



Wanda, Stephen Bowers with Honor Society's Christine McCall, below.



Coconut Creek Casino is already gearing up for expansion, see below.



Bobby Henry makes more rain, Page 7.



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Okeechobee Battle Site: Save It Or Lose It Forever



BATTLE OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE: Artist Guy LaBree's painting shows Indians, some hiding in trees, pouring fire onto advancing U.S. troops.

By Michael James

OKEECHOBEE — It has been 163 years since so many Seminoles have gathered at the site of the Battle of Okeechobee. This time, they came for a June 26 press conference held by the Friends of the Okeechobee Battlefield to hear the site has officially been placed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2000 list of America's 11 most endangered historic places. Tribal members Stanlo Johns, Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns, Amos Tiger, Louise Gopher, Kevin Osceola, Rita Gopher, Buster Baxley, Willie Johns, Michele Thomas, and Ah-Tah-Thi-Kee Museum Executive Director Billy Cypress joined a host of government officials, local historians, politicians, and media for the announcement.

The historical recognition comes at a time when the Okeechobee Battle Field is once again under attack. This time it's not soldiers' bullets that threatens. Today, what has been likened to a siege is underway in the form of development. Urban sprawl has crept up on all sides of the Okeechobee Battle Field and is threatening to consume the area where the Seminoles were positioned during the battle on Dec. 26, 1837. The National Trust is leading the way in bringing the true significance of this battle to light. The battle changed the very nature of settlement in Florida and the southeast and was the major conflict of the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). Zachary Taylor's actions at Okeechobee ultimately helped him win the presidency in 1848

due in part to the battle's influence on national politics. The battle was, however, a victory for the Seminoles whose war dead probably lie today somewhere near the old lake ridge at the battle site. In the early 1980s, the King's Bay subdivision began building homes on the site of the site. Today the area is facing the very real possibility that another 145 acres will disappear to the bulldozer's blade as plans for a new 300 home development take shape. Last January, the *Seminole Tribune* reported the trustees of the Rowland Estate plan to do just that. At that time representative of the estate said they would consider giving two or three acres for preservation purposes. Attorneys for the estate said the trustees have an obligation to make money.

See BATTLE, page 4

Council Approves Budget; Dividends Raised In Oct.

By E. Bowers

HOLLYWOOD — On June 28, amidst a flurry of cuts and a switch to zero-based budgeting, the Tribal Council voted to approve the budget for the 2000-2001 fiscal year, estimated at \$203 million, which includes an increase in per capita distribution. With many of the Tribal Program Directors in attendance, Chairman James Billie stated matter-of-factly that "everyone is overpaid." He remarked despite the enormous boost in revenues due to gaming in recent years, some Directors approached the fiscal process as in the past, when the Tribal budget was subsidized by federal money.

When approaching the end of the fiscal year "many people have the idea that you have to blow that money," said Billie. Upon announcing the switch to zero-based budgeting, in which the Directors start from zero and justify all expenditures that follow, Billie warned of freezes and, in some cases, elimination of such costs as sponsorship of events, pay raises, employee travel, per diem, advertising, and equipment purchases.

The Tribal member loan and assistance programs will also be scrutinized. Estimating the amount of assistance given to Tribal members in the past year at \$9 million, Billie observed "the needy ones never come to the Tribe, it's the greediest ones that come and ask for assistance." The \$50,000 cap on loans may also become a thing of the past. "Don't mind if you get denied once in a while," said Billie, adding that members may be required

See COUNCIL, page 11

Expansion Planned For Coconut Creek

COCONUT CREEK — It's official. The Coconut Creek Casino is a huge success. In the four months since its opening, more than 30,000 people have come to try their luck at the casino's video pull-tab machines, lightening bingo, and poker tables. And many have one big— from cars and trips to one-time jackpots of up to \$221,000. "We've created a unique and inviting entertainment option for local residents and tourists," said Jo-Lin Osceola, general manger of the casino. "We're thrilled with the response we've received." The casino has been so successful that expansion plans are already in the works. Over the next six months 40,000 square feet of additional space will be added to the 30,000 square foot facility. The new space will accommodate a well-known gourmet steak restaurant, an upscale cafeteria-style restaurant, and a nightclub. The casino already has a full-service bar and a gourmet snack bar with seating for 50. Part of the casino's success can be attributed to the many special events and theme nights the casino has hosted, including Memorial Day and Mother's Day celebrations as well as Las Vegas Night. Upcoming events include a fireworks display and free BBQ on July 4th, a 70s night on July 30, and a free Hawaiian Luau on Aug. 27.

The Coconut Creek Casino is located on Northwest 54th Street, just east of State Road 7 on Sample Road. For more information about the casino or the upcoming events, call (954) 977-6700.

McCall Joins Honor Society

HOLLYWOOD — Christine E. McCall was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society — Driftwood Middle School Chapter in Hollywood on June 13. In order to be considered for induction to the society, a student must have a grade point average of at least a 3.5. A candidate must possess qualities as scholarship, leadership, character, citizenship and service. The National Junior Honor Society was established in 1929 for middle-school students "to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in the students of secondary schools."

Consideration for induction came from the Faculty Council. Membership in the National Junior Honor Society is more than an honor. A member accepts responsibility and an obligation to continue to demonstrate these outstanding qualities. Christine's hard work has just started. Christine must maintain a 3.5 GPA and continue satisfactory marks on her conduct. A quality to be considered for membership is service. Christine is required to earn 35 hours of service by the end of each school year. Examples of service are

