawa, Principal of the Takizawa High School in Japan, try alligator tail for the first time!

Museum to learn more about Florida’s original inhabitants.

The Japanese and Broward County students had been exchanging culture this past school year via distance learning video-conferencing, which transfers the signal over telephone lines to a TV set in the classrooms on Saturday mornings. The Japanese students came to Florida to meet their American counterparts and learn hands-on about their culture.

“The students have shared such things as life experiences, cultural traditions/holiday celebrations, cultural foods and dances,” said Joy Veasy, Distance Learning Specialist of the Broward Education Communications Network.

Immokalee Recreation Summer Activities

**Monday, July 9** - Canoe races in BC 12:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday, July 10** - Library activities  
**Wednesday, July 11** - Library activities  
**Thursday, July 12** - Gatorama - 11:00 a.m., Gator feeding - 2:30  
**Friday, July 13** - Movies 12:00 p.m.  
**Monday, July 16** - Archery - 12:00 p.m. in BC  
**Tuesday, July 17** - Library activities  
**Wednesday, July 18** - Bowling  
**Thursday, July 19** - Library activities  
**Friday, July 20** - Miami Seaquarium 10:00 a.m.  
**Monday, July 23** through Tuesday, July 31 - No trips due to NAYO Softball & Baseball Tournaments.  
**Wednesday, August 1** - Library activities

**Thursday, August 2** - Trail ride in BC 12:00p.m.  
**Friday, August 3** - Movies - 12:00 p.m.  
**Monday, August 6** - Bowling - 12:00 p.m.  
**Tuesday, August 7** - Library activities  
**Wednesday, August 8** - Ft. Myers Skating 12:00  
**Thursday, August 9** - Library activities  
**Friday, August 10** - King Richards 11:00 a.m.  
**Monday, August 13** - Immokalee pool 12:00p.m.  
**Tuesday, August 14** - Library activities  
**Wednesday, August 15** - Library activities  
**Thursday, August 16** - Orlando trip  
**Friday, August 17** - Orlando trip  
**Monday, August 20** - Back to School!

Hollywood Recreation Summer Activities

**Monday, July 9** - Canoe Races - B.C., van leaves at 9:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Tuesday, July 10** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Wednesday, July 11** - Miami Seaquarium, van leaves at 10:00, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Thursday, July 12** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Friday, July 13** - Movies, van leaves at 12:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Saturday, July 14** - Golf lessons, van leaves at 10:00.  
**Monday, July 16** - Archery Tour in B.C., van leaves at 9:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Tuesday, July 17** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Wednesday, July 18** - Airboat & Buggy rides, van leaves at 9:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Thursday, July 19** - Field activities - 11:00, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Friday, July 20** - Skating, van leaves at 1:15, Basketball Camp at 1:00.

**Saturday, July 21** - Golf lessons, van leaves from gym at 10:00.  
**Monday, July 23** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Tuesday, July 24** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Wednesday, July 25** - ATV Trail Ride, van leaves at 9:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Thursday, July 26** - Horse Trail Ride, van leaves at 9:30, Basketball games at 1:00.  
**Friday, July 27** - Movies, van leaves at 12:30, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Saturday, July 28** - Golf lessons, van leaves at 10:00  
**Monday, July 30** - Field activities at gym - 11:00, Basketball Camp at 1:00.  
**Tuesday, July 31** - Boomer’s, van leaves at 1:00, Basketball games at 1:00.

ATV (All Terrain Vehicles) Trail rides to Big Cypress - PLEASE bring change of clothes to swim afterwards.

DSO Library Schedule

The fun starts June 18th through Aug. 24.  
Mornings, 8 a.m. - Noon - Monday:  
Preschool Story Time. Tuesday - Friday: Computer lab and reading time for youths and adults.  
Afternoons: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Summer reading - sign up now! Many new books have arrived. Take some out for a test read! (All kids K-12) - Keep track of what you read and earn prizes.  
Computer fun, internet sites, and more.  
How big does a Florida panther, whale, or python get? You can find the answers on the internet.  
Art: painting, drawing, and papier-mâché.  
Create your favorite Everglades animal out of paper-

mâché.  
Writing stories, poetry, and a newsletter.  
Submit a story about your hobby, pet, and vacation plans.  
Food, films, and fun. Let’s enjoy a movie and some popcorn on Friday afternoons.  
Please remember that children under 8 must be accompanied.  
For more information call Diane at (954) 989-6840 ext. 1225 or Michael at ext. 1226.  
For information on your reservation you can call Immokalee at (941) 657-3400, Big Cypress at (863) 983-6724, Tampa at (813) 626-5765, or Brighton at (863) 763-4236.

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# Father's Day Pool Event

**By Libby Blake**  
**CLEWISTON** — A special Father's Day Pool Tournament was held June 17 at the R & R Lounge in Clewiston. 8-Ball and 9-Ball events were held for both men and women willing to pay the \$20 entry fee for each tournament.

The top nine places for men and the top four places for women shared the prize fund. Over 30 men and nine women competed in 8-Ball single game, double elimination tournament. Thirty-five men and eight women vied in the race to three, double elimination 9-Ball event.

Placing in the money in each event were: **8-Ball – Men:** 1st place –



L-R: Libby Blake, Reina Blissett, Connie Williams and Anita Nunez.



Bill Wilson and David Nunez.

Bill Wilson, 2nd place – David Nunez, 3rd place – Joe Junior Billie, 4th place – Boogie Nunez, 5th place – George Grasshopper, 6th place – Johnny Cuevas, 7th place – Jake Masters, 8th place – Anthony Jones, 9th place – Randy Coyle.

**Women:** 1st place – Libby Blake, 2nd place – Reina Blissett, 3rd place – Connie Williams, 4th place – Anita Nunez.

**9-Ball – Men:** 1st place – Benjy C., 2nd place – Bill Wilson, 3rd place – Johnny Cuevas, 4th place – George Grasshopper, 5th place – Mike DeWitt.

**Women:** 1st place – Virginia Billie, 2nd place – Connie Williams, 3rd place – Dale Grasshopper, 4th place – Libby Blake.

R & R is a local favorite for pool players living on the Big Cypress and Brighton Reservations. The lounge boasts six pool tables, along with full bar and food service. The menu features Everglades seasoning on many items and is considered one of the best in the area.

# Sister Act: The Kinleys Perform At Casino

**By Benny Secody**  
**IMMOKALEE** — Thanks to the hard work and efforts of Dawn Geis, the Immokalee Seminole Casino was rockin' out to the dynamic sounds of the Kinleys on June 9.

The twin sisters, Jennifer and Heather, first attracted attention with their debut album "Just Between You And Me." Their first single, "Please," remains the highest debuting single by a female duo in country music history, while the album's title track was a top ten smash. The album certified gold and went on to sell over 750,000 copies, the sisters were named the Best New Duo by the Academy of Country Music.

The two beauties, who resemble life size Barbie dolls, explode with energy on stage and possess an innate sense of harmony projected through their mutual love of singing.

"We love to sing separately, but there is something that is exhilarating about putting our voices together," says Jennifer, "At certain points when we're singing, the two of us really do become one sound. It's hard to explain, but it's an amazing feeling."

"Its like we're connecting on another level," continues Heather, "We know each other so well, that we thought that was impossible, but when we bring our voices together, it's a different bonding experience."

The twins, who grew up in Philadelphia, have been performing together since they were eight, doing

songs they'd learned from their parents' Andrews Sisters records, and later, the Everly Brothers.

Through the Everlys, the girls started exploring Country music and became huge fans of the Judds. It totally changed their direction, and before long, they were sitting in with plenty of big name bands – many of which encouraged the twins to pursue their dream.

Jennifer and Heather have released The Kinleys II, which is a true representation of where they are today – a little older, wiser and much happier.

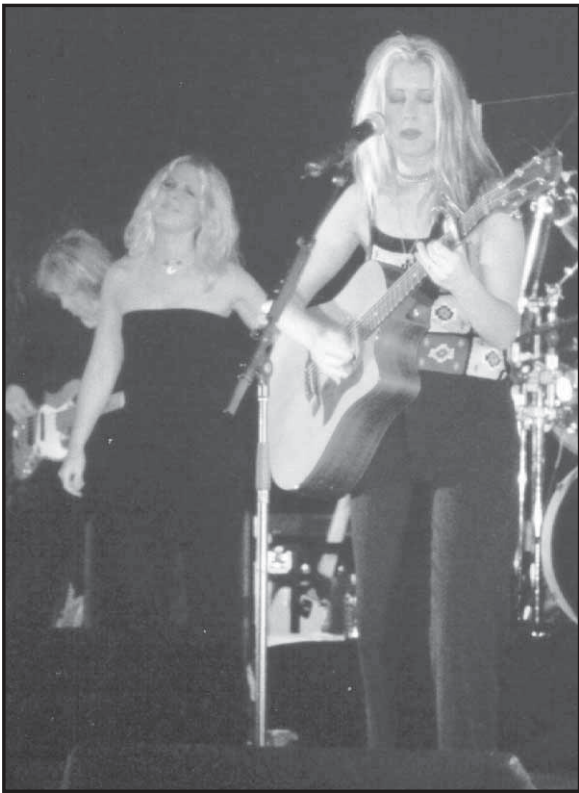
"It's been almost three years since the last record, and musically we've changed so much," says Jennifer, "We're in a totally different spot. We've gotten more confidence and more experience, and I think that shows through our music. In your 20s, you're still learning who you are. We were doing that, both personally and musically. Now that we're almost thirty, we feel like everything is coming together."

Indeed, it is for these two young ladies. They have even put together music videos including "Just Between You and Me," "My Heart Is Still Beating," "Please," "She Ain't The Girl For You," and "Somebody's Out There Watching" – all of which are highly rated by CMT viewers.

"Somebody's Out There Watching" is part of the soundtrack for the CBS hit "Touched By An Angel," and is included as a bonus song on the new album.

Before taking center stage, the girls enjoyed a leisurely dinner in the Casino with family and band members (and even some pesky fans who were determined to interrupt their dinner in search of an autograph or photo).

An up and coming popular country-western band, managed by Tina Van Williams from Davie, named "Buck Wild" had everybody rockin' to the country beat prior to the main event. Gator Country 101.9 FM radio station was also on hand – complete with their mascot, a big, green, two-legged gator with a



The Kinleys, Jennifer and Heather.

great-looking cowboy hat.

The night was a huge success, and a big pat on the back goes to Dawn for putting together a great concert. She says this is one of three scheduled for the summer months. On Saturday, July 7, the Immokalee Seminole Casino will host RCA recording artist Andy Griggs. Special guest Jake Murphy from Arcadia will open the show.

On August 11, another popular singing sensation, Mindy McCready, will perform; the Seminole own Paula Bowers-Sanchez will open the show. Paula has been singing since her teens, and has a special style of her own. She has become one of the best female vocalists to hail from South Florida; and her performance is guaranteed to delight people of all ages.

Geis, who has worked with the Seminole Tribe for over three years, in gaming, she enjoys her work and finds it both challenging and exciting. She says that, although no concrete plans have been released yet, the Immokalee Casino is considering adding an entertainment center to the facility to accommodate concerts and other future events.

With a successful concert behind her, and her summer schedule all set, what does a girl find to do with her free time? Geis decided to treat herself to a much-needed trip to Nashville to attend Fan Fare – CMT Music Fest. Word has it she "gracefully" declined several offers from friends, who offered to carry her luggage for a chance to tag along.

# Bulls Do Duty On Heifers

**By Tommy Benn**  
**CATTLE COUNTRY** – It was pregnancy check time again for the Brighton and Big Cypress cattle operations, conducted on the 2-year old replacement heifers by Dr. Keen.

"Cotton" Baxley, Brighton Cattle Crew Foreman, supervised the gathering of the two-year olds and trucked them to the Marsh Pens. There, Baxley's crew tested 519 heifers, finding only 28 unbred, a 95% conception rate.

The conception rate is outstanding, 85-88% is considered a good number.

After the heifers were examined they were shipped back to their owner's herd to replace cows which may be sold throughout the year for various reasons.

Not to be outdone, Joey Henry and the Big Cypress crew gathered their replacement heifers for inspection. Of

174 heifers tested, only seven were open, a 98% conception rate.

All of the heifers were bred to Black Brangus Texas bulls and maintained by the Brighton and Big Cypress cattle crews, who have complete control over the animals until they are returned to their original owners, bred.

Open heifers are sold by private treaty or shipped to the livestock market.

Shipping time is just around the corner, and then the yearlong process will start over again. A strong market and rising cattle prices seem to forecast another banner year for the industry.


The formula is simple: good base cows and a strong bull battery to bring the needed hybrid vigor to the calf, plenty of feed, minerals, and supplements, and the "Breathgiver" watching over all things wise and wonderful.



Tina Van Williams, Manager of "Buck Wild" pauses for a pose with Dawn Geis, of the Immokalee Seminole Casino.

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Gary Raulerson, Don Robertson, Charles Bronson, Mitchell Cypress and Paul Bowers Sr.



Convention comedian, storyteller and cowboy Baxter Black.

## Cattleman

Continued from page 1

County.

Catherine Bush of Duval County was crowned 2001 FCA Sweetheart. A popular event was the Florida Cattle PAC Bull Sale. Fourteen bulls were offered, either for sale or for dollar credit on future bull sales.

Board President Mitchell Cypress placed a winning bid on lot #9: \$2,500 credit on a Brangus Bull from either Eddy Blazack's Mound Creek Ranch in Leona, TX, or Donnie Robertson's Flying B Ranch in Normangee, TX. The credit will be applied to one of 150 bulls offered for sale by private treaty during the last week of October 2001 at the Texas Ranch headquarters.

## Florida Sales Tax Holiday Coming Up

From the Florida Department of Revenue

TALLAHASSEE – Governor Jeb Bush signed the 2001 Florida Sales Tax Relief Bill (HB 251) into law, marking Florida's fourth consecutive sales tax holiday. Taxpayers will save an estimated \$28.5 million as a result of this initiative by the Legislature and the Governor.

From 12:01 a.m. July 28 through midnight, August 5, shoppers will not be required to pay state or local sales taxes on clothing, footwear and selected accessories selling for \$50 or less per item. In addition, sales taxes will not apply to sales of certain school supplies valued at \$10 or less per item.

"This legislation will provide a measure of tax relief to a broad range of Florida's families this summer," Governor Bush said. "Helping families keep more of the money that they earn is always good. This tax relief is especially welcome because it will help working parents by reducing the cost of sending their children back to school in August."

Florida initiated its sales tax holiday in 1998. By law, sales of clothing, footwear and certain accessories selling for \$50 or less per item are exempt from the state's 6 percent sales tax and local sales tax. For the first time this year, sales of certain school supplies selling for \$10 or less are also exempt. Taxpayers will save an estimated \$25.7 million in state taxes and an estimated \$2.8 million in local taxes. Florida will collect an estimated \$17.7 billion in state and local sales taxes in Fiscal Year 2001-2002.

From July 23 through Aug. 5, the hotline will be open on weekdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday. On weekends from July 28 through Aug. 5, the hotline will be open, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Saturdays and noon - 6 p.m. Sundays. Information about the sales tax holiday also will be available on the Department's website at <http://myflorida.com/dor/>. The Department's toll-free taxpayer hotline is (800) 352-3671.

## Seminole Casino News

**BRIGHTON SEMINOLE BINGO AND CASINO** — Highway 721, Brighton Indian Reservation, Route 6, Box 611, Okeechobee, FL. 34974. (800) 360-9875. Closed Mondays and when the last player leaves nightly.

Over \$30,000 in cash and prizes will be given away by the casino this summer including a cruise to Mexico, a trip to Hawaii, a Polaris jet-ski, and a 2001 Chevrolet Camaro. Drawing slips will be awarded as participants qualify (available since June 16) — culminating at midnight on Aug. 24.

Theme parties and prize giveaways will begin on July 7 with the All-American Oldies party, which will include an Open Classic Car Show to benefit the Robert. L. Teany Memorial Scholarship Foundation. Festivities start at 11 a.m. WQOL 103.7 FM will broadcast live from 1-3 p.m., there will be free hot dogs and Coke, 50-cents, Coors Light drafts, and drawings for T-shirts and prizes. Sponsors of the casino's Summer Promotion will be on hand with their products on display along with live entertainment — the Rockin' Bop-in' Jukebox — in the bingo and video gaming areas.

July 14 is Mexican Fiesta and the drawing for the cruise to Mexico. Radio Fiesta 590 AM will be broadcasting live between 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Mariachi Internacional will perform live from 4 - 6 p.m. Authentic Mexican food will be served, free Coke and 50 cents Coors Light drafts, drawings for t-shirts, prizes, \$50 cash every 1/2 hour between 3:00 - 6:30 p.m. will be available. Drawing for the cruise to Mexico will take place at 9:45 p.m. and winner must be present to win.

Sunday July 15 is the Big Band Dance contest with the Claude Kelly Band. The contest will be open to the first 75 entries. Each entry will receive a bingo number from 1 - 75. Between songs, numbers will be pulled and called. The last three dancers remaining on the floor will win via process of elimination \$100 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$200 for 2nd and \$300 for 1<sup>st</sup> place.

WJBW 99.5 Jukebox radio will broadcast live from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and free hot dogs and Coke will be served. Everyone is welcome, whether you possess special dancing skills or not.

Summer Promotion continues into August when the 2001 Miss Hawaiian Tropic Pageant — Lake Okeechobee arrives at the casino on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup>. A special Luau and the drawing for the trip to Hawaii will take place that night.

Then on Aug. 25, the Summer of Fun will host a Finale party and someone will drive away in a brand new 2001 Chevrolet Camaro sponsored by Maroon Chevrolet — Green Acres and Belle Glade. (Cruise and trip sponsored by Travel Connection — Okeechobee; Jet-ski sponsored by GHC Motorsports — Lake Placid.)

Winners for each drawing MUST be present to win, have valid photo ID, and social security card. See casino staff or newsletter for more information and complete rules.

Congratulations to Mary Tommie of Fort Pierce who won \$40,000 on Super 6 Lotto video game machine.

**COCONUT CREEK CASINO** — 5550 N.W. 40th St., Coconut Creek, FL. 33073. (954) 977-6700. Open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Patrons celebrated July 4<sup>th</sup> in air-conditioned comfort at the casino where they enjoyed an old fashioned barbecue with all the fixings. KISS Country 99.9 FM broadcast live during the festivities, which included a performance by the HitKickers, line dancing, special give-a-ways and a grand prize trip for two to Biloxi. Traditional fireworks lit up the sky with a display of light in motion and sound.