See HONOR, page 14

Betty Mae's Book Back In Print

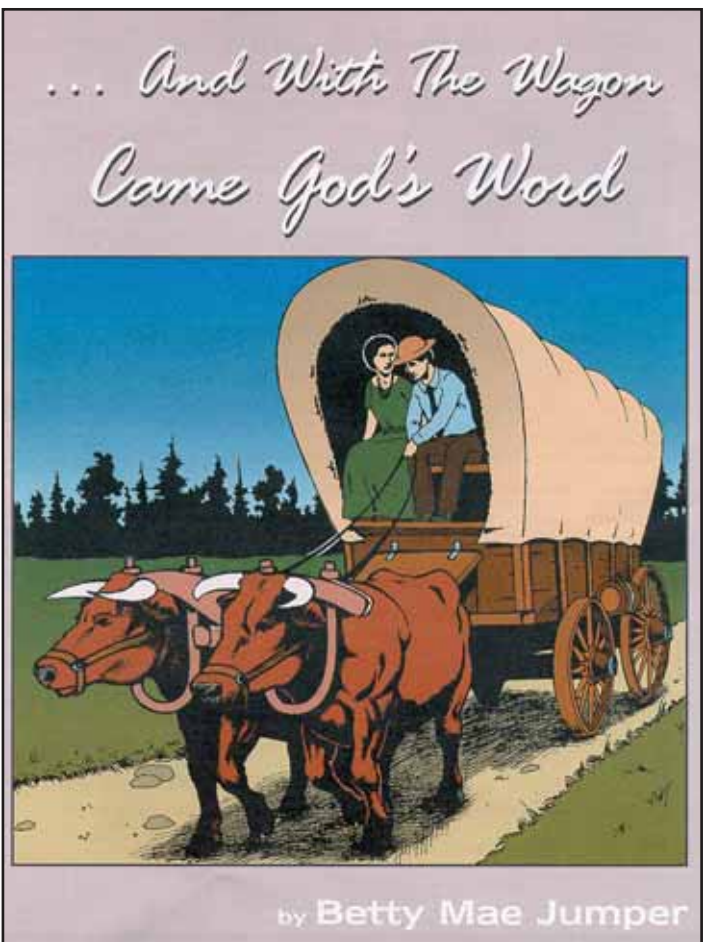
By Vida Volkert

HOLLYWOOD — After many years out of being out of print, Betty Mae Jumper's book *...And with the Wagon Came God's Word* is back on the road. Betty Mae, Director of the Seminole Tribe's Communications Department, is the author of this marvelous tale of courage and determination. "It's about Tribal members embracing Christianity," said Pastor Arlen Payne about Betty Mae's book. "It's a touching tale of the first missionaries who brought the message of Jesus to the Seminole Indians of Florida back in the mid 1920s and the triumphal outcome of their journey of love." Rev. Payne, pastor of Chiksee Baptist Church on the Hollywood Reservation, said the book is a good source of information and will be very useful during his upcoming missions to the north of the United States, where he is annually invited as a missionary himself. "I did not know the complete story about how the missionaries came to the [Seminole] reservation before Pastor Willie King until I read Betty's book," said Rev. Payne. Willie King, a Creek Indian from Oklahoma, is considered the first minister to come to the Hollywood Indian Reservation. However, Betty Mae's book reveals that prior

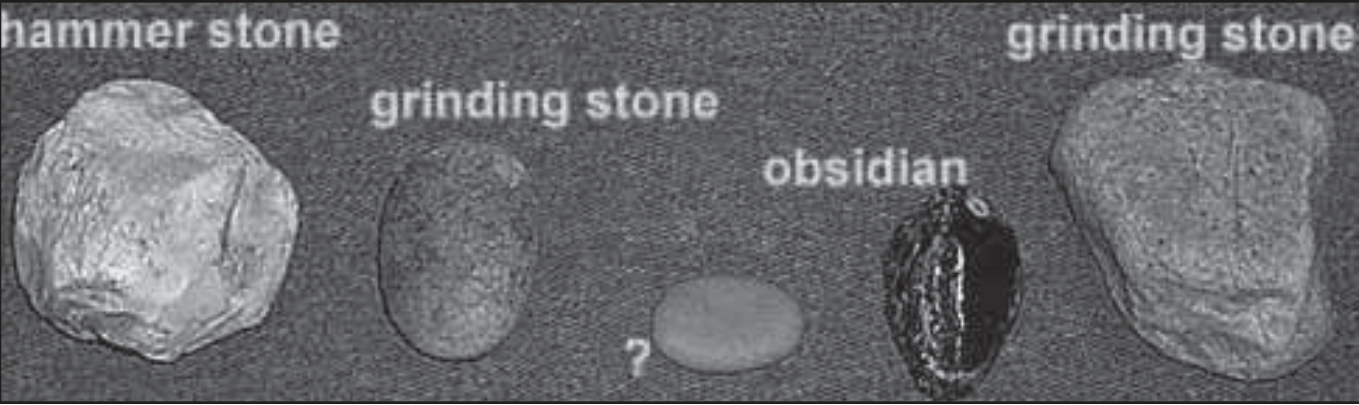
to King's arrival to the reservation in the early 1930s, a group of Oklahoma Seminole missionaries, led by a priest whose last name was Goat, came Indiantown to spread the word of the Jesus. In her book Betty Mae, who was elected Tribal Chairman in 1967 — becoming the first female Tribal 'Chief' in America — recalls the journey of the missionaries from day one at the train station in Wewoka, Ok., to their arrival into Indian Territory around Lake Okeechobee. "Many people asked the preacher why he had come to Florida," writes Betty Mae. "He told them, 'These Florida Indians are my people, the people we left behind. . . I must tell them about Jesus, and through Him we can never be hurt again. Never again walk the 'Trail of Tears.'"

Betty Mae Jumper grew up in the Hollywood Reservation, which at the time was known as the Dania Reservation. As half-breed — Betty is half-Indian and

See BETTY, page 7

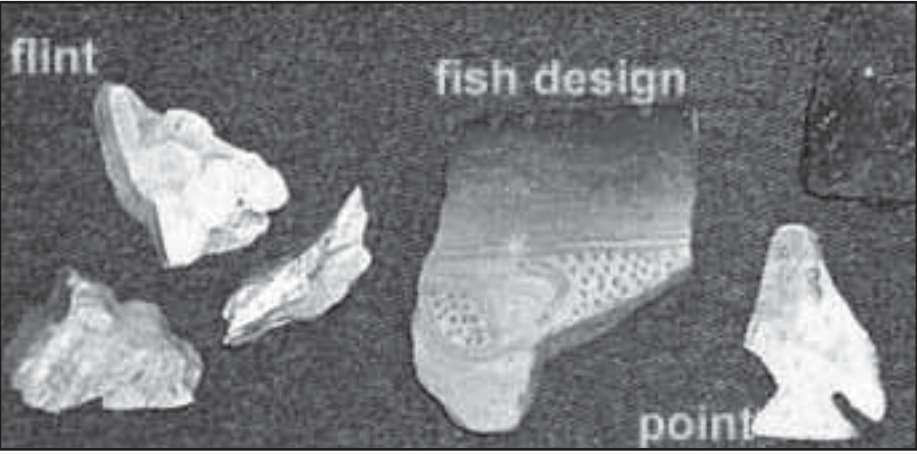


Archaeological Site In Danger



These primitive tools are some of the ancient artifacts that have been recovered at the Turkey Point location.

By Vida Volkert
TURKEY POINT — Artifacts belonging to the Seminole Indians’ ancestors have been uncovered along the beaches of Turkey Point, a geographic cape-shaped area located about 25 miles south west of the State Capital in Eastern Franklin County.
For about a half century, the isolated and undeveloped beaches along the Panhandle have been a favorite spot for fishermen, marine researchers, and even amateur archaeologists.
But to the Seminole Indians’ ancestors the same Panhandle beaches represented more than just an attractive land. For hundreds of



Pottery, flints and points are from many different ages, experts believe.

years these lands were their source of staple, shelter and survival.
Just six months ago, several families living in St. Teresa, a beach community located a hundred yards from the archaeological site, provided the State Division of Historical Resources with a report on artifacts they had uncovered in the area.
Marion Smith, supervisor for the Florida Master Site File Division with the State Historical Resources, said the artifacts uncovered ranged from different periods.
“We don’t have details of an excavation but our records indicate that a wide variety of artifacts have been found along the Turkey Point beach,” said Smith.
“There are records of prehistoric pottery.
We also have a musket ball and what appears to be a Spanish olive jar, which does not date very well but was very common in the Colonial period.”
Smith said according to the records, the ceramic varieties include prehistoric artifacts culturally classified as Deptford, Swift Creek, Weeden Island and Fort Walton.
“The records suggest that most of the artifacts’ time ranged from around 1,000 B.C. to 1,200 A.D.,” said Smith.
According to Charles Branham, senior data analyst at the Florida Master Site, the artifacts found in the Turkey Point beach only represent a small number.
“I have been there [the site] and I have seen where people have dirtied,” said Branham. “I think there is a lot of intact material there.”
Patricia Wickman, director of the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Department of Anthropology & Genealogy, said that if the Turkey Point site is of importance, “we have to go by certain laws according to the resources of the [Seminole] Tribe and the State” to assure its protection.
“If this site is of any value to the Seminoles, I will do all that is in my power to protect it,” said Wickman.
She also said she would not be surprised if there are artifacts belonging to the Seminole ancestors in the Turkey Point beaches

because the Seminole ancestors were all over Florida prior to and after colonization.
However, until the archaeological site is identified as a significant site there is not much scientists can do to protect it.
Jim Miller, the State Archaeologist, said there are over 20,000 archaeological sites spread across Florida.
“I am not in favor of people digging in and taking archaeological artifacts but we can not protect all 20,000 sites,” said Miller, adding it would take much time and resources to protect the sensitive areas.
He also explained the value or significance of an archaeological site depends on the kind of activity the inhabitants performed there. If the Indigenous people used the site for religious or ceremonial purposes, as it appeared to be the case of the Tequesta Indigenous people who constructed the Miami Circle [a rare archaeological site featuring circular formations recently excavated in downtown Miami] the site raises its significance.
But if the indigenous people simply threw artifacts away along the coast, Miller said the archaeological site is less important. Miller also said the Miami Circle was of great significance not only to Americans but the rest of the world because people believed the circle was connected to the Maya culture.
“The [Miami Circle] archaeological remains suggested it had religious importance,” said Miller, adding that human remains were uncovered at the site that has since been purchased by the state.
“The Miami Circle received large public support and everybody around the world got excited because they thought it was an astrological calendar.”
Miller also said that no human remains or suggestive artifacts



Experts say pottery like this -- recovered on the site -- often isn’t enough to stop development of the land.

have been found in the Turkey Point area to suggest it was a religious or ceremonial site.
While protection of the Turkey Point archaeological site is still uncertain, the St. Joe Paper Company, the State’s largest private landowner, envisions a beach resort in the area.
The Turkey Point area is mostly wild, undeveloped land and



Unless the site is classified as ‘significant,’ it may fall through the cracks and be lost.

home to a wide variety of sea turtles and bald eagles. Florida State University has a 75-acre marine lab located in this area that the St. Joe Paper Company has an interest in pursuing.
Preliminary talks about trading the FSU land for other property owned by the paper company have been on and off for the past couple of weeks. Since the St. Joe Paper Company owns a million acres in Florida, including tens of thousands of acres around Turkey Point, some believe FSU is strongly considering the trade.
The St. Joe Paper Company has not yet released details of its development plans, but it is believed the company wants to build a marina at Turkey Point which one day could be the centerpiece of an exclusive waterfront community just an hour’s drive south of Tallahassee.
But the St. Teresa community and many different supporters are concerned about the archaeological site and the artifacts. Steve Metzke, a preservationist and news reporter with channel 27 in Tallahassee, resides a few hundred yards from the site. He said there are plenty of artifacts still in the area and urges an evaluation of the site before it is developed.
“Development is inevitable, but it must be done right,” said Metzke. “I fear construction would bury the artifacts forever.”
Meanwhile, Charles Branham says that even though part of the area where the artifacts were found seems to be owned by private owners, it might be as well considered State land.
“The site is mostly under water and that makes it a State land,” said Branham, adding that it is easier to obtain permission to protect an archaeological site when it is owned by the State.
He also said it would be a shame to loose such historical site over development or artifact diggers.
“Personally, I think this is a significant site and the State should take action to protect it,” he said.

‘Never Had Indians Prepared A Battleground With Greater Care. . .’

The following excerpt about the Battle of Okeechobee is from John K. Mahon’s book, ‘History of the Second Seminole War 1835-1842.’ It is reprinted with permission.

Fortune was about to bestow upon Colonel Zachary Taylor the opportunity to direct the largest battle of the war. On December 19 Taylor received permission from General Jesup to move forward and hunt the enemy. That same day he marched from Fort Gardner (which he had built on the Kissimmee River a little south of Lake Tohopekaliga) at the head of 1,032 men. Except for 180 Missouri volunteers, 47 men organized in a company called “Morgan’s Spies” of whom about 30 were Missourians, and 70 Delaware and Shawnee Indians, the force was composed of regulars. Taylor’s route was southward down the Kissimmee toward Lake Okeechobee. On the evening of the first day Indians began to come in and gave up. Jumper surrendered, accompanied by 63 followers. He and his party were sent back toward the fort, guarded by some Shawnees who refused to march farther. The next day 26 Indians gave up when their camp was discovered. On the third day, December 21, Taylor paused to build a small stockade in which to leave his heavy baggage and artillery, for the going was becoming increasingly severe. This stockade became Fort Bassinger. To garrison it, he detached one company and the pioneers and pontoniers, with about 85 sick men and some Indians. The main body moved out with provisions to last through December 26. Small parties of Indians surrendered to them as they advanced. By moving at daylight, the army entered one large camp in which the fires were still burning, although the Indians had fled. Then, they captured a single warrior in an open prairie (probably planted

there) who showed them where the foe was settled into position ready to fight.
Never had Indians prepared a battleground with greater care. They were in a hammock with about half a mile of swamp in front of them, and Lake Okeechobee not far to their rear. The sawgrass in the swamp stood five feet high, and mud and water were three feet deep. The Seminoles had cut down the grass to provide a corridor for fire, and had notched the trees in their hammock to steady their guns. Believing themselves virtually impregnable, from 380 to 480 Indians waited attack. Old Sam Jones, although not a war chief, commanded more than half of them on the right, Alligator led 120 in the center, and Coacoochee, crazy for revenge, held the left with about 80 followers. Seminoles and were segregated, as usual, into separate groups. As a result, they were not a cohesive fighting force subject to the direction of one unifying will. And it was their misfortune that the largest body of Negro warriors was not present.
Confronted by this defense, Taylor called his officers together. His plan was to charge through the swamp squarely at the front of the enemy. The Missourians later claimed that Colonel Gentry, their commander, proposed an encirclement, whereupon Taylor asked him if he was afraid. It is not clear that there was not one to make an indirect approach anyway. He put the Missourians with Morgans’s spies in the first line. Only 132 men of the regiment were by this time fit for duty, a heavy attrition rate from the near 600 who had left Missouri three months before. Behind them came the Fourth and the Sixth Infantry, and the First Infantry remained in reserve. Since the attack was impassable for horses, all the attackers dismounted. The lines advanced at

12:30 P.M. on a pleasant Christmas Day. In his official report Taylor claimed that the Missouri volunteers broke after a volley or two and went to the rear. Colonel Gentry was mortally wounded almost at the first moment, and could not rally them. The volunteers denied Taylor’s claim, asserting that they had to crawl through the sawgrass, stand to fire, and drop down again, lest they be shot by the Indians in front or the Sixth Infantry in the rear. They were placed, they said, in the hottest spot. Be that as it may, the heaviest fire bored into five companies of the Sixth in the corridor cut through the sawgrass. When all but one of their company officers and most of the noncoms had been hit, these five companies retired and reformed. At this moment Colonel Ramsey Thompson of the Sixth was fatally hit. Propped against a tree facing the foe, he called out “Remember the regiment to which you belong! And so died. Once the frontal attack was strongly pressed, Taylor ordered the First Infantry, the reserve, to reach the enemy’s right and hit him in that flank. As soon as the First got into position, the Indians gave one final volley and began to retreat. Coacoochee and Alligator later asserted that Sam Jones cravenly retreated on that wing, but they did not understand the pressure he was under. The Indians withdrew toward the lake, scattered, and escaped toward the east.
Even though outnumbered two to one, the Seminoles elected to stand and fight at Okeechobee only because they thought they could inflict more harm than they would receive. The casualties indicated that their estimate was right; the white force lost 26 killed and 112 wounded, compared to the Seminoles’ 11 and 14. The fight was over by three o’clock. There was no pursuit because Taylor had so many dead and wounded to evacuate.