The casino will play host to the Fort Lauderdale Harley HOG Chapter on July 8 in a private event on the grounds. Bikers will enjoy an appreciation barbecue, awards ceremony, prizes, music and more.

Mark Aug. 26 on your calendar to be at the casino. Taking center stage from 1 - 5 p.m. will be South Florida's hottest oldies group The Bowery Boys. Plus one lucky winner will win a trip for two to Biloxi including hotel and airfare. Contact the casino for full details.

**SEMINOLE INDIAN CASINO OF HOLLYWOOD** — 4150 N. SR 7, Hollywood, FL. 33021. (954) 961-3220 or (800) 323-5452. Open

seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

July 25 the casino celebrates Christmas with specials, prizes and gifts throughout the day. Call the casino for full details.

**IMMOKALEE SEMINOLE INDIAN CASINO** — 506 S. First St., Immokalee, FL. 34142. (941) 658-1313 or (800) 218-0007. Open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

The bingo hall will be closed Saturday July 7 for a dance. Listen to the sounds of Andy Griggs with Jake Murphy in a special performance as the casino's summer concert series continues. Next month — Mindy McCready with Paula Bowers on Aug. 11.

July 14 is JPC members' Beach Bag Giveaway. See the newsletter for details and walk away with \$500 in the matinee or \$1,000 in the evening session. Non-members can sign up for free at anytime prior to the session.

Super Saturday this month is July 28. Drawing tickets can be collected all month (in the usual ways). This month a brand new 2001 Suzuki Vitari SUV, a Yamaha XL700 Jet Ski, and a three day/two night Fun in the Sun Southwest Florida Getaway package are up for grabs.

Bingo players asked for changes and the casino has responded with more variety in the patterns and more chances to win. See the newsletter or call the casino for details.

Remember the casino has started new summer shuttle hours for pick-up and departure in the Fort Myers and Naples areas. Pick up a copy of the new schedule at the casino or call the Groups and Marketing

Department to have one sent to you.

**SEMINOLE INDIAN CASINO TAMPA** — 5223 North Orient Road, Tampa, FL 33610. (813) 621-1302. Open seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Christmas in July???? It will be at the casino (yes, they will still celebrate in December too) on July 27 a total of \$10,000 in 75 gifts will be given out in special drawings. Bingo players have from July 1 - 26 to collect their drawing slips and deposit them in the special drum. If your name is called, you select a bingo ball with a number on it that corresponds with the number on the gift won. It's that easy to get your Christmas gift in July.

Celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in grand style at the casino. A free barbecue will be served during matinee I and matinee II, and again from 5 - 7 p.m. A live Dixieland band will be performing from 5 - 6 p.m.

Jackpot Club Members, be sure to be at the casino on your Special Day for Mugs of Money. (Special Day for JPC members is determined by the first letter of your last name — A-K is July 10 and L-Z is July 17.) Drawings will be held in each matinee (10 drawings), nite owl (10), and evening (20) sessions. If your number is drawn you get to select a to-go cold drink mug. Inside each mug is cash — a minimum of \$50 up to a max of \$1,000. See newsletter for further details.

Every Saturday evening all 20 regular games, three specials, and the Do-It-Yourself are worth \$1,199 each. Cost to pay is \$50, \$45 for members. Warm-ups and Mystery Money begin at 6:15 p.m. and are not included in your pack.

Super Saturday will be July 14 and 28. All-Day packs include a combo pack for matinee I and II (both sessions pay double on regular games) and an evening pack where all games pay \$1,199. All-Day packs are \$65, \$60 for members.

Stay and Play is another great value. Every Monday and Wednesday buy a combo pack for matinee I and get a pack for matinee II for only \$5 more. Packs are available for purchase until 12:30 p.m.

On Sunday evenings, a total of 30 regular games are played. Level I pays \$300 and level II pays \$450. Cost is only \$22 and \$33, respectively. Extra games, extra paper, lower cost and minimum \$50 payouts on all regular games makes the casino the place to be on Sunday evenings. See newsletter for times.

Drive away from the casino on July 30 in a brand new 2001 Saturn. Win at bingo — receive a drawing slip; win a \$1,200 or more jackpot on a gaming machine — receive a drawing slip; come in first, second or third in a poker tournament — receive a drawing slip; have a single win of \$50 or more in Pull Tabs — receive a drawing slip. Win once and get a chance to win again. This is what the casino calls "Double Win." Winner must be present to win. See newsletter or casino for full details and eligibility.

— Compiled by Libby Blake



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# Big Cypress News ❖ Ahshawehahyooge'

## BC Honors Moms And Dads

By Candy Cypress  
**BIG CYPRESS** — The community celebrated Mother's and Father's Day on June 15 with a brunch/luncheon at the BC Gymnasium.

The gymnasium was prepared for the occasion, as Tribal citizens walked in, they were greeted with tables decorated in red, white, yellow and black tablecloth and topped with brilliantly colored floral centerpieces.

Jonah Cypress and Tony Osceola provided musical accompaniment as Noah Jim, Daisy Jumper, BJ Billie, and Hillary Harvey sang gospel hymns for the citizens while they enjoyed a pre-lunch buffet of fresh fruit, danishes, coffee, and juices.

After the singing, Reverend Salan Hummingbird of the Big Cypress First Baptist Church gave a short uplifting sermon and led the



George Billie

citizens in prayer before lunch.

As everyone enjoyed lunch, gifts were handed out to each mother and father in attendance. Councilman David Cypress, provided gifts and sponsored the lunch, thanked everyone for coming out and wished the parents a Happy Mother's and Father's Day.

Since there wasn't a Mother's Day event, said Cypress, the day's luncheon would honor both mothers and fathers.

However, "Everyday is Mother's Day," said Cypress.

President Mitchell Cypress and newly-elected Board Representative Paul Bowers, Sr. were both in attendance, both honored the parents for their sacrifices and encouraged everyone to enjoy the day's festivities.



Ahfachkee graduation processional, Lindsey King, Lydia Hernandez, Tony Shaw Bert.

## Ahfachkee

Continued from page 1

of Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church, and Reverend Salan Hummingbird of the Big Cypress First Baptist Church.

The evening's events started with the presentation of Colors, performed by Paul Bowers and Timmy Johns, members of the Seminole Tribe Color Guard. A wave of nervous anticipation coupled with applause and celebration, articulated through the audience as The Entrance Procession began, starting with the kindergarten graduates, followed by the eighth grade graduates and the high school graduates. The invocation was conducted by Reverend Micco.

Following the prayer, Dr. Gaffney welcomed the audience to the joyful gathering. He spoke proudly

helped him settle into his new surroundings. Shore said they made it a point to stay over, in case he changed his mind and wanted to go back with them. He kept his goals manageable, and planning one semester at a time, Shore avoided feeling overwhelmed.

He made a concerted effort to make it to school early so he could get a seat at the front of class and tape record all of the lectures. By taping all of his classes, he could better absorb the lessons by playing and replaying the tapes for hours and hours. He said, "it was tedious but very effective."

Through perseverance, patience, and will, Jim Shore not only made it through two years of college, he also went on to Stetson University to achieve his law degree. From there, he was eventually hired by the Seminole Tribe as the Tribe's General Counsel, a position he has held for more than 20 years.

He recalled that during a conversation with James Billie, it was suggested that perhaps a greater power wanted him to be where he was now so the events that brought him to this point may have been necessary. To which Jim Shore replied, "Hey a pat on the shoulder would have been just fine."

In closing, he emphasized the importance of knowing our traditions and language. "Our ancestors did not have 7-11 or any of the things we take for granted to live. They survived on the strength of their beliefs and we can do the same."

Mr. Shore's commencement address was inspirational and bespoke an uncommon determination that was appreciated by those in attendance, especially the youth that had not previously known of his experiences or challenges. He told the graduates his hopes are that they would achieve great success and one day return to help our people.

After Shore's speech, the conferring of the diplomas began with the kindergarten graduates. The 2001 Kindergarten Graduates are: Bionca Acosta, Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, Cypress Billie, Rayel Billie, Alanis Bowers, Aileen Cypress, Quentin Cypress, Tyler Cypress, Colby Herrera, Darren Jim, Christopher Joe, Jr., William Jumper III, Rodni Mercer, Bradley Osceola, Joey Simone, Tequesta Tiger and Reagan Whitecloud

The eighth grade graduates received their diplomas next. The 2001 Eighth Grade Graduates are: Cody Bert, Meredith Brooke Bullard, Dakotah Cypress, Nina Frias, Jonathan Wayne Harjo, Naonna Victoria



Ahfachkee Graduation, 8th grade processional.

about the tremendous strides the reservation school has taken in the quest to provide the best education the students in Big Cypress, including the accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Gaffney spoke with the voice of one who truly believes in service to others as he recognized his teachers and staff for their hard work and dedication put forth for the betterment of our youth.

A moment of appreciation and special wishes went to Ahfachkee art teacher, Linda Peeples, who was involved in a car accident on the way to Big Cypress in May.

Introducing the commencement speaker, Dr. Gaffney spoke of his desire to start a tradition of inviting the Seminole Tribe's own recognized distinguished citizens as future speakers for the Ahfachkee Graduations. It is Dr. Gaffney's hope that someone from our own community who exemplifies dedication, success, and sound character will inspire the students on a more personal level.

When he decided to invite a Seminole Tribal member to give the commencement speech, Dr. Gaffney explained that Attorney Jim Shore was the first person who came to mind. "For someone who has not only achieved success in life but overcame extreme obstacles to succeed there is no greater example than Jim Shore," said Dr. Gaffney.

With that introduction, Mr. Shore proceeded to the podium to address the graduates and guests. With an even keyed voice that sometimes camouflages his acerbic sense of humor, he chronicled some of the events in his life and his efforts to pursue higher education.

Shore began by explaining that he was not always inclined to achieve goals or pursue success. After high school he wasn't doing much more than holding down a menial job and enjoying the party life in his spare time.

It was after an automobile accident that caused the loss of his eyesight that he took time to evaluate where he was in life and whether there was something more he might want to do. He decided to go back to school. He researched which schools would best meet his needs in reference to his disability before he made a decision. His choice was Madison Junior College in North Florida.

Two of Shore's sisters drove him up and



Ahfachkee preschool graduate greeted Tribal officials.

Hernandez, Paige Marie Osceola, Shena Marie Reid, The high school graduates were next in line to receive their diplomas. The Ahfachkee School's Graduating Class of 2001 are: Tony Shawn Bert, Lydia Hernandez, Lindsey Cypress King, Julio Cesar Molina, Justin B. Osceola, and Tabitha N. Reid.

Each graduate was presented their diploma on one end of the stage and crossed the stage to shake hands with the presiding Tribal officials. Recognition was given to G.E.D. Graduates, Deanna Hall and Merrylynn Wagerby.

The benediction was given by Reverend Hummingbird, followed by the recessional, which concluded this year's ceremony. The evening was one of joy, pride and inspiration. Congratulations to each and every graduate. May this be only the beginning of many achievements to come.



Jane Billie, daughter Thomlynn Billie, and Victoria Osceola.



Danielle Jumper and Dasani Cypress.

## Big Cypress National Preserve

**BIG CYPRESS** — Superintendent John Donahue announced that Big Cypress National Preserve will close to all off-road vehicle use for a 45-day period beginning July 6. The recently adopted Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan calls for a sixty-day seasonal closure to allow a period free from any resource pressures related to ORV use. Using adaptive management principles in the implementation of the management plan, the closure will be limited to 45 days this year in order to not interfere with the ability of hunters to scout prior to the fall hunting season. Next year, the seasonal closure will be the full 60 days called for in the plan and is scheduled for June 15 through August 15. This closure does not apply to landowners that hold special use permits to access their private properties through the Preserve.

Donahue said, "Motorized travel in the Preserve is minimal at this time of year, therefore the closure will inconvenience very few people and will benefit the resource. The National Park Service has a congressional mandate to restore the wilderness character of the Preserve and a period without motorized vehicles will help us meet that obligation."

In addition, the Bear Island Unit, including Bear Island Campground, will be closed to all uses for road and trail maintenance and repair beginning Friday, June 29. The area is scheduled to reopen to camping and day use for non-motorized activities before the end of the 45-day ORV closure.

For more information you can contact Sandra Snell-Dobert at (941) 695-1107.

## Appreciation Dinner Held

By Candy Cypress  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Newly-elected Board Representative Paul Bowers, Sr. held an appreciation dinner for the community on June 7, at the Big Cypress rodeo grounds. Although the event coincided with the start of the Big Cypress Corn Dance, and slightly hampered by a steady downpour, a sizable crowd turned out for the dinner.

Mr. Bowers, who held the Board seat previously, regained the office in the recent election. He expressed his sincere appreciation for the opportunity to represent the community a second time.

Paul thanked everyone for their support and encouragement, and mentioned that he had been in various meetings to help get organized. "In a couple of weeks... everything is going to be all right for the Big Cypress reservation under Board," said Bowers.



Janice Osceola with father Joe Osceola, Sr.

## Big Cypress Slaughter and Processing Plant



USDA APPROVED: Goat.

By Tommy Benn

**BIG CYPRESS** — Located on the Big Cypress reservation is the Slaughter and Processing Plant. Bo Davis, who oversees all of the plant's operations, manages the full service, USDA-inspected meat processing plant.

Sissy Clements handles the clerical duties, and Celeste Billie, who is studying for her USDA meat inspector's license, monitors the floor activities.

This year, for the first time, all of the steers and swine sold at the annual 4-H sale were slaughtered and processed at the Big Cypress plant, Glades, Collier, and Hendry counties elected to send their sale animals to Davis and his able crew at the state-of-the-art plant.

Fees can vary, but a kill charge of \$12 per hog and \$20 per beef with a cutting and packaging fee of \$0.40 per pound is the going rate. The plant will also process wild game, ground sausage, and ship as needed for the customer. "We try to make it easy for everyone," says Davis.

"We have never been written up for any State of Florida or USDA health infractions and go to great pains to see that it isn't," said Davis. "We take great pride in the facility and plan to make it more accessible for future ventures."



Tommy Benn purchased beef from 4-H.

and holy man.

The Seminole Tribe for his butchering services employs Sofiene but his true reward comes from the service he is providing for the growing Muslim communities in South and Central Florida.

The plant can slaughter up to 75 goats, and process up to 100 goats, a day if the demand is high. Goat meat is served worldwide and popular with the local Cuban, Mexican, Spanish, and British West Indies communities in Florida.

The plant is actively looking for a larger sales operation.

Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns has found another source of revenue for the plant: processing goats. Johns has hired Muslim butcher, Sofiene Lessis, to bless the slaughter animals in order for the meat to become "Halal." Sofiene is following the footsteps of his family before him as a butcher

## New Citizen In Big Cypress

By Tommy Benn

Welcome to Big Cypress, Cassandra Hope Alexander. Born on Valentine's Day, Feb.

14, 2001, Cassandra is Bird clan and her parents are Catherine and Charles Alexander of Big Cypress. Cassandra was 21 inches long and weighed 8 pounds and 13 and 3/4 oz at birth. Cassandra is the granddaughter of Charlotte Tommie of

Big Cypress and Karen Alexander of Wilson, MI. Her great-grandmother is Sally A. Tommie of Big Cypress. Her great-grandfather is Lloyd R. Meshigaud of Wilson, MI.



+++++

Brighton News ♦ Tulchobehahyooge'

Reese Bert: The Thirst For First

**By Janice Billie**  
**BRIGHTON** — The year 2001 marked a milestone in the life of Seminole Tribal citizen, Reese Bert, the son of Agnes and the late Robert Bert.

Reese, a member of the Bird Clan, was featured last year in the *Seminole Tribune* when he received his Journeyman’s Certification as an air conditioning technician.

Reese was the first Seminole Tribal member to become a certified technician in this field. However, his goals did not stop there. In January, Reese received his Class B State of Florida Air Conditioning Contractors License, again, the first Tribal member to achieve a license in this trade.

Blessed with a quick smile and an easy-going personality, his steely determination is not immediately noticeable, but strong will and ambition are definitely instilled in his character.

Reese has gone through many trials and setbacks since he first decided to seek an education and become a licensed A/C contractor. He says the easy part was graduating high school in Okeechobee.

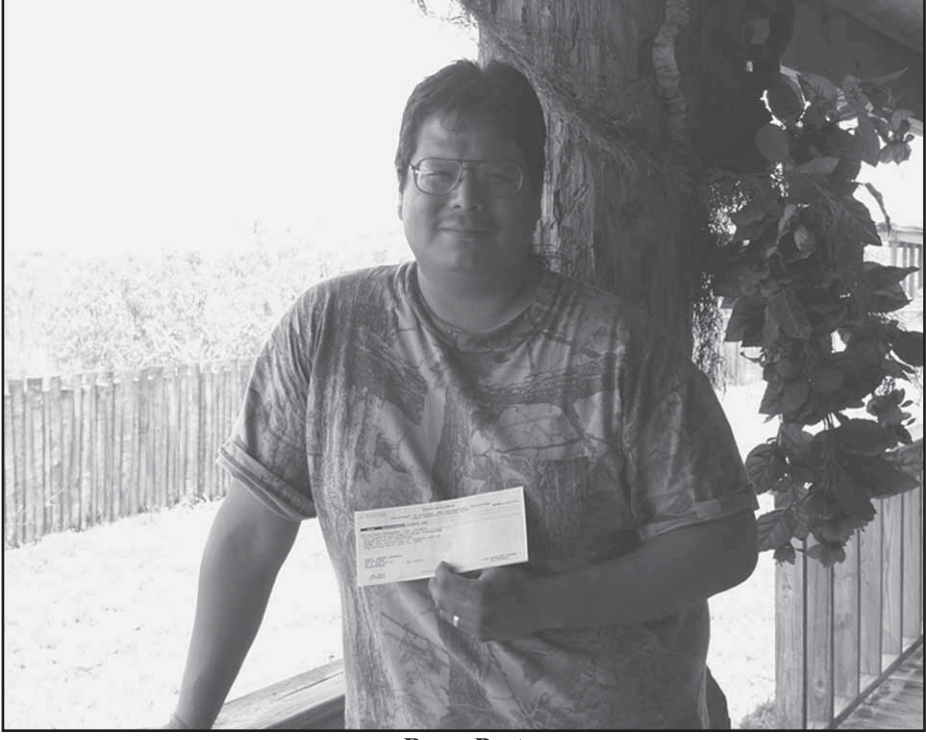
From there, in 1987 he went off to Haskell Indian Junior College in Lawrence, KS. It was two years of homesickness and adjustment during which he earned an A.A.S. (Associates to Applied Science) degree, learning the basics in air conditioning work.