Reflections By Patsy West

Ho-la Wa-gus - A Devil Of An Adjective

Adjectives are those fascinating words which describe (as we learned in school) a noun, which is a person, place, or thing. Some adjectives are totally discarded over time, while others change their meaning completely over the decades.
I recall when one of my sons had a topic for a short paper. His topic was the Roman god Apollo (the same as the Greek god Adonis). We looked Apollo up in all the old dictionaries in our household libraries and one of the most novel passages came from my grandmother’s World Book Encyclopedia published in the early 1900s. In that old book there was a long passage on the adjective “Adonis.”
The Seminoles had a word, which saw common use, “ho-la wa-gus!” Ho-la wa-gus was a noun, which referred to a demon by that name.
Far from being the glorious sun god that Apollo was, Ho-la wa-gus was a Seminole “deity,” closer allied to the Devil. Ho-la wa-gus lived underground in the underworld. He

would come to the surface to carry evildoers down below to the Seminole Hell (like the Greek-Roman’s Hades or Pluto).
As an adjective, ho-la wa-gus meant “bad or evil.” A large number of accounts quoting conversations with late 19th and early 20th century Seminoles include this term, showing it was very popular in usage. Strong drink was considered ho-la wa-gus, so was a viciously quarrelsome man, or a slacker who conducted himself against Seminole principles.
Interracial unions and their offspring were considered ho-la wa-gus, as they too were firmly against the Council’s edicts. Many times everyday events of the negative sort, which today would call forth a variety of four letter expletives, were in days past considered ho-la wa-gus!
But, time and customs change. I wonder: Does anyone ever say ho-la wa-gus anymore?
— Reflections Number 177.

Battle

Continued from page 1

The Corps of Engineers is presently reviewing a permit for the Rowland Trust. If issued, the development could jeopardize the site’s National Historic Landmark status due to the loss of an extremely sensitive area of the battle field.
The Okeechobee Battle Field site encompasses approximately 1 square mile and there are many landowners associated with the property. According to Robert Carr, Executive Director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc., several hundred acres are being sought for preservation.
Carr also announced that a study would be undertaken by next year to research the potential for turning the Okeechobee Battle Field site into a national park. Whatever the outcome, Carr, who did most of the original archaeological and historical work at the site, said preservation can and must move along in a friendly and positive way.

Billy Cypress, who was instrumental in the preservation of the Fort King site in Ocala, concurred with Carr that preservation can be achieved in a positive manner.
“It is one of the most significant sites in the southeastern United States,” said Carr. “Indeed, it is the only site in the southeast to be considered for the 2000 list.”
Cypress added, “The Chairman (James E. Billie) is interested in preservation of the site.”
“The listing doesn’t come with money,” said John Hildreth, Director of the National Trust’s southern office. Consequently the listing doesn’t offer much in the way of immediate protection. The listing, for now, could be best described as a publicity tool for preservationists. Publicity has proven to be a key element in many successful preservation efforts across the country.
“It’s [the list] an awareness building tool,” said Hildreth. “We work with local and state level people to develop strategies to help preserve the site. It’s a site that not a lot of people know about and we need to raise people’s awareness.”

Community News

Teacher Mrs. Mickle Returns to Big Cypress

By Maureen Vass
BIG CYPRESS — Chairman James Billie hosted a luncheon at Billie Swamp Safari on June 21 for Mrs. Glades Mickle and her former students. The attendees included Billy and Carol Cypress, Lottie Jim, Virginia Tommie, Theresa Jumper, Jeanette Cypress, Mary Jean Koenes, Beulah Gopher, Alice Snow, Agnes Cypress, Linda Billie, and Mary Waggeber. Mrs. Mickle, who will turn 90 in October, was thrilled as many of the attendees brought along children and grandchildren to meet the former music teacher and friend of the Big Cypress people. Jeanette Cypress and Mary Koenes recalled going to Mrs. Mickle's home on the weekends and how she would take them to the beach in Fort Myers for a day of fun. Mrs. Mickle and her twin daughters were given bags of goodies and a Seminole lap quilt courtesy of the Chairman's office. All those attending had a great time and even more fun remembering the "good old days."



Agnes Cypress, Theresa Jumper, Mrs. Mickle, Virginia Tommie, Lottie Jim recall old days.

Legislation Could Hurt Indian Tribes

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The 106th Congress considered two pieces of legislation, submitted by Florida Rep. Dave Weldon and Indiana Rep. Peter Visclosky, that would adversely impact Indian Country. On June 16, by a vote of 204-172, the House of Representatives passed the Fiscal Year 2001 Interior Appropriations bill. Only hours earlier, at 11:31 p.m., Rep. Dave Weldon (R-FL) offered House Amendment 829, which read: An amendment numbered 48 printed in the Congressional Record to ensure that the case regarding Indian gaming brought by Florida and Alabama against the Department of the Interior is fully adjudicated before the Secretary of the Interior is permitted to publish the procedures that would allow tribes to establish casinos under regulations that by-pass tribal-state compacts. At 12:29 a.m., the amendment failed by a recorded vote of 167-205. The votes were split along party lines with 148 Republicans for and 148 Democrats against. A large factor in the defeat were 56 Republicans who voted against the amendment. In the Florida contingent, Democrat Robert Wexler and Republicans Porter Goss, Clay Shaw, Dan Miller, John Mica, Bill Young, Joe Scarborough, Cliff Stearns, Michael Bilirakis, and Charles Canady voted for the amendment. Others included Oklahoma Representatives Ernest Istook, J.C. Watts, and Steve Largent, Republican Majority Whip Tom Delay (TX), and Henry Hyde (IL). Republicans Mark Foley, Tillie Fowler, Lincoln Diaz-Balart and Democrats Alcee Hastings, Bob Deutch, Allen Boyd, Corrine Brown, Karen Thurman, and Jim Davis voted against the amendment. Others included Native American Caucus members J.D. Hayworth (AZ), David Bonior (MI), Dale Kildee (MI), and Patrick Kennedy (RI). Not voting were Republicans Bill McCollum, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, and Democrat Carrie Meek. The amendment is similar to the Weldon-Barr amendment offered last year, which failed by a vote of 217-205. Rep. Weldon represents District 15, which covers Brevard, Indian River, and parts of Osceola and Polk counties. Vice Chairman of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, Weldon also co-chairs, with Gov. Jeb Bush, the Florida Venture Pursuit Team, an effort to bring next-generation launch vehicles to Cape Canaveral. On June 28, the House Resources Committee held a markup on H.R. 1814, the "Tribal-State Tax Fairness Act of 2000," regarding an amendment by Committee Chairman Don Young (R-AK) to H.R. 1814. H.R. 1814, which was introduced on May 14, 1999 by Rep. Peter Visclosky (D-IN), required tribes to collect and remit state taxes on retail items or have the Secretary of the Interior take those tribal lands used for the retail operations out of federal trust as a penalty. Tribes who collect state taxes are rewarded and given priority in the federal funding process. Chairman Young's amendment replaces the trust land removal penalty and recommends the appointment of a special trustee for the American Indians to investigate and demand collection and remittance of state taxes. If there is no compliance, the special trustee will refer the matter to the Department of Justice for civil enforcement action. H.R. 1814, which refers mainly to the collection of state taxes on motor fuels and tobacco products, is backed by the Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America, National Association of Convenience Stores, Petroleum Marketers Association of America, National Association of Truck Stop Operations, and the National Governors Association. Introducing the bill on May 13, 1999 Rep. Visclosky said, "This measure is a equity in the process of state taxation. This is not about Native American sovereignty, nor is it about discrimination. This measure will give back the hundreds of millions of dollars that states lose annually because these taxes are not collected."

Tribal Members Donate \$25,000 to IRCC

By Maureen J. Vass
BRIGHTON — Members of the Seminole Tribe's Brighton community got together recently with Indian River Community College (IRCC) President Dr. Edwin Massey and Kay Mullins, Provost of the Dixon Hendry Campus, to present a very special donation. Brighton Tribal Councilman Jack Smith and several Tribal members presented a \$25,000 check to IRCC. The money will be going toward the building fund for the new educational building under construction on the Dixon Hendry Campus. Education Department employees and Tribal members present were Lorene Gopher, Jenny Shore, Willie Johns, and Louise Gopher. They have been actively involved in making sure this check goes to

the Education building at IRCC. Johns, Education Liaison for Brighton, and Gopher, Education Counselor, were both very pleased that a section of the building will be named after the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Shore who works with the culture program and realizes the benefits of an education for the Seminole people was also excited about the funding. The building will house a state of the art adult education center and include a library resource room. Students working on their GED or continuing education programs can benefit from this addition. This money is part of the Seminole Tribe of Florida's continued commitment to the education of its members.

Extension Agent Pursuing Doctorate

By T.R. Benn
BRIGHTON — Sabrina Tuttle, Extension Agent with the Seminole Tribe of Florida since 1996, will be leaving for College Station, Texas to pursue her Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Communication and International Development. During her years with the Tribe, Tuttle planned and implemented extension projects with 4-H Youth and various agricultural programs. She was also involved in money management and nutrition programs. Tuttle's goal is to become a project administrator with a non-profit international development agency or a researcher in international development of agricultural communication. "I will miss the interesting and various aspects of my job with the Seminole Tribe," "The relationship with the 4-H youth, their parents, the ranchers, the cattle program, and the frustrating yet wonderful dry humor of the Seminole people."



Extension agent Sabrina Tuttle is heading to Texas for a Ph.D.



(L-R back row) Billie Osceola, Lottie Jim, Mrs. Mickle, Agnes Cypress, (front row) Theresa Jumper, Virginia Tommie, Dorthy Cypress.

Hollywood Community Celebrates Father's Day

By E. Tiger
HOLLYWOOD — Community members on the Hollywood Reservation gathered at the Recreation facilities to celebrate Father's Day. Fathers who went to the festivities received baskets, which were filled with turtle wax, a wax buffer, and car soap. They also enjoyed a catered lunch for family and community members who came to the festivities that day.



Dad Max Osceola holds Zephaniah Roberts.

Fathers And Mothers Honored

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS — Fathers and mothers were recognized and remembered during a special luncheon held June 16, at Big Cypress Gym. The event was co-hosted by Tribal President Mitchell Cypress and Council Representative David Cypress.

Festivities started around 11 a.m. with Mitchell and David welcoming all present and extending a special "thank you" to all fathers and mothers. They both stated they decided to host the luncheon as a way to honor all fathers and mothers for their love, guidance, and knowledge. They reminded everyone of the importance of their parents in making them who they are today and encouraged the young to continue the traditions and culture passed on to them. The Swamp Water Café



Mitchell Cypress and brother David joined together to honor parents for all the work they do for kids.

catered the luncheon and Paul Buster, accompanied by son Paul "Chunky" Buster Jr., provided the music. Robin Hernandez, Vicki Knouse, Mabel Jim, Louise Osceola, and the crew from the gym handled the decorations. All the fathers received a mini drink cooler. The mothers were given carnations and floral arrangements commemorating the day.

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Fort Marion / Castillo de San Marcos: Stone Fortress Couldn't Hold Wild Cat

During the Seminole Wars (1817-1858), the United States Army built forts across the peninsula of Florida. While Fort Marion was not constructed during this period, it served the U.S. Government as a major base during the conflicts. In this ongoing Seminole Tribune exclusive series, correspondent Vida Volkert reports on the role these forts played in the battles that were – in their time – the longest and most costly military campaigns ever fought by the United States.