Coming home, he assumed he would get work in this field and further his qualifications but one thing or another always seemed to hinder his progress. He also married and eventually had four children, adopting another, so a job and paycheck took priority over school for a time.

He had jobs with Land Use, Casino Security, the Turtle Farm and also hauled fans for chickee builders. However, he never abandoned his goal, believing that keeping his hopes alive would bring about his dreams.

Reese credits the late Cecil Johns and the late Fred Osceola for his perseverance, both men reached him in his grade school years through sports, encouraging and guiding him towards achievement.

When he started working for Seminole Housing, he met Don Michael and Mondo Tiger. These two men recognized his potential, and sought to help him in his chosen career.



Reese Bert

After learning he held a degree in the trade, Michael put him to work on the A/C crew to get hands-on experience. Through Blue Top Construction, Mondo secured funding to send Reese to Lee VoTech, in Ft. Myers, to work on his certification.

He completed the 3-year course in 2 years, attending night classes, while holding down his housing job. Living in Brighton, working on different reservations, and going to school in Ft. Myers, he was driving as much as he was doing anything else.

It was hard but he was happy because he was

finally going where he wanted to go. Reese felt like it was a second chance and aimed to take full advantage.

Reese received his certification from Lee VoTech in June 2000 and began studying for the state exam for his license. He took the two-day test in Oct. 2000 but fell short on the business part.

He retook the test in Dec. 2000 and passed. Now that he has his license, Reese has set several more goals for his future. He wants to get his certification in automotive air conditioning work, his long term goal is to attain a general contractors license.

Reese’s story is an example of how hope, patience, and perseverance can uplift a person’s life. He has a positive outlook and encourages other Tribal members to pursue their dreams relentlessly because nothing is impossible.

When times were rough, Reese says he used to reinforce himself with a line from a Tupac Shakur song:

“No matter how hard it gets, keep your head up, your chest out, and keep going.”

Bingo

Continued from page 2

first smoke shop on Seminole land. Partners in the venture were Ozzie Shanooke and Bertha Turnipseed, Indians from Washington State, who came to Florida and approached Osceola with the idea.

When Osceola opened the Candlelight shop he put 36 elderly Tribal members on the payroll giving them a weekly income of \$230. (This would later cause difficulties with the Internal Revenue Service and, as part of the settlement with the IRS, put Osceola out of the cigarette business.)

Osceola and the Tribe faced litigation from then Broward County Sheriff Edward Stack in 1977. At all levels of the judicial system, the court sided with the Tribe until in 1979 the Florida legislature passed a bill authorizing the sale of tax-free cigarettes on the reservations. But because of his success, Osceola would be considered a “have” and would have to withstand criticism from the press and other Tribal members.

Encouraged by the courts’ and legislature’s decisions, Tommie pressed on with his next venture – high stakes, unregulated bingo. In the fall of 1978 the Tribal council received a proposal from a group – Seminole Management Association – in which Tommie held a majority interest.

The proposal involved 19 acres of frontage land on U.S. 441. SMA planned to spend \$2.5 million to develop the land, which would include a smoke shop, a strip mall, and a 1,500-seat bingo hall. In return the Tribe would get its usual percentage from the cigarette sales, all the rent from the shopping center, and 20 percent of the bingo profits. (Chairman Billie would later claim Tommie never signed the contract and renegotiate the deal before the opening of the bingo hall. The Tribe’s share of the bingo profits would be 45 percent and SMA would get a 25-year management contract.)

The Tribal council discussed the proposal, with Tommie out of the room, and then voted 4 – 0 for passage. This vote led some to accuse the council of favoritism. Tommie became infuriated and was quoted as saying: “I really don’t think I’ve taken the tribe for anything. Why should I be treated differently than anyone else who wants to go into business? It doesn’t seem fair that I should be excluded just because I’m chairman.”

The backers in SMA were Eugene Weisman and George Simon. Simon was a financial consultant at Flagler Dog Track in Miami. Weisman was a Pittsburgh investor whose family had been involved in other bingo ventures. Former Broward County Sheriff Robert Butterworth would later try to connect these men with organized crime in his effort to stop gaming on the reservation.

According to Tommie, “in 17 years they were never able to prove mob influence.”

More controversy arose at the time when Tommie bought out Osceola’s smoke shop. The council cancelled Osceola’s lease, transferred it to Tommie, and passed a resolution for a five-year moratorium on new smoke shops. Rumors in the

Tribe were that this had been the plan all along but Tommie repeatedly denied this. He contended then, and still does, that SMA didn’t want the competition and that was why they asked Osceola to sell out.

In the October 24, 1985 issue of the *Seminole Tribune*, reporter Gloria Wilson wrote, “Controversy was foreseen but not in the capacity that the Seminole Tribe encountered. An avid opponent of the Bingo operation was former Broward County Sheriff, Robert Butterworth. Claiming ‘it’s (Bingo) against state law,’ ‘the Indians are being used by non-Indians,’ and his ‘fears the Indians will open up their own Casino or Jai-alai fronton,’ Butterworth led his crusade to stop the efforts of the Seminole Tribe.”

Butterworth would take his case to court based on civil/regulatory statutes – he lost. He then tried criminal/prohibitory statutes – he lost again. Seminole Tribe vs. Butterworth became a landmark case for Indian gaming. In 1988, the U.S. Congress formally recognized Indian rights to conduct gaming on reservation land and passed the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

In 1979, Tommie decided not to run for reelection. In a recent interview, Tommie said he based his decision on the legal questions facing the bingo operation, smoke shops, and adverse publicity. According to his sister, Sadie Cypress, “Howard told me that if he stayed as chairman and the courts went against him, it would take down the whole tribe. He thought if he wasn’t in office, they (the government) could only get him personally.”

The 1980s saw numerous legal and legislative challenges to Indian economic sovereignty. It fell to Tommie’s successor, James E. Billie, to deal with the legal assault on Seminole gaming. While the Tribe now has bingo and video machine gaming on five reservations, the battle is still being fought – 13 years after passage of the IGRA, the Seminoles still do not have a compact with the state of Florida.

Regardless or in spite of the lack of a compact agreement, the Seminoles recently broke ground on their most ambitious gaming venture to date. Plans are set for a \$300 million Hard Rock Resort and Casino on the Hollywood reservation and a \$100 million Hard Rock on the Tampa reservation. (Both projects are temporarily on hold while the financing package is re-examined and reevaluated by the Tribal council.)

When Howard Tommie took office as Chairman, tribal members were receiving \$600 per year in dividends. Thanks to his vision for his people, and other enterprising individuals like Marcellus Osceola, dividends are up to \$2,000 per month. The Tribal council recently voted to increase that amount again in October.

Yes, Tommie and a few others made money, but so have the Tribe and its members. If not for visionaries like Tommie, the Seminoles might still be living in chickees and waiting for BIA to tell them what to do. Any culture, without visionaries or who are unwilling or unable to change with the times, will soon cease to exist.

The Europeans settlers tried to take away the Indian culture. Tommie used the European culture of capitalism to reestablish his culture.

Brighton Resident Marries South Dakotan

By Tommy Benn

Tribal member Perry Whidden, daughter of Sonny and Connie Whidden, married Koty Brugh member of the Three Allied Tribes on Feb. 24 in a private ceremony in Mandree, North Dakota.

The bride is a 1996 graduate of Okeechobee High School and is employed by the Brighton Medical Clinic. She will be

attending Indian River Community College in the fall.

The groom is the son of Ron Brugh of Mandree, North Dakota. He day-works cattle and travels the rodeo circuit. He currently leads the EIRA Bareback event and places in Bullriding.

The couple plan to reside on the Brighton reservation.



Mr. and Mrs. Koty Brugh.



New Kid On The Rez

By Tommy Benn

**BRIGHTON** — Welcome the newest resident of the Brighton Reservation, Miss Madisyn Raye Osceola, born to Rodney and Lisa Osceola. Madisyn weighed in at 6 pounds, 13 oz. With sisters Kari and Reba, and brothers Dayne and Randall, she’ll be rodeoing soon enough.

Madisyn is the granddaughter of the late Fred Osceola, Addie Osceola, late Josiah Johns, and Greg and Sandy Woods.

Seminole In Alaska

Flames Above The Stove!

*This is Part 5 in a series about a Seminole woman and her family's year 2000 living in a remote part of Alaska.*

In early July, the sky in our area got heavy with smoke. Forest fires were burning all around, the closest to us being about eight miles away. Sometimes it was so thick we could not even see the other side of the river, about a half mile away. It got scary when smokejumpers poured into our area by helicopter and started setting sprinklers up around the cabins.

We had promised Philemon that we would come see his dance performance at the end of Summer Fine Arts Camp in Seattle, the middle of July. With forest fires so close to our home, it worried us to leave, but we had trust in the Lord to take care of everything. Just the same, my husband moved our ATVs and tractor farther away from the trees before we left.

It was good to see Philemon perform. It was like a dream come true for him after having been tucked away in the woods for so long. The Lord made a way for Philemon out of our apparent misfortune. When it seems like bad things are happening to us, goods things will come if we love and trust Jesus.

We returned to the homestead to find that the forest fires never made it to our farm.

At the end of Summer Fine Arts Camp, Philemon found a way to enroll in the Summer Fine Arts Festival, a program for adults. He took courses in dance, singing, drums, and the course he liked the best of all, stage combat. My husband and I went to two more performances featuring our son in middle of August.

Once the fair was over, Philemon was through with his classes. He had auditioned for a part in a musical being put on by Fairbanks Light

Opera Theater just before the Fair ended, but wasn’t too hopeful of being chosen. To his surprise, he was called back and cast in a role. The musical required rehearsals from August through November, when the play would run. We had been thinking that Philemon would be going back to the woods in September and home schooling again. Now everything was changed if he was to be allowed to be in the play. It was so important to him that we decided to let him stay in town and go to public school. We got him an apartment and asked one of our church members to check up on him and take care of him when he needed help.

My husband and I went back to the homestead at the end of August. Heavy rains had made the river rise until it had flooded the runway. Once again, our property had been threatened and we could not protect it. The Lord had mercy on us again by bringing the river down before it could do too much damage.

The middle of summer was smoky, cutting out the sunlight and the end of summer was cold and wet. Those conditions caused out potato crop to suffer. We only harvested about 800 lbs., not much more than what we had planted. Still, we were glad to get something to eat and plant the next year.

The disasters that we kept avoiding through the summer finally found us on September 29. Everything seemed normal as the day began. Two neighbors visited us at our house in the afternoon and another came over a little later. Nobody noticed any problems. Shortly after the last visitor left, I was working in the kitchen when I heard my husband frantically up and down the stairs.

I looked over to the room where our heating woodstove was and could see flames coming out of the ceiling above the stove.

*Next issue: A house on fire and the nearest fire truck is 70 miles away.*

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# Paul Bowers Jr. Graduates Vanguard

**By Tommy Benn**  
**LAKE WALES** — Paul Bowers Jr. graduated from the Vanguard School in Lake Wales on June 14. He is the son of Paul and Linda Bowers also of the Big Cypress Reservation. The younger Bowers has attended the Vanguard School for the past four years.

The commencement services were held in the school's gym. Encircling the rafters were flags from the various states, countries, and nations representing the student's homelands. The young Bowers pointed to the Seminole Tribe's Flag with great pride as he walked into the standing-room only gym. He took his place with his classmates, as they prepared themselves to enter the world of

reality. Thirty seniors were to graduate on this beautiful, bright June day in central Florida

Family and friends filled the halls to show their support for the young Seminole man who has worked so hard to challenge himself to complete the ridged schedule of the Vanguard School.

Principal Gary Hetzel welcome the families and guests of the graduating class, while Richard Ogle lead the seniors and the gathered guests with an invocational prayer. Graduates thanked their parents and teachers for believing in them as they struggled to find themselves on the path into adulthood. With the skills and education received from the Vanguard, they were ready to face the

world and take their rightful place in it.

Harry E. Nelson, founder of the Vanguard School, was also this year's Commencement speaker for the class of 2001.

Mr. Bowers will be heading to Wyoming this fall to continue his education at Eastern Wyoming College in Torrington. Where he plans on pursuing a degree in Ranch and Range Management specializing in Agricultural related fields.

*The Vanguard School of Lake Wales was founded in 1966. The mission of the school is to provide an individual program in a nurturing environment that will enable students to develop to there fullest, Academically, Socially, and Personally.*



L-R: Wilson, Paul Jr., and Clarissa Bowers.



Mitchell Cypress and Paul Bowers Jr.



Vanguard seniors class of 2001.



I made it!!!



Paul Buster plays and sings to 4th Grade students at Poinciana Elementary, Boynton Beach.

## Paul Buster Speaks To Students

**By Tommy Benn**  
**BOYNTON BEACH** – Seminole Paul Buster gave the Poinciana Elementary school fourth grade classes a look at life as a Seminole boy growing up in the Big Cypress Swamp. Buster was introduced to the four classes by Joel Thomas Benn, of Mrs. Green class, who organized the in-house field trip.

Joel introduced Mr. Buster as a full-blooded Native American who grew up at the Big Cypress Reservation. Buster currently lives with his family on the Hollywood Reservation.

Speaking in his native tongue, Buster thanked the children for the opportunity to enlighten them on Seminole culture and heritage. As he spoke in Creek and Mikasuki he drew blank stares from the audience. After he finished his opening statements, he told them in English that that was how he felt like they did when he was their age and people would speak to him in English. He didn't learn English until he was twelve, or so, lost in a white man's world since his parents spoke only Mikasuki or Creek in their home.

As a small boy, he lived in a Chickee, a poled and beam constructed dwelling with a thatched roof made of Sabal Palm fans. His mother cooked over an open fire, they bathed in canals where they washed their clothes as well. Life was good.

"My mother tended to the home cooking and gathering fruits and vegetables from the swamp and gardens. She would make Indian dolls and sweetwater baskets to trade and tan animal's hides and skins, too."

"My Father hunted and fished and would trap animals for their pelts and skins. My father and the other men worked whenever work was available, as did the women, working long hours in the vegetable fields picking tomatoes, peppers or fruit. The elders worked in the packing sheds hand wrapping and packing fresh fruit.

"He traded their animal skins for money and together with the cash money he made working odd jobs he would by staples for our family. Staples being flour, coffee, grits and sugar and other necessities, foodstuffs we take for granted nowadays. Times were hard in the Big Swamp," said Buster.

Paul shared the meaning of the Seminole Colors, displayed patchwork and the various meanings of the various designs, he taught the children to count to ten in his native tongue.

Paul also played various selections from his *CowBones* and *Seminole Tales* albums. The 90 minute talk passed quickly while Buster answered questions from the floor as they related to Seminole life and heritage.

The fourth graders thanked Mr. Buster for spending time and sharing his childhood memories with them. You could hear them singing the Red Spider Song as they made their way down the long halls.



Joel Benn in Seminole Patchwork listens as Paul Buster lectures on Seminole life.

## Graduates

Continued from page 1

Justin Osceola, 17, the son of Connie and Ronnie Billie, graduated from Ahfachkee High School on June 5. Justin's interests center around sports. He is an avid basketball player and can usually be found at the gym practicing for tournaments.



Justin Osceola

Justin had a summer job, catching alligators for Billie Swamp Safari, but decided to give it up and stay safe for college in the fall. Justin is still contemplating which college to attend, possibly FSU in Tallahassee, but he definitely wants to major in business.

Justin says he stayed in school and was determined to graduate if for no other reason than to get it over with and move on. He says his parents continually encouraged him to graduate and did not give him other options, which was the biggest motivation of all.

Lindsey King, 17, the daughter of Brian and Betty King, a member of the Big Town Clan, graduated from Ahfachkee High School on June 5. She is very soft spoken and says she is one of the people who enjoyed school and always liked to learn.



Lindsey King

She is still researching which college she would like to attend but is sure about pursuing a degree in education. Her goal is to become a teacher. She enjoys reading and surfing the net.

Desiree Jumper, 18, the daughter of Jeanette Cypress and Danny Jumper and a Panther Clan member, graduated from Clewiston High School on May 18. She participated in high school volleyball and fast pitch softball.

Her higher education plans are to enroll at Gulf Coast University near Naples, FL in the fall. She plans to get her degree in Elementary Education.

Desiree is presently working as coordinator for the Summer Youth Program. She is the reigning 2000 Miss Seminole Princess, but will be relinquishing her crown in August. She plans to take some time this summer to travel and represent the Seminole Tribe, something she didn't get a lot of time to do this past year due to her academic schedule.



Desiree Jumper

Desiree also held the title of Miss Sugar from the Clewiston Sugar Festival until this past April. She competed in the Miss Indian World pageant at the Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque and was a runner up in the Miss Hendry County pageant. She was also a candidate for the Clewiston High School Homecoming Queen and voted Most Athletic Senior.

Desiree plans to continue pageant competition, starting with Miss Indian Universe in November, and the Rodeo Queen pageant in February. Desiree is presently coaching several contestants in Big Cypress, who are hoping to get the crown she will be giving up.

Amy Coppedge, 18, the daughter of Gene and Cheryl Coppedge, graduated from Coolidge High School in Coolidge, AZ on May 24. She has trained in cross-country running for four years and participated in track and field for three years.

Amy also plays the flute and was a member of her high school marching band. Her motivation for keeping a 3.179 GPA was mainly to be involved in sports. Her plans are to attend Central Arizona Community College in Coolidge.

Amy has not decided her major but will definitely remain in sports. She gives credit to her parents, her grandmother and her aunts Maryjean and Marie for their support and guidance.

Cody Wilcox, 17, the son of Danny Tommie and Jeanette Cypress. He graduated from Clewiston High School on May 18. Cody has been involved in sports since his little league days and hopes to play college football. He played catcher on the varsity baseball team and line-backer and full-back positions in football.