By Vida Volkert
ST. AUGUSTINE — On the moonless night of Nov. 29, 1837, the impressively brilliant young Seminole Indian leader Coacoochee, known as Wild Cat, accomplished the most picturesque and intrepid episode of the Second Seminole Wars [1835-1842]. “He escaped from Fort Marion, the maximum security facility in Florida during the wars,” said Bill Steele, consultant for the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy. Coacoochee, the favorite son of the Seminole head-Chief Emathla, scaled the interior wall of his cell; squeezed through a nine to eight inches wide and five feet long window situated about 15 feet from the floor; and let himself down on a rope made from bedding. After Coacoochee made it out of the cell, the Black Indian John Cavallo, 16 warriors and two women, followed him. Once free of the walls, Coacoochee and his followers fled west. They left the city of St. Augustine, where the fort is located, forded the St. Johns River, and turned south. Traveling all night, the tiny band slept in the woods by day. They lived on roots and food they found along the way, until they succeeded in rejoining the forces of the Medicine Man Abiaka, known to the Whites as Sam Jones. Two months later, Coacoochee was leading 80 men against the U.S. Army in the Battle of Okeechobee (Dec. 25, 1837. see page 3). The Battle of Okeechobee is regarded as the largest battle of the Second Seminole War. Fort Marion, known as well as Castillo de San Marcos, represents the oldest remaining European fortification in the United States. At the time of Coacoochee’s escape it represented the best-guarded fortification in Florida. “It had to be the highest security place in Florida,” said Steele. “I can’t imagine otherwise since St. Augustine was one of the most important cities in Florida at that time.” Cecile-Marie Sastre, a local historian who has worked in the research department of the Castillo for the last 18 months, said at the time of Coacoochee’s escape, there were several hundreds of soldiers stationed in St. Augustine. “It was a secure place, but when the Americans took over the fort in the early 1820s and restructured the fortification, building windows on the walls, they broke the fort’s integrity,” said Sastre about the fort whose initial construction was ordered by Queen Mariana of Spain in 1672. “Queen Mariana ordered its construction because the Spanish settlers in Florida were getting scared that the British were going to attack them,” said Sastre, who during her months of research specialized in the Spanish periods. Sastre said the material chosen for the construction of the fort was coquina, a stone comprised of little shellfish. The shellfish, which died long ago, had bonded together and under intense pressure and thousands of years, created a hard rock. In Spanish, coquina means little shells. After 23 years of work, the Castillo was completed in 1695. “The Spanish named it Castillo de San Marcos, probably after St. Mark, one of the four Gospels,” said Sastre. “But in 1825 the Americans renamed it Fort Marion after Francis Marion, a famous American revolutionary patriot.” Joseph Brehm, park ranger at the Castillo de San Marcos Monument, says that before Fort Marion’s construction began, nine other wooden forts were built around the St. Augustine area. “The very first was an Indian Timucuan house. It was not far from where the Castillo is now, about a quarter to half mile north,” said Brehm. On Sept. 8, 1565, Spaniards under Pedro Menendez de Aviles landed on the north East Coast of Florida, on the shores of what is known today as Matanzas Bay. They had been two months at sea, dispatched by King Phillip II of Spain to occupy the peninsula known as La Florida. Their orders were to drive out a band of French Huguenots who had settled there. Brehm says the Spaniards were received by the Timucuan Indians, who offered their visitors a large house near the waterfront. This Spanish occupation was the beginning of the settlement of what became known as St. Augustine, the oldest city in the United States. “The Spaniards built a fortification around the house, but about six months after they had landed, the Indians realized the Spaniards were planning on staying in their land and set the fort on fire,” said Brehm, who adds the next fort was built on Anastasia Island. “The Spaniards didn’t leave,” he said. “Instead, they built two more [forts] right across the bay and five more wooden forts were built where the Castillo is located today.” Queen Mariana’s efforts, however, did not stop the British from taking over St. Augustine. But the British did not take St. Augustine by force. Under the Treaty of Paris, Britain gained the Florida Territory by the return to Spain of Havana. Florida was divided into to an East Florida and a West Florida and St. Augustine was made the capital of the eastern part. The name of the fort was changed into the English equivalent Fort St. Marks. The Spanish; however, took back the Florida peninsula in July 1784, handing it over to the Americans in 1821. As the Americans took over Florida, they began changing things around. Sastre said that one of the changes at Fort Marion included the construction of windows in all the rooms of the west side of the fort. “The Americans started these windows in the early 1830s. We believe they were made for ventilation purposes since they wanted to use some of the rooms for the soldiers. The other three sides of the fort did not have openings,” said Sastre. The Castillo de San Marcos underwent its baptism of fire in 1702, 30 years after construction had begun. By the time the Castillo was completed, in 1695, the town of St. Augustine consisted of about 1,500 people, including Spanish, Indian and Black families. St. Augustine was a Spanish colony governed by Florida’s Gov. General Jose de Zuniga, but Spain was having a hard time claiming its lands on the Atlantic coast. Carolina’s governor James Moore was looking south and wanted to annex the Florida lands, including St. Augustine. Supported by the British Crown and his fellow allies who wanted the

Spaniards off the eastern coast of North America, he led an army of 1,200, half of them white Carolinians and half Indian warriors, in an invasion of St. Augustine. As word of the invasion reached St. Augustine, Zuniga ordered the population to take refuge within the coquina walls of the Castillo and sent La Gloria, his only vessel and hope, to Havana for reinforcements. As the British troops arrived to the scene, Zuniga ordered the destruction of every house within musket’s range of the Castillo because he feared their enemies would use the houses for protection while attacking the fort. The confrontations lasted for about two months, but neither side could gain an advantage. Zuniga kept his troops inside the fort, and Moore didn’t have enough manpower to storm the fort. Zuniga believed it was too dangerous to confront the British on the ground and believed reinforcements would come to his people’s rescue. Moore also believed reinforcements would come from Jamaica to support his cause. By Christmas day of 1702, Spanish reinforcements arrived, forcing the British out of the Peninsula. Despite an ocean infested by pirates, the vessel La Gloria had made it to Havana, bringing help to the poor but courageous people of St. Augustine. Before the British took off, however, they burned down the rest of the houses of the town. That’s why the oldest houses of St. Augustine date after 1700 and not before. Park ranger Brehm says that although they don’t have complete U.S. Army records on the Seminole Wars period, it is known that all the rooms on the west side of the fort were used to imprison captive Seminoles. The Indians were held in the fortress while they waited to be deported to the Indian Territory west of the Mississippi. He said that all these rooms have exterior windows, but archaeologists and historians have not been able to identify the exact room from where Coacoochee made his famous escape. “We have two possible rooms,” said Brehm. “Both are 35 ft. deep from the front wall to the back wall; 12 to 15 ft. wide from right to left and 23 ft. high. The two rooms have one really high window about 9 inches wide and 3 ½ feet high.” In addition, Coacoochee had bars. Sastre believes Coacoochee was able to remove the bars of his cell window because Coquina is easy to work with. According to the Fort Marion report made on Nov. 30, 1837, the day after Coacoochee’s escape, “one of the iron bars, which formerly closed the aperture, was removed, and the Indians descended into the ditch by means of a line fastened to the remaining bar.” But Coacoochee was not the only important leader held at Fort Marion. Brehm says during the Second Seminole War, the U.S. Government held hundreds of Seminoles prisoners in Fort Marion while awaiting their removal. “Osceola, King Phillip, Uchee Billy and Micanopy were among the most note worthy prisoners,” said Brehm, adding that the imprisonment of Osceola ranks along with Coacoochee’s escape as the most important events that occurred within the boundaries of the fortress during the Seminole Wars. According to Patricia Wickman, the author of *Osceola’s Legacy*, the Indian leader Osceola was captured under a flag of truce south of the St. Augustine vicinity. Osceola was taken to Fort Marion, where he remained just after Coacoochee’s escape. Wickman, who is also Director of the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Anthropology & Genealogy Department, concluded that as a result of Coacoochee’s escape, Gen. Thomas Jesup, the com-