Cody Wilcox

Cody's hobbies are anything that relates to sports and fitness training. He works out in his spare time and is currently working for Big Cypress Recreation this summer. His college choice undecided, he is considering Florida Atlantic University or the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Paul Bowers Jr., 18, the son of Paul and Linda Bowers and a member of the Bird Clan, graduated from the Vanguard School in Lake Wales, FL on June 6. Paul's main interests since his grade school days are agriculture and rodeo competition. In fact, his love for rodeo compelled him to keep his grades up. Paul will attend Eastern Wyoming College in Torrington, WY in the fall to pursue a degree in Ranch and Range Management. He good-naturedly muses that maybe one day he will take over his Uncle Richards's job as the president of the Intertribal Agriculture Council (IAC).



Paul Bowers Jr.

Lydia Hernandez, 18, the daughter of Lydia Cypress and Benny Hernandez, and a member of the Wind Clan, graduated from Ahfachkee High School on June 5. She plans to take some time off and enjoy her free days before starting classes at Broward Community College.

Anthony Pacheco, 18, the son of Ted and Naomi Tommie Pacheco, and a member of the Bird Clan graduated from Pueblo High School, Pueblo, CO. Anthony's first love is sports and he plans to pursue a degree in Sports Medicine at the University of Southern Colorado in Pueblo in the fall.



Anthony Pacheco

In high school, Anthony played football, basketball, and track. His parents are his inspiration to finish school and set his sights on achieving a degree.

Tony Shawn Bert, 20, the son of Tony and Sue Jane Bert, a member of the Big Town clan, graduated from Ahfachkee High School on June 6.

Deana K. Hall, 24, the daughter of Marie Billie and James Hall and a member of the Panther clan, earned her G.E.D. from Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School in September 2000.

Merrylynn Waggerby, 30, the daughter of Mary and Gary Waggerby and a member of the Panther clan, earned her G.E.D. from Cornerstone Christian Correspondence School in September 2000.



Mrs. Harper's class, Kayla Nelson, fourth from right.

## 7th Annual Talent Show

On June 7, three young Tribal citizens participated in Driftwood Elementary's 7th Annual Talent Show. The show, called the "2001 Odyssey of Stars," was directed by music instructors Ms. Ana Jerlinski and her assistant, Ms. Mary Ellen Reilly. Kayla Nelson, daughter of Danielle Nelson, performed with her class in "Kangaroos, Elephants, Manatees, and Whales".

Jessica Turtle, daughter of Donna Osceola, sang "Heartland" for the audience. Nicole Osceola, daughter of Tate and Robin Osceola, sand "This I Promise You". The Tribune would like to commend Kayla, Jessica, and Nicole on their achievements and encourage them to continue with their endeavors.



Jessica Turtle, 4th grader



Miss. Nicole Osceola, 4th grader, singing "This I Promise You."

**Check . . . and double check . . .**  
**Look at each picture. How many differences can you find?**





SPORTS

Seminole Teams Bowl In WIBC



(L-R): Laura Clay, Patricia Wilcox, Shana Frank, Doreen Osceola, Cornelia Osceola, Dina Dempsey.

**By Libby Blake**  
**HOLLYWOOD** – Three Seminole teams competed in the 82nd Women’s International Bowling Congress (WIBC) Championship Tournament held in Broward County this year. The Seminole Tribe of Florida was a major sponsor of the event, which ran from April 17 through June 27.

Those participating in team, singles, and doubles divisions were Patricia



(L-R): Louise Billie, Ruby Osceola, Dora Tiger, Mary T. Bowers, Christalee Coppedge.

Frank, Doreen Michelle Osceola, Shana Frank, Laura Clay, Cornelia Osceola, Dina Dempsey, Mary T. Bowers, Louise Billie, Ruby Osceola, Dora Tiger, Christalee Coppedge, Sarah McDonald, Denise Morin, Alfreda Muskett, and Terri Frank.

The tournament was expected to inject estimated 35 million into the local

economy. The Tribe’s tourism ventures – the casinos, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum and Billie Swamp Safari – were featured side trips for over 48,000 bowlers and their families who participated in the event. Information booths set up at Don Carter’s Tamarac Lanes and Sawgrass Lanes informed the bowlers of the Tribe’s tourist attractions and gaming facilities.

Team events were held at Tamarac Lanes and singles/doubles competitions were held at Sawgrass. Seminole bowlers’ scores, where available, are listed below.

“Sidekicks” Team scores: Sarah McDonald 119, 127, 111; Denise Morin 132, 109, 146; Dina Dempsey 142, 162, 192; Alfreda Muskett 149, 168, 122; Terri Frank 142, 142, 163.

Singles (total individual score): Patricia Wilcox 153, 193, 138 (484); Dina Dempsey 152, 161, 135 (448); Doreen Osceola 130, 148, 190 (468); Laura Clay 112, 127, 114 (363); Cornelia Osceola 153, 159, 112 (424); Shana Frank 135, 186, 171 (486).

Doubles (total team score): Laura Clay 120, 142, 110/Doreen Osceola 116, 159, 126 (773); Shana Frank 159, 170, 183/Cornelia Osceola 134, 133, 99 (873); Patricia Wilcox 212, 212, 166/Dina Dempsey 155, 148, 132 (1025).



Mitchell Cypress



Glen Olson (1st place)



Michelle Cypress (3rd place)



Mitchell Cypress (2nd place) and Ralph Sanchez

Memorial Pool Tournament Held  
Edna Mae Cypress Remembered

**By Libby Blake**  
**IMMOKALEE** — The 5th Annual Edna Mae Cypress Memorial Pool Tournament was held at Andy’s Place in Immokalee on June 16. Esther Buster, Delores Jumper, and Andy Sanchez, longtime friends of the deceased, organized the event.

Edna Mae, a regular at Andy’s Place, lost her life in 1997 in a tragic car accident. The annual event allows friends and family to remember and pay tribute to her. Edna Mae was the daughter of Mary Francis (nee Fewell) and the late Jimmie Cypress and sister of Mitchell, David, Patsy, Terry, Timothy, and the late Don

and Dorothy.

Open 8-Ball tournaments were held for both men and women. Ralph Sanchez ran the one-game double elimination event. A late afternoon luncheon, catered by nearby Lozano’s Restaurant, offered fajitas, Spanish rice, refried beans, and several beef dishes.

In the men’s division, Board President, and brother of the late Edna Mae, Mitchell Cypress came through the tournament in the winner’s bracket. He faced Glen Olson, whom he had beaten earlier, in the finals. Olson would have to beat him twice to take first place.

An unfavorable coin toss and a

bad shot forced Cypress to give the break, and the first game, to Olson. Cypress shot well in the second game, but was unable to defeat Olson.

Dale Grasshopper, who went undefeated, took top honors in the women’s division.

The top five money finishers in each division were as follows: **Men:** 1st place – Glen Olson, 2nd place – Mitchell Cypress, 3rd place – Jake Masters, 4th place – Bill Wilson, 5th place – Raymond Mora.

**Women:** 1st place – Dale Grasshopper, 2nd place – Delores Jumper, 3rd place – Michelle Cypress, 4th place – Juanita Osceola, 5th place – Esther Buster.

— *Photos by Libby Blake*



Ralph Sanchez and Dale Grasshopper (1st place).



Ralph Sanchez and Delores Jumper (2nd place).



Ralph Sanchez and Jake Masters (3rd place).

Gone Fishin’

**By B. Secody**  
**MARCO ISLAND** — They left a note on the door in Immokalee that said, Gone Fishin’! – and they weren’t kidding. Most of the youth in Immokalee packed up with Recreation staff and headed south to do some serious fishing.

On June 20, approximately 30 young people from the Immokalee reservation traveled to Marco Island, where they rented three large fishing boats, and headed out to sea. The entourage met at the Marco Island River Park where heads were counted.

Although the kids were all excited about their voyage, they were well behaved during the preliminary and necessary train of events – such as the boat rentals, paperwork and all the other boring things that adults must do before final departure.

Recreation staff Raymond Mora, Marie and David Billie divvied up their charges into crews of about ten to a boat, with Crystal Billie and Homer Villarreal, Recreation’s Summer Youth workers, on hand to help out with the younger kids.

Finally, the three captains and their motley crew headed out for some fun.

Once anchored in the bay, the kids baited their hooks amidst various comments ranging from wondering if the shrimp could feel the hook, how ugly they were, to not wanting to touch the bait.

After some light-hearted bantering, they cast out their lines. It wasn’t long before excited squeals, signaling the first catch of the day, wafted across the water. Janet Mata proudly held up a good-sized catfish.

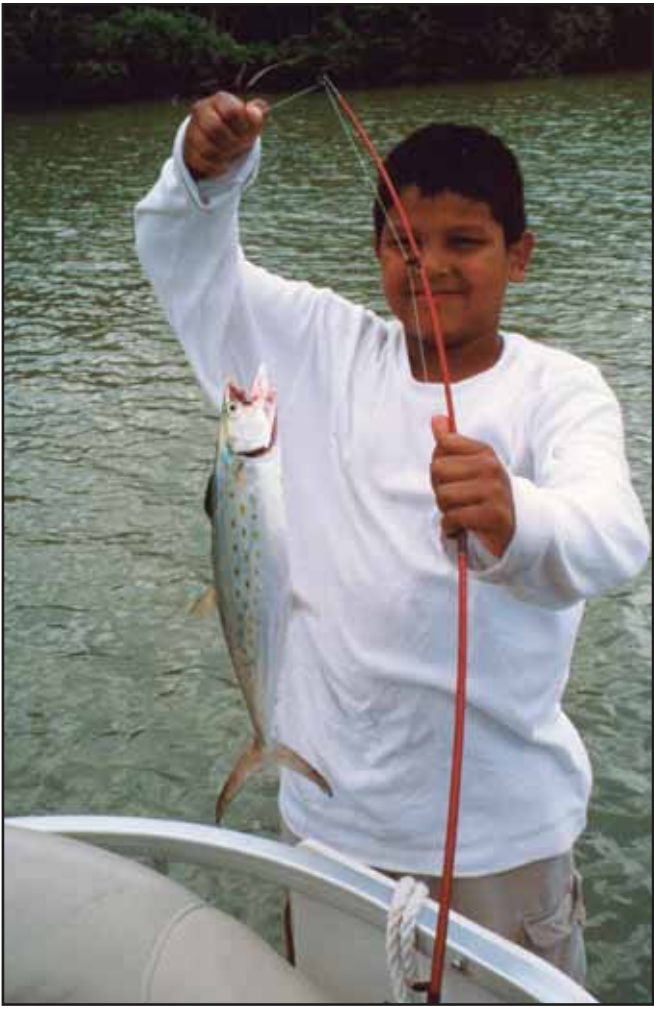
Not to be out-done, Ali Colon soon produced a fish of her own, also a

great white. . . catfish, as did Esmeralda Billie. Then things really got exciting, so exciting, in fact, that 10 year-old Alan Venzor’s pole nearly snapped in half in the battle to reel in the catch of the day: a foot and a half long barracuda. The barracuda fought hard, but in the end, was no match for Alan. It’s hard to be humble when. . .

After nearly three hours of fishing, it was finally agreed upon that there were no more fish in the sea, and the three boats pulled up anchor and headed slowly towards the shore. The captains let each of the kids take a turn at steering the boat. This was a big deal for the kids, and even the little ones enjoyed the experience.

Once the boats reached the bridge, the kids were allowed to get out of the boat and swim for a short time. The water felt good after spending most of the afternoon in the hot sun, and was just what the doctor ordered.

By 4 p.m., the weary group was ready to load up and head for home. They’d had a long day, but everyone had fun. The staff and students enjoyed the time with the young children, and were



Allen Venzor with a Spanish Mackrel.

glad they were able to share the excitement of catching the fish, the swimming, and laughter of the happy children. It’s safe to say that the thought foremost in each child’s mind during the trip home was, “Wow! This is going to be a great summer!”

Sports Festival 2001 Bowling

**For The Record:**  
**Team**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place – \$1,200 Decky Ashley, Marti Ashley, Kris Arviso, Scott Ashley (total score 2,274)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place – \$1,000 Linda Tommie, Debbie Carter, Max Tommie, Weems Buck (2,256)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – \$800 Tomie Micco, Reina Micco, Joey Micco, Michael Micco (2,255)  
4<sup>th</sup> Place – \$600 Jackie Thompson, Shawn Willie, Alma Johns, William Johns (2,223)  
5<sup>th</sup> Place – \$400 Mary Jo Micco, Alma Johns, Parker Johns, Weems Buck (2,198)  
6<sup>th</sup> Place – \$200 Crystal Smith, Diane Smith, Roger Smith, Janine Smith (2,179)  
7<sup>th</sup> Place – \$76 Celesta Osceola, Alfreda Muskett, Cicero Osceola, Amos Billie (2,171)  
8<sup>th</sup> Place – Shirley McCabe, JoAnne Muskett, Johnson Muskett, Bobby Watchman (2,163)  
9<sup>th</sup> Place – Nadine Tommy, Pernell Bert, Diane Smith, Roger Smith (2,155)  
10<sup>th</sup> Place – Mary Jo Micco, Rose Jones, Parker Jones, Johnny Jones (2,153)  
11<sup>th</sup> Place – Joey Micco, Reina Micco, Crystal Smith, Jamie Smith (2,128)  
12<sup>th</sup> Place – Farrah Jones, Reina Micco, Elton Shore, Joey Micco (2,104)  
13<sup>th</sup> Place – Alice Sweat, Jenny Johns, Moses Osceola, Delwin McCowan (2,090)  
14<sup>th</sup> Place – Mary J. Bowers, Ruby Osceola, Eugene Bowers, Ollie Wareham (2,084)  
15<sup>th</sup> Place – Dawn Snow, Wendi Juarez, Moses Osceola, Kevin Holata (2,071)  
16<sup>th</sup> Place – Ben Upshaw, Gina Upshaw, Jody Muskett, Kris Arviso (2,060)  
17<sup>th</sup> Place – Mary Jo Micco, Diane Smith, Roger Smith, Weems Buck (2,056)  
18<sup>th</sup> Place – Mary Jo Micco, Tomie Micco, Johnny Jones, Michael Micco (2,048)  
19<sup>th</sup> Place – Rose Jones, Parker Jones, Farrah Jones, Elton Shore (2,043)  
20<sup>th</sup> Place – Jerome Jumper, Maydell Osceola, Chris Osceola, Mary G. Osceola (2,040)  
21<sup>st</sup> Place – Salina Dorgan, Patty Snow, Archie Johns, Albert Snow (2,037)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Place – Brenda Cypress, Ruscilla Tiger, Joe Jr. Billie, Moses Osceola (2,004)  
23<sup>rd</sup> Place – Ruby Osceola, Mary Bowers, Bobby Watchman, Carl Uribe (2,004)  
24<sup>th</sup> Place – Shirley Polingyowa, Gail Coochyowma, Dennis Coochyowma, Carl Uribe (1,991)  
25<sup>th</sup> Place – Farrah Jones, Tommie Micco, Elton Shore, Michael Micco (1,982)  
26<sup>th</sup> Place – Theresa Bukky, Alfreda Muskett, Delwin McCowan, Amos Billie (1,894)  
**Men’s Singles:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place \$350 Albert Snow (698), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$300 Carl Uribe (631), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$250 Roger Smith (628), 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$200 Dan Osceola (620), 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$150 Bobby Watchman (604), 6<sup>th</sup> Place \$57 Mike Micco (578),

7<sup>th</sup> Place \$57 Elton Shore (577).  
Other bowlers: Parker Jones (574), Jamie Smith (572), Kris Arviso (572), Johnson Muskett (566), Milo Osceola (564), Cicero Osceola (562), Jonathan James (560), Rock Locust (554), Scott Ashley (546), Eugene Bowers (544), Gordon Wareham (539), Ben Upshaw (538), Joey Micco (532), Ryland Kirkland (530), Texas Billie (529), Blake Osceola (523), Delwin McCowan (515), Moke Osceola (500), Shawn Willie (495), Robin Buster (495), Archie Johns (488), William Johns (473), Hyde Gopher (466), Maxie Tommie (456), Rocky Jim (455), Amos Billie (443).  
**Women’s Singles:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place \$250 Betty Osceola (556), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$300 JoAnne Muskett (553), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$250 Jalina Dorgan (545), 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$200 Reina Micco (536), 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$125 Shirley McCabe (520), 6<sup>th</sup> Place \$125 Jody Muskett (520), 7<sup>th</sup> Place \$50 Marti Ashley (518), 8<sup>th</sup> Place \$50 Diane Smith (512), 9<sup>th</sup> Place \$37 Rose Jones (510).  
Other bowlers: Gloria James (507), Ruby Osceola (498), Farrah Jones (496), Shirley Guerara (489), Brande’ Clay (487), Mary Jo Micco (487), Maydell Osceola (485), Tomie Micco (484), Jackie Thompson (481), Vivian Delgado (481), Phillis Aguilera (479), Mary Bowers (477), Crystal Smith (474), Linda Tommie (474), Louise Jim (473), Wendi Juarez (470), Decky Ashley (465), Kay Decorah (462), Celesta Osceola (460), Dawn Snow (460), Juanita Osceola (457), Alma Johns (455), Mary Locust (451), Amanda Smith (442), Patty Snow (439), Sarah Kirkland (436), Gina Upshaw (412).  
**Men’s Doubles:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place \$400 Parker Jones/Elton Shore (1,200), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$300 Joey Micco/Michael Micco (1,117), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$200 Archie Johns/Albert Snow (1,095), 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$100 Milo Osceola/Eugene Bowers (1,087), 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$76 Roger Smith/Jamie Smith (1,084).  
Others: Jamie Smith/Joey Micco (1,079), Moke Osceola/Blake Osceola (1,057), Johnson Muskett/Bobby Watchman (1,038), Hyde Gopher/Roger Smith (1,023), Joey Micco/Elton Shore (1,018), Elton Shore/Michael Micco (1,015), Milo Osceola/Gordon Osceola (986).  
**Women’s Doubles:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place \$400 Brande’ Clay/Jody Osceola (1,092), 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$300 Crystal Smith/Reina Micco (1,019), 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$200 Farrah Jones/Amanda Smith (999), 4<sup>th</sup> Place \$100 Juanita Osceola/Brande’ Clay (995), 5<sup>th</sup> Place \$80 Shirley Guevara/Phyllis Aguilera (994), 6<sup>th</sup> Place \$40 Marti Ashley/JoAnne Muskett (985), 7<sup>th</sup> Place \$40 Reina Micco/Farah Jones (985).  
Others: Betty Osceola/Mary Bowers (980), Dawn Snow/Wendi Juarez (976), Ruby Osceola/Mary Bowers (951), Gina Upshaw/Shirley McCabe (936), Rose Jones/Farah Jones (936), Patty Snow/Salina Dorgan (894), Diane Smith/Amanda Smith (885).

2001 Dolphin Kickoff

**By Janice Billie**  
**DAVIE** — On the evening of June 6, the Miami Dolphins held their annual banquet to mark the kickoff of the 2001 Dolphin football season. A small group of Tribal citizens were lucky enough to get tickets to the event held at the Signature Grand in Davie, FL.

Ricky and Claudia Doctor, Wendy and Charlie Cypress mingled and mulched with fellow Dol’ fans’ and Dolphin players. The Kickoff’s evening of events started with a cocktail reception at 6 p.m. Conference rooms were set up for autographs and photo opportunities with the players. The atmosphere was festive as the groups of fans stood in line for autographs or viewing footage from archive films of outstanding winning games. Loyal and dedicated fans snapped commemorative souvenirs available for purchase.

At 6:45 p.m., the ballroom was opened to seat the fans and begin the rest

of the scheduled presentation. Jimmy Cefalo gave the welcome and invocation. While salads were being served, the Dolphin players were introduced and seated, one player to a table. Kenny Mixon, defensive end, sat with the Tribe’s group. He shared insights on various aspects of a professional football player’s life and the experience of playing for the Miami Dolphins.

During dinner, a film of the 2000 season highlights was shown, followed by an introduction of the 2001 draft choices. Next, Miami Dolphins head coach Dave Wannstedt addressed the crowd, speaking on a number of his plans and hopes for this season. He also presented the 2000 season awards.



Ricky Doctor, Charlie Cypress, Dolphin player Kenny Mixon, Wendy Cypress and Claudia Doctor.

John Offerdahl was the featured speaker for the evening. An evening of Dolphin mania would not be complete without Dan Marino, who made time to attend the Kickoff.

The event concluded at 10 p.m. on a positive note and high hopes for the 2001 season.



# Silver Spurs Arena Finals Held

**By Tommy Benn**  
**KISSIMMEE** — The Florida High School Rodeo Association held its 2001 finals at the Silver Spurs Arena to determine who will be represent the Sunshine State in the High School National Finals in Springfield, MO. Brighton resident Jade Braswell won the right to compete in the Women’s Barrel Racing event. In 6<sup>th</sup> place, Jade had her work cut out for her as only the top 4 positions go to the National Finals. The young Seminole woman had moved up from 16<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> place in the last 4 rodeos, and felt she had a good shot at qualifying for the prestigious road trip

The Okeechobee High School freshman is the daughter of Jay and Kay Braswell of Brighton and the granddaughter of Stanlo and Johnnie Johns.

Jade’s dedication to her rodeo is not only hard work of exercising and grooming her horses to keep them in top form, but also keeping her grades up to High School Standards in order to compete on the high school level

Jade would like to thank the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and former Brighton Councilman Jack Smith Jr., for sponsoring her and his help enabling



Proud Grandparents, Johnnie and Stanlo Johns.

her to be competitive at a higher level. She brought her horse, Kissimmee, to the Silver Spurs Arena for the three days of High School Rodeo Finals. Her parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other family members made the trek to show their support for her hard work and dedication.

The Friday night show was questionable due to the weather conditions, rain, and thunderstorms, but the show must go on. The arena footing would be wet, sloppy, and dangerous. Jade chose to ride her big bay gelding, “Bert.” Bert took the first barrel wide, losing time and was not able to make up the distance, Jade didn’t place.

For the Saturday night performance, she again chose “Bert,” but decided to change his bit. She worked the gelding horse before the show, and felt he was ready. She entered the arena, turned the big horse loose, but he took the first barrel wide again, and she lost valuable time trying to get “Bert” back on his pattern. He had a better run than the night before, but not fast enough to place, or move up in the standing.

Jade was down and knew she had no shot at the High School Finals, but she was going to run in the Sunday’s Rodeo performance. It showed the young woman’s class and character. “Winners never quit and quitters never win,” Jade Braswell is a winner. Congratulations for trying and never giving upon yourself or your horse. Next year, my money on Jade to make it to the High School Finals in New Mexico.

Jade encourages all other kids on the Seminole Reservations to get involved in both the Junior and High School Rodeo Associations for fun, growth, and travel. Compete with your peers from all over the great State of Florida; from the Panhandle to Jacksonville, down to the Florida Keys and all points in between.



Jade Braswell

## Ricky Doctor Holds Coed Bass Tourney

**By E. Tiger**  
**BIG CYPRESS** - They came out in twos for two days of fishing during the First Annual Ricky Doctor Co-ed Bass Tournament, held on June 15-16.

The conditions were optimal, as recent rains had raised water levels in the L-28 interceptor canal. During recent tournaments, the water level had been below normal, which left the fish with little or no oxygen, as well making them harder to locate.

No water had been released south of the waterlock, leaving those areas in the same condition that had plagued the north end of the L-28 interceptor for the past months. Experienced anglers recognized this and steered clear.

Conditions were better at the north end of the canal where the fish were more active and the feeding bass in the shallows made for some productive sight casting. Although the temperature reached 95 degrees, there was enough wind to move smaller baitfish through the canal, which kept the bass active throughout both days of the tournament.

The team of Frankie and Lazera Marrero took an early lead, reaching their five-fish limit on the first day. Following close behind were husband

and wife team of Tom and Mary J. Coppedge. Saturday’s conditions were slightly different when the anglers took to the water in the early morning. The fish weren’t very active on the surface, most of the fish in the tournament were caught using mid-and bottom running baits.

By noon, the tournament deadline was shortened from 5:00 to 3:00 P.M., due to the heat. There wasn’t any disagreement between the fishermen, who were already baked to a crisp and dehydrated from the conditions.

Ricky Doctor, and all of the tournament anglers, would like to thank the contributors: President Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress, Brighton Councilman John Wayne Huff, Immokalee Liaison Elaine Aguilar, and former Councilman Jack Smith Jr.

**RESULTS-** 1st Place: Frank and Lazera Marrero 14/12ounces, 2nd Place: Tom and Mary J Coppedge 10/15, 3rd Place: George and Marcina Roberts 9/2, 4th Place: Bronson and Myra 9/1, 5th Place: Ernie and Jade 8/4, 6th Place: Ricky Doctor and Eldene Billie 3/5, 7th Place: Legus 3/2.



(L-R) Bronson Hill, Myra Jumper, Tom Koenes, Mary F. Koenes, Jade Donty, George Grasshopper, Marcina Roberts, Frank and Lazera Marrero, Ricky Doctor, Eldene Billie.

## Archery Schedule

### Qualification Schedule for the NAIG

July 28th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.
August 25th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.
September 29th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.
October 27th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.
November 17th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.
December 15th	B. C. Archery Range	10:00 a.m.

### Team Florida Qualifications:

There will be a total of ten (10)-qualifying rounds. Three (3)-qualifying rounds have been completed.

Must have shot at a minimum of eight (8)-qualifying rounds.

We will use your average score from your best eight- (8) rounds.

Highest average in each category will represent Team Florida.

For more information, please call Steve Young at Hollywood Recreation at (954) 989-9457.



My Indian Name is “Thunder Bear,”  
my story is alive.



Robert Tree Cody (Thunder Bear), age 50, **Musician, Composer**, Pima/Maricopa, knows the importance of keeping the story alive. He is one of the many people the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian can call friend and supporter. He knows that he is helping to preserve the rich culture of his people. **Preservation for generations.** He knows that someday his great-granddaughter will thank him.

The stories are about me and they are about you.

The NMAI is working to make sure that the tradition is continued. The museum in collaboration with Native peoples is dedicated to the preservation, study, and exhibition of the life, languages, history, and arts of the Americas. Currently the NMAI is building a museum in Washington, D.C., next to the U.S. Capitol, where these powerful stories will be kept alive.



Help Keep the Stories Alive:  
For as little as \$20 join the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian  
P.O. Box 23473  
Washington, D.C. 20026  
Call today: (202) 357-3164 or  
800-242-6624  
[www.nmai.si.edu](http://www.nmai.si.edu)



Smithsonian  
National Museum of the American Indian



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Health Corner

# Teen Suicide: The Aftermath

**By Mary Pierpoint**  
**VASSAR, Kan.** — Teen suicide nation-wide is at epidemic proportions, rated number eight in the top 15 causes of death in the United States by the National Center for Health Statistics. But statistics don't tell the real story of human tragedy and loss, nor do they tell the stories of those left behind when a young person decides to take his or her life.

Rhonda Newman learned firsthand about the horrific upheaval a suicide can cause family members. She is struggling now to hold her family together and try to prevent other families from having their lives ripped apart in a similar way.

Mike Ludemann found guilt was his companion for years when he lost his best friend to suicide.

Teen suicide crosses all boundaries of race, gender and demographics. For each ethnic group, there are different causes, but some commonalities persist. Self-esteem and a feeling of not fitting in are two of them.

Abuse and alcohol and drugs may be involved, yet despite the reason, each person who ends his or her life appears to have a sense of hopelessness that their life will never improve.

## “Why teens choose to end their lives can fill a book”

Why teens choose to end their lives can fill a book. Each has specific reasons for the act. The purpose of this story and of those of Newman and Ludemann is to allow anyone contemplating suicide to become aware what happens to those who love them and will be left behind.

Suicide is a dirty word; in many cultures it is considered taboo. Some regions won't bury victims of suicide in holy ground.

Survivors are left with shame and guilt, often having few places to go for help and comfort and understanding. Neighbors whisper behind closed curtains, feeling sorry for parents, but don't really understand how they could have failed to see the signs and save their child.

For the friends of suicides, strong guilt hangs on. They say they knew this person better than anyone, why didn't they see it coming?

These archaean helped keep Rhonda Newman, hidden away for two and a half years. Now she realizes that until society can get past those ideas, teens will continue to die.

Ludemann is a Native American who lost his best friend about five years ago to suicide in Pierre, SD. His friend, John, had shown some of the warning signs of suicide, but at 19, neither Mike nor his friends really saw it coming.

John was “just being John,” going through the trials and tribulations they all experienced as they entered adulthood.

Rhonda Newman is not Native American. She describes herself as an average wife and mother who found herself in extraordinary circumstances when her 14-year-old son, Mikey took his life in Garnett, Kan.

Both Newman and her husband were aware of the warning signs of suicide and even sought help for Mikey by having him hospitalized. She said he simply baffled doctors by telling them what they wanted to hear. She now attributed the lighter mood her son had in his last week of his life as an inner calm because he had made the decision to end his life. It was not as a sign that things were getting better, which was what she believed at the time. But, despite their efforts, Mikey knew them all.

Both Ludemann and Newman are survivors of suicide. Each tried to cope with their loss in different ways.

Ludemann says he tries to understand his friend's pain but feels guilty that he didn't do more to help his friend out of his despondency. Newman uses her grief to work toward being a teacher and a voice to teach parents and students about the realities of suicide. Her goal is to prevent even one family from having to go through what she did.

Newman's nightmare started two and a half years ago. The day began no differently than any other day. She and her family were living in Garnett and she remembered looking at Mikey, 14, asleep on the couch. She remembered smiling at him and thinking about how young he looked and then she headed off to work.

The mother and son had been going through a lot in the past few months, she said. Mikey's anger and depression, times when he wouldn't eat, a period when he gave his possessions away. But for the past few weeks Mikey had seemed happy and life in the Newman household seemed to be getting back in order. After all, Mikey had moved up a grade in school and had a new job. Newman said it appeared good things were ahead for the family and her youngest son.

“I was just coming home from work,” Newman recalled. “When I pulled up, I saw the ambulances there. As I pulled in the driveway, I remember thinking, ‘Why is the ambulance here. Somebody must have got hurt.’”

“I didn't even cross my mind that Mikey would have killed himself.”

As soon as she pulled up her son Robbie came out and said, “Mike has killed himself. He shot himself in the head.” Robbie, a year and a half older than Mikey, found his brother.

“I said, ‘Don't tell me that! Don't tell me that b—s—!’ I kind of went off on him, I guess, because he was the one who told me. I went into the house... I just came and stood in the kitchen.”

She said she remembers people going in and out of the house. “I finally got up enough guts, enough nerve to talk to one of the policemen there. He told me that my son had shot himself in the head and he was upstairs in his bedroom.”

“He took me aside and asked me questions and wanted to know whose gun it was. I didn't know, I was in shock. They had to call the coroner. It had to be treated as a homicide. The coroner got there and did what he had to do, it just seemed like it took forever.”

“My son Robbie wouldn't let me go upstairs. He told me, ‘You can't go up there. You can't see it.’”

Newman, in a state of shock, said she did what her son asked and stayed down stairs until Mikey's body was removed.

“It seemed like he laid up there forever and there wasn't anything I could do. It was probably two hours, it seemed like two hours, and then the body was gone. They made me go out in our rec room when they took his body down the stairs. They had a hard time taking his body down the stairs because we had a lot of twists and turns in the stairs. I totally just lost it.”

“I kept asking, ‘Where's Robbie?’ He was outside. He was trying to deal with it. My stepdaughter got there to be with me. When they got him out of there, I went upstairs. I couldn't believe it. I just couldn't believe it. I went up to his room and I looked in. There was blood everywhere.”

She said Mikey had a bag that belonged to her and she remembered it being filled with blood. “I just sat in the doorway and I bawled and bawled, the smell of blood all around me.” Tears welled up in her eyes. “It was so bad, the smell was so bad.”

Actually Newman's nightmare was just beginning. Her husband got home and Mikey's dad and his stepmother got there and had to be told. Newman said she left to find her daughter Misty and break the news to her. Newman's husband Mike stayed behind to clean up.

“I told him there were people who would do that.” Now she said she realizes that was part of how he had to deal with it all. She believes that she went to her parents to spend the night, but the memory is fuzzy.

She said she told her husband she had to go home to be near Mikey, but she found that she couldn't stay in the house, so the family went to a nearby motel.

The whole funeral process was surreal for Newman. “The hardest thing I ever had to do was to go through a funeral home, picking out a casket for my son. We buried him in Gardner. I knew his dad (Newman's former husband) would be staying there.”

“The visitation had an open casket. Robbie had taken me aside and he said, I think it's going to be all right. He put it blunt. He said the hole isn't that big. I think it's going to be OK.”

“My husband went in first and (said) it was a terrible shock. It's like you want to make them look like they are asleep, like normal like they are asleep. The last time I saw him he had been asleep when I checked on him that morning. That was how I wanted him to look. He didn't look that way, at all.

“You could tell, the entrance wound not so much, but the exit wound.... They had done a lot of repair. To put it bluntly, he had blown off the side of his head. It was horrible. When I looked at him, part of me had died. I buried part of me with my son. I will never be a whole person again. I have a big hole in my heart; I will never be the same.”

“When he died, in a sense I did, too. It is the worst feeling you could ever have in your life, ever.”

Following the funeral, friends and relatives gathered to pay their respects to Rhonda and her family. There was the traditional gathering following the burial, and then the family realized they were alone. Then the true magnitude of how their lives had changed came to them.

Rhonda and her husband Mike began to grow distant. Misty was diagnosed with bipolar disease and Robbie began going in and out of counseling.

The family could no longer live in the house where Mikey took his life. They moved four times before settling in Vassar. For the first time a picture of Mikey sits next to other family photos. Only now can Newman bear to look at the son she lost, without falling apart.

Looking back, she said she believes that even if the family hadn't had guns locked up in the house, “He'd have found a way.” She and her husband have turned back toward each other and are building a stronger marriage. Both surviving children are fighting their way back from a haze of guilt and depression and are beginning to move forward.

Ludemann, away at college when his friend John shot himself, said he remembers feeling disbelief. “I heard the words, but I had to call all of my friends

back at home to see if it was really true. I don't think I believed it until I talked to his sister.”

Two weeks before, the boys had been talking about John moving to Kansas and they were going to get an apartment together. Ludemann was looking forward to having his best friend close at hand. After visiting back home, Ludemann said he truly believed he had convinced his friend to ‘go out into the world.’

“I remember we were down by the river. John was working on his car, like usual. We made all these plans about all the great stuff we were going to do when he moved to Kansas. We were going to have this great apartment and everything was going to be perfect. He even gave me some posters we laughed about how to put in our new place. I remember then that John turned to me and said, ‘I know you are my best friend and

## Warning Signs For Teen Suicide

*Withdrawal or isolation, especially if the child has always been gregarious.*

*Signs of self-mutilation*

*Violent behavior such as punching holes in walls or getting into fights or sex violence*

*A significant change in sleeping patterns; suddenly sleeps all the time or not at all*

*Neglect of personal appearance*

*Lingering lethargy, a drop-off in school work, loss of interest in school*

*Loss of interest in recreational activities*

*Lack of interest in praise or rewards*

*Weepiness; abrupt or constant crying*

*Expressions of low self-esteem; feeling of worthlessness*

*Reference to the fact that he will not be around much longer to be a burden*

*Indications that he is completing overwhelmed*

*Actions that reflect sudden interest in giving important or favorite possessions away, putting his affairs in order, making amends*

*Sudden and uncountable cheerfulness, sense of relief after a period of depression*

*An abrupt change of personality, dress, style, interest, friends, etc.*

*Alcohol and other drugs use*

that you have always been there for me. I just want you to know how much that means.”

“I didn't realize it at the time, but he hugged me and he was actually telling me goodbye.”

Ludemann said his first reaction, after learning of his friend's death, was pure anger. “I hit the countertop so hard in the kitchen, I smashed it. First I wanted to strike out all of those people who had picked on John and made fun of him. Why I didn't realize it?”

The anger continued when he went back to be a pallbearer for his friend's funeral. “John had timed it all out. He timed it so his mother wouldn't find him and he wrapped himself in a quilt

so no one would have much to clean up. How could he be so considerate when he was in so much pain? Why didn't he just call me? He knew I was there for him.”

John's mother and Ludemann shared a bond and clung to each other both trying to figure out why her son and his friend had been so desperate, but no real answers came for either of them.

Ludemann said for him it was the beginning of years of dreams and visitations from John. “He was always working on his car. It was like I was there working with him, but he never answered the questions I would ask. Finally one day he said, ‘I'm OK, I know you were my friend, I'll be here for you.’ I still see him in my dreams from time to time, but it is different, like he is there for me and understands that I was angry before just because I miss him so much. I have a son now and I wish he would have been able to know my best friend.”