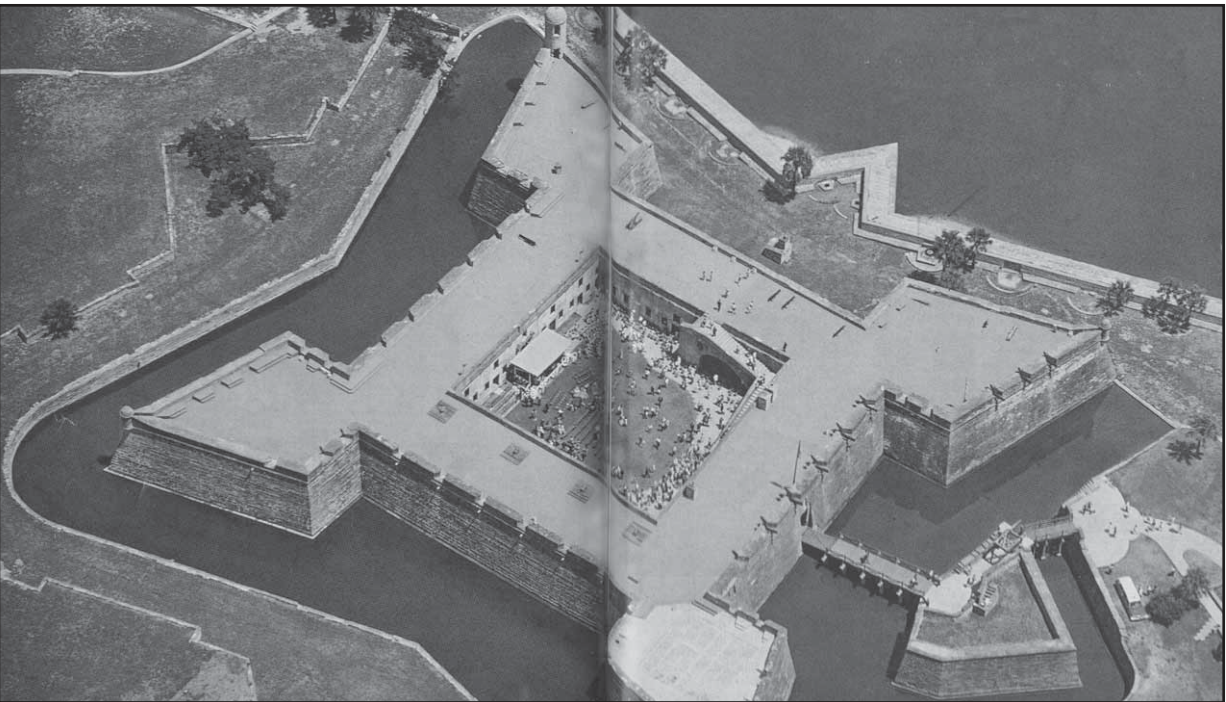
mander of Florida, “determined to transfer the prisoners to a position where they might be more securely held until transportation was available to Indian Territory in the West.” Osceola was then transferred to Fort Moultrie in South Carolina where he died on Jan. 30, 1838. King Phillip, Uchee Billy and their respective bands were also captured within the vicinity of St. Augustine — south of the modern city. On the first days of September 1937, both leaders were taken in irons to the dungeons of Fort Marion, where Uchee Billy died a few months after his capture. Uchee Billy or Billy Hicks, the son of the old Hicks, was the chief of a band of Uchee warriors residing in the Spring Garden area. In December 1837, *The Floridian*, a local publication that circulated during the period, reported that at the beginning of the Seminole Wars, Uchee Billy had gone into the Creek Nation and had brought back to Florida about 100 men of his Tribe. Upon his return to Florida, he had joined Chief King Phillip, making Volusia and the vicinity the scene of his hostilities. King Phillip, known to the Indians as Emathla, was the father of Coacoochee and the principal chief of the Indians east of the St. Johns River. Phillip was the brother in law of Micanopy, the head chief of the Seminoles, and ranked high in the Seminole councils. Brevet Captain, Eight Regiment U.S. Infantry John Sprague, a King Phillip contemporary, described him as a good-natured and sensible Indian. King Phillip was nearly 60 years old at the time he opposed the treaty to move west and was determined to die upon Florida soil. Surgeon Jacob R. Motte, an officer stationed in Florida during the Second Seminole War, wrote in his journal about both captures in great detail. According to his accounts, the Indian leaders were taken at their respective camps by troops led by Col. Hernandez. While King Phillip’s capture went easy and without casualties, Uchee Billy put up a fight, despite



Coacoochee escape helped the Seminoles to greatest victory.

the fact his camp was taken in the early hours of the day, pretty much by surprise. “It was a moment of breathless suspense,” wrote Motte, about the capture of Uchee Billie. Once the signal was given, “a hundred impatient men jumped simultaneously from their crouching posture in the grass; and with a shout charged forward at full speed. “The Indians, most of them covered with war-paint; some of them still naked or half clad with ‘hunting skirts,’ started yelling their war-whoop and firing their rifles. But, despite the resistance, the whole party of Indians was rounded and captured. Uchee Billy’s brother was among the captives.” They were all taken to the prison of Fort Marion, where Uchee Billy died on Nov. 25, 1837. Micanopy, according to Sprague, was the nephew of King Payne and the legitimate head chief of the Seminoles. Micanopy, who had ascended to chief by hereditary right in 1814, was always opposed to emigration, but inclined to peace. At the time of the Second Seminole War, he was about 50 and described by his contemporaries as fat and lazy. It has been said that the younger and more

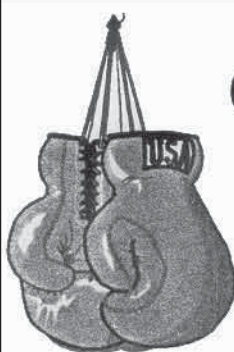
In the attempt, the handsome, slim and very creative leader induced his Tribesmen into a diet. According to Coacoochee’s own accounts, in order to reduce themselves as much as possible so that they can squeeze through the small window, they took medicine for five days. “Under the pretext of being very sick, we were permitted to obtain the roots we required. For some weeks we watched the moon, in order that the night of our attempt it should be as dark as possible. At the proper time we commenced the medicine, calculating upon the entire disappearance of the moon.” Historian Kenneth Porter, who in 1942 published an essay on the subject, went as far as researching on the astronomical conditions of the moon back in November 1837. The information he obtained from Professor Maude Makemson, head of the Department of Astronomy at Vassar College, confirmed Coacoochee’s accounts. There was a dark moon on Nov. 29, 1837. Coacoochee commented that on the night of the escape, the keeper of the prison annoyed them, “by frequently coming into the room, and talking and singing.” “At first we thought of tying him and putting his head in a bag; so that should he call for assistance, he could not be heard. “We first, however, tried the experiment of pretending to be asleep, and when he returned to pay no regard to him. This accomplished our objective. He came in and went immediately out; and we could hear him snore in the immediate vicinity of the door. “I then took the rope, which we had secreted under our bed, and mounting upon the shoulder of my comrade, raised myself. I used my knife and worked into the crevices of the stone, and succeeded in reaching the embrasure. Here I made fast the rope, that my friend [John Cavallo] might follow me. “I then passed through the hole a sufficient length of it to reach the ground upon the outside (about 50 feet) in the ditch. I had calculated the distance when going for roots.” Porter accredited Coacoochee with having a “vivid imagination” and a “keen sense of his own importance.” He wrote the escape from Fort Marion was a “brilliant display of courage, agility, and ingenuity,” and that it was of considerable importance to the subsequent history of the Seminole War. “It released the one man capable of assuming leadership over a significant number of the Seminoles and reviving the waning spirit of other chiefs, a man young, vigorous, intelligent, courageous, and with hereditary claims to chieftaincy; neither the aged Philip, the indolent Micanopy, the sickly Jumper, the double dealing Coi Hajo, the weary Osceola, could have maintained the struggle for more than three years longer with the ability and tenacity displayed by Coacoochee,” wrote Porter for the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Porter concluded it is unlikely that without the flight from Fort Marion, the Battle of Okeechobee would ever have been fought, inasmuch as two of the four principal commanders — Coacoochee and John Cavallo — were former prisoners. John Cavallo, also known as Gopher John, surrendered in April 1838. Coacoochee continued fighting until 1841. Steele says that Coacoochee followed him, but that after being transported to the Indian Territory, he led several hundreds of his people to Mexico. “Coacoochee became a colonel in the Mexican Army and the Seminoles who went with him ended up fighting the Comanches,” said Steele. “He returned to the Indian reservation to try to get more people to go to Mexico, but the reservation police did not allow him. They put about 300 men to watch him [Coacoochee] and make sure he would not influence anyone to go to Mexico,” said Steele. According to Porter, Coacoochee established a military colony in the Santa Rosa Mountains of Mexico. Upon Coacoochee’s death from smallpox in 1857 his people returned to the United States. However, there is a significant chance that descendants of the Seminole people may still reside there. Historian Cecile-Marie Sastre says Fort Marion was deactivated almost 50 years after Coacoochee’s death. “The fort was active up until the Spanish American War in 1898,” said Sastre. “But it was demilitarized in 1900.” Sastre said that during the Spanish American War the fort served again as a prison, but that as far as the records go, no other prisoner ever escaped from its cells. Fort Marion also served during the Civil War (1861 – 1865), being in Union hands for the majority of the conflict. After demilitarization, Fort Marion was made a national monument in 1924 and became part of the National Park system in 1933. The Park Ranger Joseph Brehm, says that the 25-acre park located in downtown St. Augustine attracts hundreds of people from all over the world. “We had 668,000 last year,” said Brehm, adding that in 1995, about 958,000 people visited the park. Brehm says that although the park holds different historical and informative programs for the visitors, no Seminole Historical program — except for a display — has been included in the schedule. “We are trying to address the Seminole period, but we don’t have that many people asking about Seminole history,” said Brehm. “I think it’s not that well known that this fort was used to help fight the Seminole Wars.” Sastre says that the Castillo currently lacks a historian and that not much research on Seminole history has been done throughout the years of the park. “We don’t have much information on the Seminole history because not much research on that period has been done,” he says. “St. Augustine was the depot for the army and the capital of the coastal city. There were always ships coming in and out and this is a historical place. For the benefit of history and Florida itself, the park should get a historian,” said Sastre. The Castillo de San Marcos National Monument is open to the public from 8:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. every day of the year except Christmas Day. To get to the park, from I-95 take the exit for St. Augustine Historic Sites and Downtown (Exit 95, Route 16). Follow Rt. 16 to U.S. 1. Turn right on U.S. 1 for two miles to Castillo drive. Turn left on Castillo to traffic light. Turn right at the light. The Castillo and parking are ahead on the left. For more information, call (904) 829-6506 (Ext. 227 or 234). Next: Fort Foster.