Nightmares became an every night occurrence for Rhonda, too. “I started having the nightmares and Mikey was always a little boy. Sometimes I would see him with half his head gone, talking to me. I had the nightmares until he came to me one night and he told me, ‘I'm sorry now, I didn't want to hurt you, but I'm better now.’ I see him now only in good dreams.”

The nightmares Newman and Ludemann report appear to be common among survivors of suicides, as is the peace that finally comes with them. Many individuals report similar experiences following the suicide of a child or friend. They also say it doesn't mean the suicide or the victim is gone. Others report a communication continuing with the victim over the years.

In those two and a half years since Rhonda Newman lost her son to suicide, she has hidden, so overwhelmed it has been difficult for her to move forward. “I've been sitting around feeling

sorry for myself. I'm not going to do it anymore.”

What she is doing has become a new beginning for her and her family. She has stepped up to the plate to do her best to let teens know suicide isn't a solution and that there are ways to work through problems that may seem insurmountable.

She said she wants to educate parents to let them know the signs of suicide before they find out, so tragically as she did.

Newman was preparing to leave for a conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Suicide Prevention Advocacy Network. She plans to return to Osage County to teach advocacy to parents, teachers and teens.

She doesn't want another family to live through her hell.

“If I can save one life, prevent one family from going through what we have, I will do whatever it takes.”

Ludemann said he is working his way through it by really listening to his friends these days. “I have lost other friends and acquaintances since John. I don't just blow them off these days if they are feeling down. I know I can't stop someone if they really want to take their life, but I can try my hardest to let them know that it is just a bad day today and that it won't last forever. They can get through it.”

“It's changed my life.

Sometimes I think maybe I am living for John as well as myself.”

There are support groups out there for those who have lost love ones to get help. Local mental health departments can provide the names of organizations in a particular area and schedules of their meeting times.

“I've been going to a support group in Topeka called Survivors of Suicide (SOS),” Newman said. “You can go up there and talk and vent, but it's not enough. We need awareness around here. There are a lot of suicides around here, three that I know of in the past couple of weeks.”

On her return, Newman said she plans to teach in schools, churches — any place that will give her a forum — to get across to parents and teachers what they have to know to prevent teen suicide.

“Every 42 seconds someone attempts suicide,” Newman said. “Every 16.9 minutes someone completes it. It is the eighth leading cause of all deaths and the third leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 to 24. I want to help do something to stop it.”

**Reprinted from Indian Country Today 2001 Healing Journey**

## Encourage People To Brush Up On Their Stroke Awareness

**MIAMI** — While millions of Floridians are brushing up on their swimming strokes this summer, health experts are encouraging them to master the basics of another kind of stroke the kind that can kill or cripple.

Stroke, also known as a brain attack, is the third leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause worldwide. In addition, stroke is the number one cause of serious, long-term disabilities.

A stroke occurs when blocked arteries or broken blood vessels prevent proper blood flow to the brain, causing brain cells to be damaged or killed. The effect a stroke has depends on how large it is, which brain cells it damages or kills, and how quickly medical professionals are able to intervene. For example, a clot-busting drug known as Tissue Plasminogen Activator (TPA) can dramatically reduce long-term stroke effects if it's administered within three hours of the time stroke symptoms occur.

According to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, the five most common stroke symptoms are: Sudden, severe numbness or weakness in the face, arm or leg, especially if it occurs on one side of the body that can-

not be relieved by changing body position, Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech, Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, Sudden dizziness, trouble walking, loss of balance or coordination, Sudden, severe and persistent headache with no known cause.

Should you have these symptoms or see someone who does, BCBSF recommends calling 911 or seeking emergency care immediately, even if the victim in question isn't an elderly individual. If the symptoms are mild and temporary, attempt to call your principal physician for instructions.

Another important point to remember about a stroke is that many strokes are preventable. Like heart attacks, the root of many strokes is atherosclerosis, a type of hardening of the arteries. As a result, people can reduce their risk factor for having a stroke simply by engaging in what some consider to be “heart-healthy” activities such as controlling blood pressure, keeping cholesterol under control, exercising regularly, limiting alcohol consumption, not smoking, controlling weight.

For more information about a stroke, contact the National Stroke Association at [www.stroke.org](http://www.stroke.org).

## Diabetic Fun Day? What's A Diabetic Fun Day?

**Submitted by Health Education**

To improve rapport between patients and the Health Staff, Mitchell and David Cypress introduced the idea of a monthly diabetic outing. They said, “Yes, it's good for diabetics to learn about the disease, but why can't it be done while having fun?” From that, Diabetic Fun Day was created.

Diabetic Fun Day is a support group for diabetics. The group is made up of Tribal living with diabetes health educators, nutritionists, counselors and community diabetes advocates. Each month Tribal citizens, who deal with diabetes each day, go on a FUN field trip. The group travels to various points of interest such as Flamingo Gardens; toured the Everglades National Park, the Indoor Flea Market in Fort Myers; explored the homes of Thomas Edison and Henry Ford; the Trolley Car in Naples, and Butterfly World in Coral Springs. All the while, learning how to live with diabetes.

Diabetic Fun Day is a time to ask questions about diabetes, and learn how to make decisions that will affect the disease in positive ways. Each FUN day includes an educational message about living well with diabetes, a fitness component, and a nutritional lunch focusing on making healthy food choices. This diabetes support group has been adopted on the Big Cypress and Immokalee reservations and is utilized in Brighton and Hollywood as



**L-R: Claudia Doctor, Debi Hamilton and Corbin.**

well.

In Brighton, the group is under the guidance of Holly Billie, counselor, and Joe Barletto, Nutritionist. Jeanne Hatfield, Health Educator/Nutritionist

leads the group for the Hollywood Reservation.

Please check with your local Health Center for the date and time of the next Diabetic Fun Day in your area!



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# Health Corner

## Needle Exchange Programs For IV Drug Users: Good Vs Bad Public Policy

By Benny Secody, CAAPH

Fact: Drug abuse is running rampant throughout the United States, and even in our own backyards, we have friends and family members who are affected by various diseases such as HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C. Estimates of the numbers of IV drug users in the United States range from 1.1 to 1.5 million. The social costs of injection drug use, which include the costs of drug treatment, lost productivity, motor vehicle accidents, crime and stolen property, have been estimated at \$58.3 billion per year.

Risk reduction is not the same as risk elimination, and the need for a comprehensive approach to disease prevention among IV drug users remains as critical now as it was at the beginning of the HIV epidemic.

With the paucity of drug treatment resources, not only in Florida, but throughout the United States, fewer than 15 percent of IV drug users are in treatment on any given day. Generally, most of them express no interest in entering treatment, and for those who can not or will not stop injecting drugs, there are only three reliable methods of preventing the infection of such diseases as HIV, Hepatitis B and C: 1). Use of a sterile syringe for each injection; 2) if a sterile syringe is not available, avoid sharing the same syringe; and 3) if IV drug users continue to share syringes, disinfect with bleach.

The problem persists however, as many IV drug users continue to share at least occasionally, and recent guidelines from the Public Health Service state, "Disinfecting previously used needles and syringes... is not as safe as always using a sterile needle and syringe."

It has only been within the last 15 years that Needle Exchange Programs have arisen in the United States. A needle exchange program has been defined by one group of researchers as "a facility where drug injectors can obtain sterile needles and syringes and return used injecting equipment." These programs seek to reduce the harm associated with these practices, a philosophy sometimes referred to as harm reduction or harm minimization.

The essential arguments in favor of needle exchange programs are that they could decrease the transmission of infectious disease, by increasing the probability that 1) IV drug users use uninfected syringes, 2) produce reductions in disease risk behaviors, 3) alleviate the problem of discarding used (and possibly infected) needles and syringes in non-hazardous waste containers, and 4) refer IV drug users with little or no contact with the public health system, to drug treatment or other public health services.

In the United States, a complicating factor regarding the needle exchange programs is the existence of two types of laws that restrict the possession, distribution, or sale of injecting equipment. Such laws do not exist in Canada or in the majority of the Western European countries. Paraphernalia laws make the manufacture, possession and distribution of drug paraphernalia a misdemeanor or felony offense.

Such laws exist in 46 states and the District of Columbia.

There is evidence that in the United States, IV drug users may have difficulty purchasing syringes in pharmacies, even in states without prescription laws. Studies have shown that some pharmacies were willing to sell syringes to IV drug users, but others were concerned about used syringe disposal and the potential adverse effects of these people's presence on their businesses.

The only pharmacy-based needle exchange program in the United States is in Tacoma, Washington and operates on a one-for-one exchange basis out of a health department pharmacy. IV drug users who obtain their syringes from pharmacists can be assured of sterile syringes, whereas syringes obtained on the street may have been repackaged to appear new.

A report, called The Public Health Impact of Needle Exchange Programs in the United States and Abroad, prepared by the School of Public Health, UC-Berkeley, and the Institute for Health Policy Studies, UC-San Francisco for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was completed in 1993.

According to the report the very first needle exchange program on record was established in Amsterdam, the Netherlands in 1984 by a drug users' advocacy group, called the "Junkie Union," to prevent an epidemic of Hepatitis B, when an inner-city pharmacist planned to discontinue selling syringes to addicted IV drug users.

In the United States, the first person to distribute drug injection equipment publicly, was Jon Parker in New Haven, CT and Boston, MA in November, 1986.

The first United States needle exchange program to provide comprehensive services

was established in Tacoma, WA in 1988.

In 1993, there were at least 37 such programs operating in 30 U.S. cities with over 150 sites between these programs. Today, there are hundreds of needle exchange programs functioning – legally and illegally throughout the United States.

Four trends that characterize the evolution of the programs in the United States: Jon Parker states that he has been arrested 27 times in seven states and has publicly challenged the prescription laws in all states that have them. His approach best exemplifies the civil disobedience approach to needle exchange programs. While his approach has succeeded in increasing public awareness of the issue, it has, at times alienated the very community groups whose support is critical to the establishment of the programs.

Needle Exchange Programs are now likely to be legalized than in the past. Several programs

that were initially illegal and underground, such as Prevention Point in San Francisco, CA, subsequently received approval and even funding from local governments.

The growing institutionalization of the programs in the United States. Several programs started by activists now receive local government or foundation funding; and some are run directly by health departments (i.e. Boulder, CO and Seattle, WA).

Needle exchange programs are now less reliant upon volunteer staff and have better linkages to other public health services. Increasing the US federal funding of needle exchange program research. A total of five bans on the use of federal funds for either providing NEP services or conducting research into the programs have existed. Although the ban on Federal funding for services still remains, there have now been seven federally funded studies of needle exchange programs.

About one-half of the United States Needle Exchange Programs are legal, but funding is often unstable and most rely on volunteer services to operate. Also,

most adhere to the one-for-one exchange policy, and in addition to having distributed over 5.4 million syringes, U.S. programs provide a variety of services ranging from condom and bleach distribution to drug treatment referrals.

Despite all the statistics in favor of the needle exchange program concept in the prevention of infectious disease (spread widely through the use of intravenous injections) there are still those skeptics who feel this concept encourages the use of illegal drugs.

The Clinton Administration came under fire by advocates of these programs on April 20, 1998, after it refused to lift a nine-year-old ban on federal funding for needle exchanges– although Donna Shalala, (at that time) Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, presented findings that such programs effectively reduce HIV transmission and do not encourage drug abuse.

"At best this is hypocrisy," said Dr. R. Scott Hitt, Chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on HIV and AIDS, in response to the refusal to lift the ban. "At worst it is a lie. And no matter what, it's immoral."

Prior to the April 20 ruling, President Clinton's AIDS Advisory Panel unanimously expressed "no confidence" in the Administration's commitment to reducing the spread of AIDS because of its failure to support federal funding of needle exchange programs.

In a resolution dated March 6, 1998, the 30-member Presidential Action Committee on HIV demanded that the Administration immediately free

federal AIDS prevention funds for needle-exchange programs.

Needle exchange programs have been proven to be cost effective. According to data compiled by the University of California, Berkeley and the Institute for Health Policy Studies, University of California, San Francisco, multiple mathematical study models of program impact support the findings that needle exchange programs can prevent significant numbers of infections among clients of the programs, their drug and sex partners and their children.

In most cases, the cost per-HIV infection averted is averages between \$4,000 and \$9,500, far below the \$119,000 lifetime cost of treating an HIV-infected person.

It becomes a stark realization that the majority of people, when polled for their opinion of the needle exchange programs, are in favor of them. Most people in favor of the exchange are those, who have, in some way, experienced the tragic loss or impending death of a loved one. They also may be the infected party, sorely aware of what awaits them.

Former drug user, and client of Washington's Whitman-Walker Clinic, Winnie Fairchild, testified that four out of the five users she shot drugs with are now HIV-positive. She said, "A person, if they want to shoot drugs, they are going to shoot drugs anyway." Advocating needle exchange programs, Fairchild compared the cost of a clean needle - 7 cents, to \$1,040.13 – the cost of a one-month supply of her HIV medications.

The treatment of Hepatitis C (Interferon/Ribovarin Combo treatment) costs, for medication alone, \$2,000 per month. This does not include the cost of monthly blood tests to monitor liver enzymes, platelet counts, red blood cell counts, etc. It also does not include the cost of a specialist, as well as a primary care physician who also prescribes other medications. With the express permission of a family member who agreed to be interviewed, it is painfully obvious, that if such a program been available back in the early 1980s, chances are she would not have contracted Hepatitis C.

Individuals who are against the needle exchange programs are generally those who have not been educated on the beneficial aspects of such programs. Most, if not all of them, involved or witnessed the devastating effects of HIV or Hepatitis. It shows that many people have not experienced first hand drug abuse.

The solution is education. Community involvement, the commitment of the federal government for research, and as lifting the ban on the use of federal funds for these programs is essential. State and local governments should reconsider the laws governing sale and distribution of syringes. Local, State and County governments should allocate funds to provide adequate drug treatment and mental health services (including facilities), as well as more intervention/prevention programs.

## USET Asked To Negotiate Cell Tower Placements

By E. Bowers

MARKSVILLE, LA — The unique combination of cell towers and cultural preservation held center stage at the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) conference on May 21-24 at the Paragon Casino Resort of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe.

Gregory Smith and Eric Tober, Associates from the offices of Senator J. Bennett Johnston and Associates, updated the USET Board of Directors on the ongoing negotiations between the Tribes and the Personal Communications Industry Association (PCIA), one of the two largest wireless communications industry representatives in the nation.

At USET Impact Week in February in Washington, D.C., PCIA representatives met with the Culture and Heritage Committee in order to discuss increased protection for Indian religious and cultural sites.

By industry estimates, over 700,000 sites will be built within the next five years. With billions of dollars of revenues in the offing, cell tower contractors are not always willing to protect Indian cultural sites.

Consequently, when the Board of Directors authorized USET to negotiate with PCIA, the stakes went up dramatically for both sides.

According to Smith, much of the problem has stemmed from the fact that the FCC has attempted to delegate its Federal responsibility to consult on a government-to-government basis with the Tribes to the cell tower manufacturers.

The National Historic Preservation Act, as well as other federal laws, executive orders, and regulations create this responsibility.

The transmissions that are relayed by the cell towers require an FCC license, which is a Federal Undertaking, requiring the Federal agency to consult with Indian Tribes which attach

"religious or cultural significance to the property," according to the 1992 amendments to the Act.

"A Federal agency must not be ignorant," said Smith, "they must go out and educate themselves."

A meeting with FCC lawyers at the office of Johnston and Associates, and USET President Keller George's strong testimony against the FCC before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, have served as a wakeup call for the Federal agency.

"The FCC is going through an education process," said Smith, "we're lifting their burden of ignorance."

Smith and Tober, together with the USET team, currently are working on a draft set of protocols with PCIA that will regularize industry relationships with the Tribes.

On behalf of USET, the negotiating team consists of Bill Day, Chairman of the USET Culture and Heritage Committee; and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Poarch Creek Indians; Dr. Pat Wickman, Culture and Heritage Secretary and Historic Preservation Officer for the Seminole Tribe of Florida; USET President Keller George (Oneida); and USET Executive Director James T. Martin

The protocols will create a way for Tribes to provide expertise to the cell tower manufacturers, "but in no way will the agreement diminish the government to government relationship, we're not letting the FCC off the hook," said Smith.

The USET team expects to meet with PCIA officials again within several weeks and to have a draft of the protocols ready for review by the time USET meets again, in Miccosukee, in the fall.

"It's the next step towards establishing and strengthening Tribal sovereignty," Smith declared.

According to Tober, "the passage of the 1992 amendments was a huge victory. This is the fruit of all that labor."

Next issue: *Cell towers and Tribal sovereignty.*

## Sports Notice

### *Davie Rodeo Association And Hollywood Horse Club/Seminole Tribe*

#### Kids Events Summer Buckle Series:

Goat tying (12 and under) - \$11.00. Calf Riding (7 - 11 years) - \$6.00. Mutton Bustin (6 and under) - \$6.00. Jr. Bulls (12 - 15 years) - \$6.00. Boys Breakaway calf roping (14 and under) - \$11.00. Jr. Team Roping (14 and under) - \$11.00 per man. Girls Breakaway calf roping (18 and under) - \$11.00. Pee Wee Barrels (12 and under) - \$6.00. *Kids events start at 7 p.m. Sign up at 6:30 p.m. every Wednesday starting June 20 and ending Aug. 22.*

#### Other Events:

Open Team Roping (with a #6 Incentive) - \$21.00 per man  
3D Barrel Racing - \$21.00  
Bull Riding - \$21.00  
These events will stay on our regular 6-month Buckle Series, which runs through October.  
All contestants entering kids' events or other events must be members of Davie Rodeo Association. \$20.00 for single membership and \$30.00 for family membership. Gate admission is \$2.00 and everyone pays. For more information call Leanne Sullivan at (954) 475-9787. All events will be held at the Bergeron Rodeo Grounds in Davie. There will be no rodeo on July 4.

### *N.A.Y.O. Baseball And Softball July 20 – 21*

Anyone interested in participating in either (Boys) Baseball or (Girls) Softball (Fast Pitch) - 12 and under/13 and over. Please contact the Hollywood Gym at (954) 989-9457, Joe Collins at (954) 931-7793 or Sunshine Frank at (954) 966-6300 at ext. 1305.

To be eligible, all players: must be 17 years of age or younger, must have a passing report card from their school, must pass a drug test.

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## American Indian Outreach

The Florida Department of Transportation – the largest contracting agency in state government – runs a Native American Outreach Program seeking people interested in pursuing contracts with the FDOT.

Don't be left behind. If you or a family member are interested in pursuing contracts with the FDOT, or have any questions concerning the Native American Outreach program, please call me, Lee Tiger, at (954) 370-3900.





# Seminole Reservation Preschools Eligibility and Enrollment Requirements

Center Manager or Parent Involvement Aide will assist parents in filling out enrollment application for a new student/infant.

Center Manager or Parent Involvement Aide will review the application when turned in by the parent. The review is to make sure the following is complete in the application:

All places in the application that require a parent/teacher signature are signed.

Check to see that the emergency contacts are all filled out and double check on phone numbers.

A completed physical form from the clinic is attached.

A completed immunization card is attached (exception under two months)  
A copy of a pay stub or completely filled out Income Verification form.

A copy of the child's birth certificate and social security card.

Department of Children & Families Placements, adoptions, and when someone other than the natural parents are responsible for the child. A copy of legal papers which show custody.

If any of the above are missing, the teacher should tell the parent right away and get the information as soon as possible.

The Parent Involvement/Social Services coordinator and the Health Nutrition Coordinator will verbally notify the center teacher whether the child can start attending. The teacher will verbally notify the parent.

No child should attend until the Parent Involvement/Social Services Coordinator and or Health Nutrition Coordinator gives the Okay.

The Parent Involvement /Social Services and/or the Health Coordinator will follow up the decision with a letter to the parent.

## Enrollment/Eligibility

Enrollment at each center will be based on the following criteria:

Number of available slots are determined by the size of the classroom and therefore different for each class.

Employment of parents: Priority is given to families where parents are working or in school. At least one parent should be employed or in school. Self-employment is acceptable. However, Income Verification from self-employment will be required. If space is available, children from non-working families will be taken with permission from the director.

All students who are turned down will have their names placed on a waiting list. As children

graduate, transfer, or withdraw children on the waiting list will be taken. Parents will be notified when child can start.

**Hollywood Preschool July/August schedule** is as follows:

Monday, July 9 - Free Day - Teacher's Choice.

Tuesday, July 10 - Movies - bus leaves promptly at 9:00 a.m., \$3.75.

Wednesday, July 11 - Swimming - 9:00 a.m. - Carol's, 10:00 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Thursday, July 12 - Billie Swamp Safari Buggy Ride - leave at 8:30 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Friday, July 13 - T.Y. Park Castaway Island - 8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. leave at 8:00 a.m. or your child goes home.

Monday, July 16 - Free Day - Teacher's Choice.

Tuesday, July 17 - Movies - leave at 9:00 a.m., \$3.75.

Wednesday, July 18 - Swimming - 9:00 a.m. - Carol's, 10:00 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Thursday, July 19 - Billie Swamp Safari Buggy Ride - leave at 8:30 - Stacey's class.

Friday, July 20 - T.Y. Park Castaway Island - 8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. - leave at 8:00 a.m. or your child goes home.

Monday, July 23 - Free Day - Teacher's Choice.

Tuesday, July 24 - Movies - leave at 9:00 a.m., \$3.75.

Wednesday, July 25 - Swimming - 9:00 a.m. - Carol's, 10:00 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Thursday, July 26 - Miami Seaquarium - leave promptly at 8:30 a.m. - Carol's class.

Friday, July 27 - T.Y. Park Castaway Island - 8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.

Monday, July 30 - Free Day - Teacher's choice.

Tuesday, July 31 - Movies - leave at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 1 - Swimming - 9:00 a.m. - Carol's, 10:00 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Thursday, August 2 - Miami Seaquarium - 8:30 a.m. - Stacey's class.

Friday, August 3 - T.Y. Park Castaway Island - 8:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m. - leave at 8:00 a.m. or your child goes home.

Monday, August 6 through Friday, August 10 - Break - No School - In-Service training (tentative)

Monday, August 13 is the first day of 2001-2002 School Year.

**Brighton Preschool Schedule** for July/August is as follows:

Monday, July 9 - Gymnastics

Tuesday, July 10 - Swimming lessons

Wednesday, July 11 - Bowling

Thursday, July 12 - Movies

Friday, July 13 - Swimming

Monday, July 16 - Gymnastics

Tuesday, July 17 - Swimming lessons

Wednesday, July 18 - Beach

Thursday, July 19 - Movies

Friday, July 20 - Swimming

Monday, July 30 - Gymnastics

Tuesday, July 31 - Swimming lessons

Wednesday, August 1 - Rapids Water Park

Thursday, August 2 - Movies

Friday, August 3 - Swimming

Monday, August 6 - Gymnastics

Tuesday, August 7 - Swimming lessons

Wednesday, August 8 - Bowling

Thursday, August 9 - ?

Friday, August 10 - Pool party

Monday, August 13 - First day of school 2001-2002.

**Immokalee Preschool Programs** schedule for July/August 2001.

Monday, July 9 - Library Day, 2001-2002 enrollment begins

Tuesday, July 10 - Chuck E. Cheese in Hollywood, leave at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 11 - Movies leave at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 12 - Culture & Crafts Day at Culture Chickee

Friday, July 13 - Immokalee Pool, leave at 9:00 a.m.

Monday, July 16 - Library Day

Tuesday, July 17 - Vineyards Community Park, leave at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 18 - Movies leave at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 19 - Culture & Crafts Day at Culture Chickee

Friday, July 20 - Lakes Park, leave at 9:00 a.m.

Monday, July 23 - Library Day

Tuesday, July 24 - Everglades Wonder Gardens, leave at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 25 - Movies leave at 8:30 a.m., Ms. Rosa's birthday.

Thursday, July 26 - Culture & Crafts Day at Culture Chickee

Friday, July 27 - Immokalee Pool, leave at 9 a.m.

Monday, July 30 - Library Day



Michael James

Brighton

Tuesday, July 31 - King Richards, leave at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 1 - Movies leave at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, August 2 - Culture & Crafts Day at Culture Chickee

Friday, August 3 - Last day of summer program - Lakes Park, leave at 9 a.m.

Monday, August 6 through Friday, August 10 Pre-service Training - All Centers Closed - No

School. Monday, August 13 - First day of 2001-2002 school year.

Tuesday, August 14 - Ms. Christy's birthday

Wednesday, August 15 - Ms. Gina's birthday.

Thursday, August 16 - ?

Friday, August 17 - Mrs. Michelle's birthday.

**Big Cypress Preschool Programs** schedule for July/August:

Monday, July 9 - Lakes Park (Ft. Myers) - Cook out

Tuesday, July 10 - Gymnastics class & nature walk.

Wednesday, July 11 - Movies, leaving at 9:00 a.m., eat out.

Thursday, July 12 - Butterfly World - sack lunch

Friday, July 13 - Swimming lessons at BC pool.

Monday, July 16 - Airboat & buggy rides

Tuesday, July 17 - Gymnastics class & nature walk.

Wednesday, July 18 - Movies, eat out

Thursday, July 19 - Imaginarium Hands on Museum, sack lunch

Friday, July 20 - Swimming lessons at BC pool

Monday, July 23 - Lakes Park (Ft. Myers), cook out.

Tuesday, July 24 - Gymnastics class & nature walk.

Wednesday, July 25 - Movies, eat out

Thursday, July 26 - T.Y. Park, sack lunch

Friday, July 27 - Swimming lessons at BC pool.

Monday, July 30 - Rain Forest, leave at 9:00 a.m., eat out

Tuesday, July 31 - Gymnastics class & nature walk.

Wednesday, August 1 - Movies - eat out


Thursday, August 2 - No field trip

Friday, August 3 - last day of summer school, cook out.

Monday, August 6 through Friday, August 10 scheduled for Pre-Service Training. All centers are closed - No students.

Monday, August 13 - First day of school- 2001-2002.


**2000 CHEVROLET CAVALIER**  
Automatic, power windows & locks, keyless entry, ABS, cruise, traction control, CD player, alloy wheels, 160 hp. Stock #1122055.

**EXECUTIVE DEMO**

Price Was **\$17,655**  
Kelley Discount **- \$3657**

**Buy For \$13,998**


**2000 CHEVROLET CAMARO Z26**  
T-Tops, leather & speed wood, sport suspension, alloy, chrome wheels, 160 hp. Stock #11218825.

**EXECUTIVE DEMO**

Price Was **\$28,293**  
Kelley Discount **- \$4794**

**Buy For \$23,499**


**2000 CHEVROLET CAMARO SS**  
T-Tops, 6 speed manual, chrome wheels, leather, traction control, ABS, alloy & Mar. Stock #112171295.

**EXECUTIVE DEMO**

Price Was **\$32,355**  
Kelley Discount **- \$5605**

**Buy For \$26,750**

**2000 CHEVROLET CORVETTE**  
Convertible, white with tan top. (Extra Discount) (Ready to race on.) Stock #11210074.

**EXECUTIVE DEMO**

Price Was **\$50,189**  
Kelley Discount **- \$7174**

**Buy For \$42,995**

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**NEW 2001 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN**  
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**Lease For \$385 Per Mo.**

**Buy For \$29,355**

**NEW 2001 CHEVROLET SILVERADO**  
Stock #11210112.



**Lease For \$217 Per Mo.**

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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](http://www.theantidrug.com)



# Classified • Announcements

## Decal Notice To Tribal Members

### \*Renewal of Motor Vehicle Plates and Registration

In order to qualify for a Seminole Indian license plate, you must be the owner of the vehicle and carry insurance required under Florida law.

Because of recent changes in the State of Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles computer system and data base, motor vehicle plates for Seminole Tribal members will no longer be issued on a fiscal basis. Tags and decals will be issued with expiration dates corresponding to each Tribal member's birth date. This change is effective immediately.

Decals extending the June 2001 expiration date to the birth date must be picked-up in the Tag Clerk's office located in the Tribal member's respective reservation. You will also receive your new registration at the same time. You should contact the respective Tag Clerk's office immediately to receive your new decal and registration. You must bring your insurance card or other proof of insurance with you. The decal must be immediately affixed to your current plate, and the new registration must be kept with you when driving your vehicle. If you continue to use your plate without the new decal and/or without proper registration, you may be stopped by law enforcement and receive a citation including a fine.

The new decal and registration will expire on your birth date. You must contact the Tag Clerk's office three month's before your birth date. You must bring the registration form and insurance card with you so that the Tag Clerk's office can renew your registration and apply for your next year's decal. All registrations, plates and decals will be issued

through the Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles in Tallahassee, and mailed to the Tribe for distribution to you. You do not have to contact the State of Florid (DMV) regarding registration and decals as described herein.

#### For initial purchase of vehicle and issuance of initial plate, or trade-in with plate for transfer.

You must complete an Affidavit by Indian Tribal Member, which must be notarized, and present the Affidavit to the car dealership in order to obtain a Seminole Indian license plate. The Affidavit form is available at each Tag Clerk's office on the respective reservation. If you do not comply, you will likely incur the regular charge for a regular plate. Car dealerships will complete temporary tag documents and/or transfer documents. For casual sales of vehicles or transfers not involving a car dealership, the documents will be prepared by the Tag Clerk's office on the respective reservation.

Should you have any questions, contact the Tribal Clerk's office in **Hollywood** at (954) 967-3465. Ask to see **Suzanne Palm** at extension 1162.

For the **Big Cypress** residents you report to the Frank Billie Center and ask for **Cecilia Tigertail** or call (863) 983-2157.

For the **Brighton/Tampa** reservations, you need to see **Beulah Gopher** at the Field Office, or call (863) 763-4128.

**Immokalee** residents can report to **Sheila Aguilar** at the Field Office for your tags and decals, or call (941) 657-6567.

## Notices

**Wacky Water Park** - June 15 - July 31 at Cypress Gardens. Park hours 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Information call (863) 324-2111 or (800) 282-2123, ext. 362 or 214. Located off U.S. 27 just 22 miles south of I-4 between Tampa and Orlando, [www.cypressgardens.com](http://www.cypressgardens.com)

**MANA 2001 A Midwifery Odyssey** - Sept. 21 - 23 at the Hyatt Regency in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Featuring an encore presentation by Alice Walker. Roommate matching contact Janis Zloto at (505) 268-8056 (MST) or [DocJZee@aol.com](mailto:DocJZee@aol.com). Childcare will be available, contact Laura Springer at (505) 899-3264 (MST) or [Laura.Springer@IINT.com](mailto:Laura.Springer@IINT.com).

**Antiques Extravaganza** - July 6, 7 and 8 held at the South Florida Fairgrounds in West Palm Beach. Call (561) 793-0333 or (800) 527-3247 for assistance.

**American Indian Tourism Conference** - Sept. 9 - 12 in Bismarck, North Dakota. For information or registration forms you may call Sandra Poitra at (701) 255-3285, ext. 331 or Gloria Cobb, at (715) 588-3324, or visit at [www.indian-tourism.org](http://www.indian-tourism.org).

**Summer Ed-Venture Program** - June 18 - Aug. 17. Open to kids ages 5 - 10 at Parrot Jungle and Gardens in Miami. Park opens every day at 9:30 a.m. For info, phone (305) 666-7834 or visit the web at [www.parrotjungle.com](http://www.parrotjungle.com). Children will learn about environmental issues, conservation, animal care, art design and crafts all based in animal education.

**Gospel Sing at Cypress Gardens** - Nov. 10 - 11. The Blackwood Quartet and the Blackwood Singers along with The Booth Brothers will perform at gardens. For more info call (800) 282-2123 or (863) 324-2111.

**Host Families Needed for Foreign Students** - Pacific Intercultural Exchange has international students from more than 40 countries arriving into the area and surrounding communities for homestay programs. If you think you may be interested in hosting a foreign teen - or more information about program please call P.I.E. at (800) 828-9001.

**Free Poetry Contest** - deadline is July 16, to enter, send one poem only, 21 lines or less, to Free Poetry Contest, 12244 Park View Lane, Fishers, IN 46038, or enter online at [www.friendlyphoets.com](http://www.friendlyphoets.com).

**29th Annual National Storytelling Festival** - October 5 - 7, 2001 at Historic Jonesborough, Tennessee. Find out more online at [www.storytellingfestival.net](http://www.storytellingfestival.net), or call (800) 952-8392 for pre-registration.

**6th Crime Prevention & Drug Elimination Conference** - July 23 - 26, 2001 at the Foxwoods Mashantucket, Connecticut. If you have any questions call Pequot Housing Department at (860) 396-6146.

**Spirit Capture: Native Americans and the Photographic Image** - July 22, 2001 - July 21, 2002 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. Featuring nearly 200 photographs fast archive of 125,000 images. Contact Maria Dering at (212) 514-3894, or e-mail [deringm@si.edu](mailto:deringm@si.edu).

**Northern Dine Nation Summer Celebration Pow-wow** - July 27 - 28, Ojo Amarillo, Upper Fruitland, NM. Admission is free. Summer celebration, pow-wow, arts & crafts sale. Call (505) 598-9651 for more information.

**36th Annual Pioneer Day Celebration** - August 3, Navajo Mountain, UT. Foot races, horse races, Navajo games and food, entertainment, 5k/10k run, volleyball tournament, main event 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Contact Chapter at (520) 672-2857.

**14th Annual Eastern Navajo Fair and Rodeo** - August 26 - 29, Crownpoint, NM. Parade, carnival, pow-

wow, Junior and Senior Indian Rodeo. Contact Marsha Barney or Tim Shorty at (505) 786-4000 and Johnny Johnson (505) 786-2012.

**Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association Lake Powell Stampede** - September 1 - 2, Page, AZ. Annual rodeo event taking place on Labor Day weekend. Contact Wally J. Tsosie at (520) 645-3599.

**Executive Management Program** - August 19 - 24, the Tribal Executive Institute a non-profit entity of the Catawba Indian Nation, South Carolina, will conduct a week long program at the Hyatt Regency Convention Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico. The purpose of the training is to increase the knowledge of issues impacting Indian Country. The topics include: health and wellness; economic development; strategic planning; financial management; tribal sovereignty and Indian law; self-governance; and leadership skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Final deadline is July 12, for additional info and an application, please call (800) 397-0713.

**Electronics Recycling Program Will Be Launched July 8** - Broward County's Office of Integrated Waste Management is kicking off a 10-week pilot program funded through a state grant that will allow residents to dispose of outdated or unusable electronics absolutely free of charge.

The electronics will be demanufactured so that the metals and plastics can be recycled or refurbished, and remaining components will be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner.

After 10 weekly collections, county staff will assess public response, participation levels and disposal costs. The county plans to review options for future programs.

Acceptable items: Televisions, Computers, Monitors, Keyboards, External hard-drives, Printers, Modems, Fax machines, Copiers, Cell phones and other telecommunications equipment. Unacceptable items: Audio equipment, Appliances, Electric hand tools, Meters, Other non-specified electronic type materials.

For more information contact Jeanne Clinton, Office of Integrated Waste Management at (954) 765-4202 ext. 243, e-mail: [jlclinton@broward.org](mailto:jlclinton@broward.org), or the Public Communications Office at (954) 357-6990, [www.broward.org](http://www.broward.org).

**Give A Harley For The Holidays** - Don't know what to get your significant other for the holidays? Always wanted to ride a hog down A1A on a sunny day? Well here's your chance...beginning June 18, 2001 the Dick Webber Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse will be raffling off a 2002 Harley Davidson Fat Boy with a custom paint job and chrome front end or \$15,000! Tickets are \$25 and proceeds benefit prevention and parenting education programs in Palm Beach and Broward counties.

The drawing will be held at the Park Avenue BBQ and Grille in Boynton Beach on Saturday, Dec. 1 at 3 p.m. Come out and enjoy the best BBQ in Palm Beach County and win one for the children! Call (561) 586-4996 ext. 25 for tickets and contest details.

Sponsored in part by: Harley-Davidson of Palm Beach, Gator 98.7, Dr. Gerard Lemongello DMD, Nothin Fancy Bar & Grill, KOOL 105.5, City Limits Restaurant, Wheels on the Road Magazine, and Park Avenue Grill.21.

## Happy Birthday

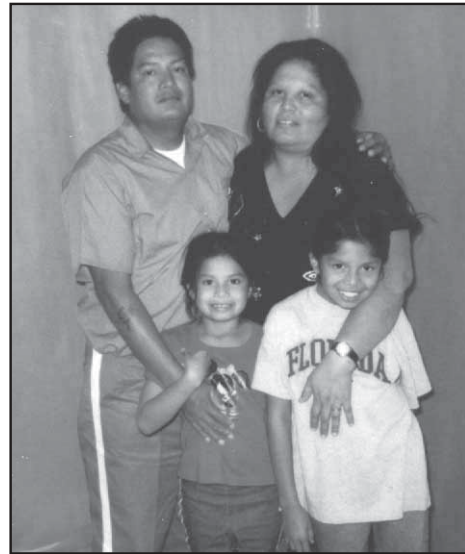


**Happy Birthday to Miss Rhiannon Dianke Tiger**

**Rhiannon,**

You will turn 10 years old on July 9th, 2001. You just blow us away! No one knows you better than your mom and dad. You were born out of love and will always be loved. You are our 1st daughter together and no one can or will ever take that away from you. You have the best birthday ever! We love you too much.

Love you always!  
Mom and Dad (**Ginger and Charlie**)  
& Sister and Brother (**Deandra and Charlie III**) **The Tiger Family**



Belated "Happy Birthday" wish to **Charlie J. Tiger Jr. Happy Birthday honey!** We miss and love you very, very, much. You'll have many more birthdays when you come home to your **Little Tiger** family. You will always be remembered on your day! I love you more than I can ever say! Love your wife and children **Ginger, Rhiannon, Deandra, Charlie III (Brown), The Tiger Family.**



**Happy 4th Birthday** to our little princess **Raevin Skye** on June 25th We love you so much! Love Daddy (**Sunny Frank**), Mommy (**Shana Frank**), Grandpa (**Joel**), Grandma (**Marci**), TuTu and Jennie.

## Poems

### This Is Our Land

*For many years before the white man came  
Our grandfathers and great grandfathers  
had fought and gave their lives for our  
native land*

*For they're where buffalo, deer,  
panthers and many wild birds living there  
as far as I could see*

*For this land was given to you and me*

*For this land is a sacred land  
that has given us life*

*For many warriors from different clans  
who spilled their blood.*

*For they never gave up our  
homeland.*

— John Harjo

## For Sale

Single family home on the Big Cypress Reservation at Horseshoe Village. 825 sq. ft. Has washer/dryer hook-ups. Only those seriously interested. Contact Lucille Jumper.

## Correction

In the last issue of the *Seminole Tribune* the master of ceremonies for the Inauguration of new Tribal Officers was incorrectly identified as Moses Osceola Jr. The master of ceremonies was Moses Jumper Jr. We regret the error.

## Summer Music Classes

Children & Adults! Learn an instrument or take voice lessons.

Beginning June 20th through August 24. Every Wednesday & Thursday, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the DSO building on the second floor. For more information call Library at (954) 989-6840, ext. 1225/1226.

## Religious Poems Sought

**Religious poems sought from Hollywood-area poets**

Good news for sincere poets! The Bards of Burbank is offering a \$1,000 grand prize in their Poetry Competition 2000, free to everyone. The deadline for entering is July 5, 2001.

To enter, send one poem 21 lines or less to Free Poetry Contest, PMB250, 2219 W Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506, or you may enter on-line at [www.friendlyphoets.com](http://www.friendlyphoets.com).

"We think religious poems can invite achievement," says Dr. John Scribner, the organization's Contest Director. "We're especially keen on inspiring amateur poets and we think this competition will achieve that. Florida has made many wonderful poets over the years and I'd like to discover new ones from among the Hollywood-area grass-roots poets."

## Deadlines

### Seminole Tribune

July 27 Issue • July 13 Deadline  
August 17 Issue • August 3 Deadline

## 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

## Happy Birthday July Babies. . .

Tony Shawn Bert, July 24  
Frank Billie, July 11  
Rebecca Billie, July 29  
Virgil Billie, July 1  
Dana Buster, July 15  
Sally Buster, July 13  
Charles Stanley Cypress, July 13  
Janice Lee Cypress, July 30  
Mary Frances Cypress, July 15  
Patsy Jane Cypress, July 1  
Sheli Faye Cypress, July 13  
Louis Dixie Jim, Sr., July 15  
Ruby Ann Osceola, July 5  
Manuel (Mondo) Tiger, July 15  
Marina Rene Tigertail, July 3  
Sally Agnes Tommie, July 26  
Samuel Tommie, July 22  
Ricky Ray Tucker, July 30  
Amy Johns Ashley, July 26  
Preston Levrn Baker, July 18  
Vernon Lee Baker, July 22  
Betty Mae Billie, July 31  
Andrea Polly Cypress, July 24  
Willie Gopher, Jr., July 29  
Jimi Lu Huff, July 23  
Norman Eric Johns, July 19  
Stanlo Johns, July 4  
Archie Hank Johns, Sr., July 24  
Happy Jones, July 15  
Howard Micco, July 23  
Deanna Lynn Motlow, July 15  
Leanne Jo Osceola, July 10  
Polly Ann Osceola, July 14  
Amanda Ruby Smith, July 7  
Lauri Beth Smith, July 19  
Walter Daniels Smith, July 5  
Laverne Denise Thomas, July 29  
Walter Tommie, Jr., July 16  
Johnny Tucker, Jr., July 29  
Brenda Scott Youngblood, July 8  
Robert Taylor Youngblood, July 27  
Larnee Balentine, July 1  
Barbara Billie, July 27  
Benjamin Billie, July 16  
Jason Don Billie, July 6  
July Jamie Billie, July 23  
Philmon Gene Bowers, July 6  
Tyrone John Cypress, July 6  
Veronica Sue Doctor, July 31  
Claudette Ann Gore, July 22

Tisha Jolene Harvey, July 26  
Ricardo Fortino Hernandez, July 31  
Amber Rose Jim, July 22  
Jerry Micco, Jr., July 29  
Theodore Scott Nelson, Sr. July 27  
Curtis Allen Osceola, July 18  
Keith Richard Osceola, July 6  
Sally Kristie Johnette Osceola, July 21  
Jimmy Hank Osceola, Jr., July 10  
Christopher Dent Primeaux, July 30  
Clifford Sanchez, July 3  
Tony Sanchez, Jr., July 3  
Geneva Shore, July 6  
Ginger Ann Tiger, July 16  
Mary Ann Tommie, July 30  
Dorothy Frank Tucker, July 25  
Naomi Ruth Wilson, July 13  
Delores Jumper, July 2  
Larry Motlow, July 2  
Nancy Motlow, July 12  
Tilda Jean Perez, July 23  
Amy Ann Yzaguirre, July 10  
Jeremy Lee Bowers, July 13  
Miguel Catu, Jr., July 21  
Leon John Doctor, July 29  
Nicole Marie Emery, July 22  
Anthony Benjamin Frank, July 15  
Martha Irene Green, July 16  
Deealona Denise Harjo, July 15  
Donna Susan Harmon, July 23  
Maurina Sallie Josh, July 2  
Lucinda Chrystal Jumper, July 7  
Kenneth David Kittle, II, July 22  
Adam Earl Nelson, July 13  
Andrea Dee Nelson, July 25  
Daniel Travor Osceola, July 3  
Douglas McKinley Osceola, July 29  
Gloria Lois Osceola, July 28  
Howard Darrin Osceola, July 4  
Leo Dean Osceola, July 27  
Ricky James Osceola, July 19  
Victoria Christine T. Osceola, July 8  
Emily Raissa Osceola-Branch, July 9  
Janieve A. Robenstein, July 19  
Randy Santiago, July 27  
Sheree Denise Sneed, July 24  
Antillis Nehemiah Stockton, July 4  
Kinya Tommie, July 27  
Jesse Joe Jimmie, July 14  
Angela Christine Walton, July 26



## FULL SERVICES CAR WASH

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# Bull Riding

Continued from page 1

Although Leffew was tough on the students, he stressed the importance of safety and bull riding, which is one of the most dangerous sports around. He believes in teaching young people to maintain a positive attitude regarding all phases in their lives, whether it is staying in school, drug prevention, or dealing with emotional problems. The students enjoyed hearing of Leffew's experiences about working with Luke Perry, during the filming of the movie, "Eight Seconds." The movie depicts the life of world champion bull rider Lane Foster, who was killed by a bull at the peak of his career. Leffew also recommended the book *Peak Performance* by Charles Garfield, which he felt every bull rider should read at the start of their career.

Also on hand for the seminar were local heroes Steve Osceola, Adam Turtle, Bill Watson and Rodney Osceola. These dedicated men are committed to working with the youth. "Before Leffew was commissioned as instructor for the seminar, Rodney Osceola worked long and hard hours with the youth on their bull riding skills," said Alex Johns, Brighton Board Representative. The bull-riding clinic was the brainchild of Johns and his cousin Lisa Johns. They enticed the youth to get involved with a trip to Disney World to anyone who participated and did well at the event. Alex explained that all three Board Representatives, himself, Paul Bowers Sr. from Big Cypress, and David DeHass from Hollywood, were current or former bull riders. Consequently, they are all supportive of the youth who choose to enter the sport of rodeo. The pledge to provide assistance to those young people



Adrian Baker learns where to sit.

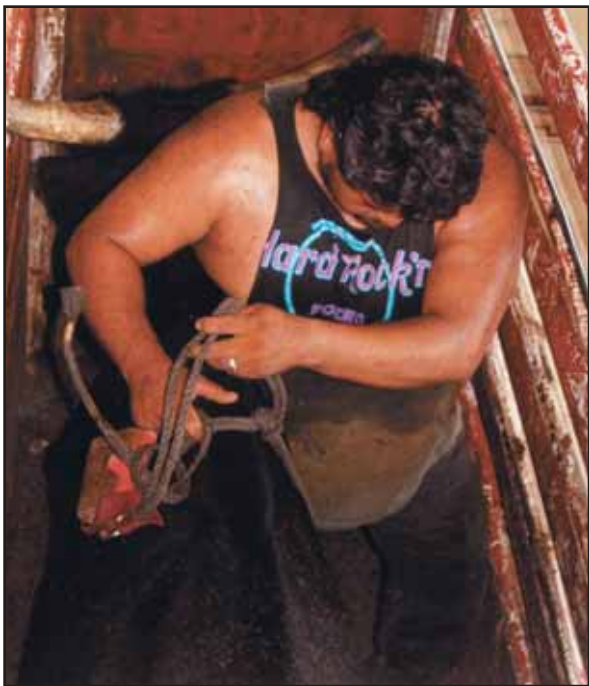
who want to participate and are willing to make a commitment to do their best. Other caring folks were on hand to lend support to the seminole youth, such as veteran rodeo performer, and life-long friend of Leffew, T.R. Wilson, who lives in Lake Port. Parents, friends and community members also came out to encourage and cheer on the young Seminole cowboys. Leffew, who currently resides in Santa Maria, CA, said he is looking forward to next year's seminar, which he plans to coach again. He enjoys his visits to the Seminole reservations and added, "There are many promising young cowboys and cowgirls up and coming in the near future."



Bull fighter Billie Watson deters bull as Steven Billie gets ready to dismount after 8 seconds.



David DeHass - Repairing spurs.



Rodney Osceola preparing a bull.



Miss Violet Olney, winner of 2001-2002 Miss Yakima Nation.

## Yakima Nation Treaty Day Pow-Wow

By Don Osceola  
WASHINGTON — Mary Gay and Don Osceola were guest of the Yakima Indian Nation during their annual Treaty Day celebration on June 8-10.

The Pow-wow was a tremendous celebration, filled with events such as a parade, dance and drum contests, rodeo, and basketball, softball, and golf tournaments. Vendors sold Indian art, crafts, and fried bread, and there was a free baked salmon lunch for everyone. There were also traditional ceremonies at the longhouse.

The Yakima hold the celebration to honor their culture, instill a strong identity and sense of pride in the younger citizens, and keep their traditions alive.

The Miss Yakima Nation Pageant was very impressive. The contestants had to be very knowledgeable about their Native heritage, as well as a good student. The contest process took three days.

The title Miss Yakima Nation 2002 is Violet J. Olney. The daughter of Peter Joe and Audrey Olney, Violet gave a speech on her Native heritage and living a drug-free lifestyle, played drum for the singers, played the flute, and displayed her knowledge of gathering traditional foods such as berries, roots, etc.

The day before the pageant, Olney also helped prepare dinner for the people attending the sacred longhouse ceremonies.

On the final day of the Pow-wow, there were dance contests for the princess contestants.

Don and Mary Gay were happy to have attended the Pow-wow and enjoyed every minute of their visit.



Miss Washines, Former Miss NCAI and she is one of Yakima's top female competitive dancers.

## Youth PRCA Bull Riding

By E. Tiger  
DAVIE — Local elementary students filled the stands at the Bergeron Rodeo arena on June 22 to cheer on the cowboys and cowgirls competing in the calf roping, bulldogging, and barrel racing events.

Seminole youth led by coordinator, and recently elected Board Representative, David DeHass were the grand finale of the rodeo, riding bulls in their respective age groups.

The Five Star PRCA Rodeo Director, Mike Daily, made Seminole participation possible: offering funds to the youth bull riding age group, and adding an extra entry into the morning's schedule so the youngsters could compete.

The youth bull riding group, started years ago, "has given the Seminole youth the chance to participate in a sport that was not offered years before," said DeHass. "The Recreation department wants the youth to experience as many sports as possible, so they can learn the importance of teamwork and competition and maybe take up one of the sports."

"These lessons will help them down the road."

The eight youngsters who competed put on quite a show for the spectators. Haley Cutler, one of the first place winners, dominated the competition, along with Jerome Davis, who tied for first with a time of 6.3 seconds. In second place was Dillan



Top row from left: Roy Stewart, Jack Turtle, Dillian Warner, Haley Cutler, Jerome Davis and Jasper Thomas. Bottom row from left: Lee Stewart, Huston "Spark Plug" Osceola and Brandtley Osceola.

Warner, with a riding time of 4.6 seconds. "The youth who participated made a great effort this morning," said DeHass, "They are all winners in my book."

Results: 1st Place: Haley Cutler, Jerome Davis 6.3, 2nd Place: Dillan Warner 5.6, 3rd Place: Jack Turtle 4.6, 4th Place: Roy Stewart 4.5, 5th Place: Huston Osceola 3.6, 6th Place: Brandtley Osceola 3.0, 7th Place: Jasper Thomas: 1.7.

## Reptile Captured In New York

HOLLYWOOD — Right after their highly publicized capture of a caiman in New York's Central Park, Mike and Cecilia "Tina" Bailey met with the press of June 26 at the Okalee Village.

The two flew to New York after sightings of a small reptile in Harlem Meer Lake reached Okalee's publicist, Chuck Malkus, and President of Malkus Communications.

"I want to capture the reptile in the most humane way possible," said Bailey upon arriving in New York before the infamous capture. Bailey and his wife met with the Park Wildlife on how the reptile would be captured, and received permission to start the hunt.

That night the Bailey team made an initial inspection of the lake, to pinpoint areas that the reptile would most likely be found. Afterwards, the team boarded a small canoe and slowly searched along the lake's weed line with a flashlight. After 30 minutes, Tina Bailey



BIG APPLE INVADER: Caiman gator.

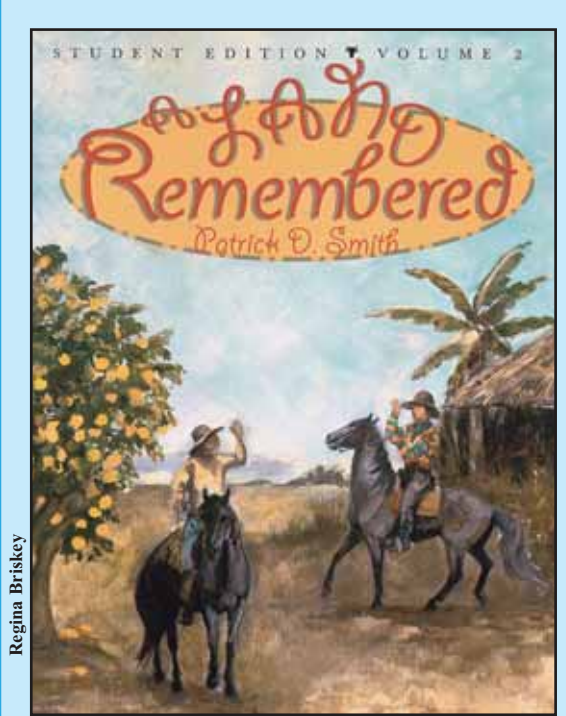


Caiman (Caiman crocodilus)

spotted the creature and jumped in the water, capturing him. After bringing him into the canoe, they discovered the "alligator" was actually a caiman, a member of the crocodilian family. "The caiman are more aggressive than the alligator, but they usually grow to about four to five feet in length. They have been known to grow to ten feet long and reach the three hundred pound mark," said Mr. Bailey, "but even if the caiman had lived on food source in the lake, it probably would have died in the first winter's freeze."

"The caiman was more than likely discarded by someone after it became too big of a pet."

When asked where the reptile would end up, Bailey said, "the Seminole Tribe is just interested in preserving wildlife and what was best for the reptile's future. Their standing offer is a natural environment for the reptile at the Okalee museum facilities and grounds in Hollywood, Florida."



"A Land Remembered" Sol McIvey and his half Seminole brother Toby Cypress on Marshstockie ponies.

## Book On Seminoles Becomes Teaching Aid

By T.R. Benn  
MERRITT ISLAND — Patrick D. Smith has long been a friend of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Smith's relationship with the Seminoles is one he holds dear to his heart. While writing his award-winning novel, *A Land Remembered*, he lived among the Seminoles to get a feeling for the character of Toby Cypress, half-brother to Sol MacIvey. In the novel, the MacIvey family and the Seminole build a relationship that withstood hardship and pain in a relentless land.

*A Land Remembered* has long been a teaching aid for junior and senior high school students across the state of Florida. Now edited for a new student edition in two parts, the new volumes are suitable for young readers from fourth through eighth grade and comes complete with a teacher's manual.

"The books could become the Harry Potter of Florida," laughed Smith. "Youngsters have no conception of Florida life before Mickey Mouse and Disney, the relentless hardships our ancestors went through, carving out a life in an unforgiving land. Freezes, drought, hurricanes, and floods could wipe out years of hard work, in a heartbeat."

Smith is also the author of other novels about the Seminoles: *Forever Island* and *Allapattah*.

*Forever Island* is the story of old Charlie Jumper and his life in the Big Cypress Swamp and the Everglades.

Nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, it has been translated into 46 languages and published worldwide.