Aerial photograph shows the fort that was the last place in Florida that Osceola was to ever see.

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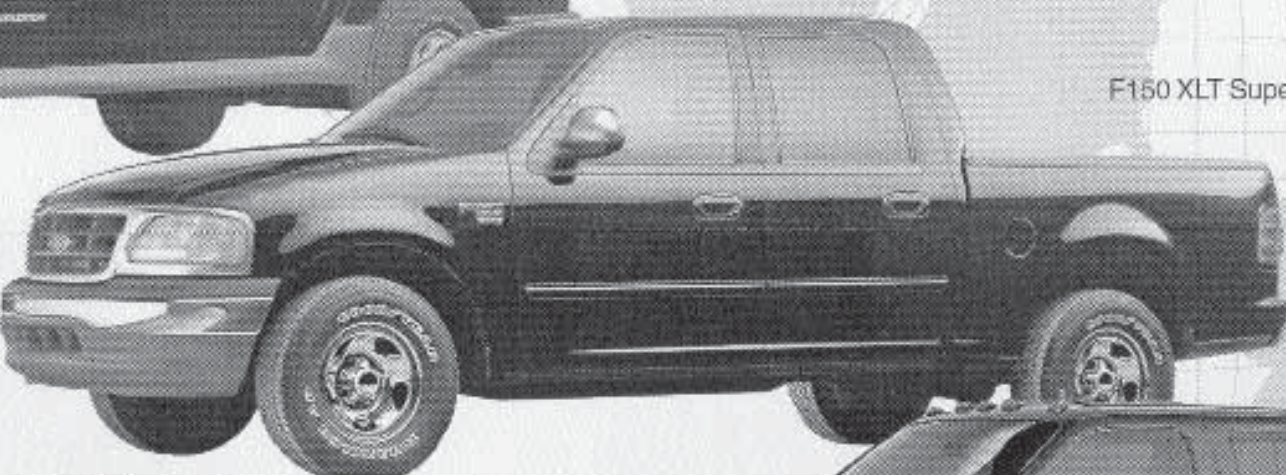
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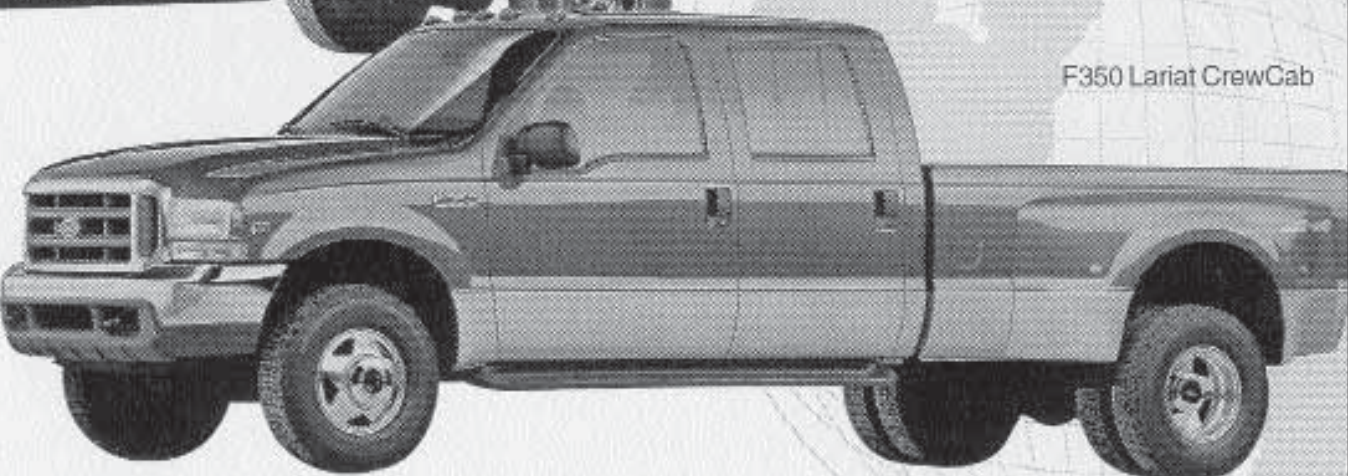
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Bobby Henry, Seminole Rain Dancer

By T.R. Benn
TAMPA — Local meteorologist, Roger Shulman from 107 FM seeking to help put an end to the unusual drought, and called up Seminole medicine man Bobby Henry to do a rain dance.

Shulman had witnessed medicine man, Bobby Henry's rain dance on Hillsborough's Court House steps in 1985 when within 15 minutes after his dance, a tremendous lightning and thunderstorm appeared out of no where.

Two years ago with North Eastern Central Florida aburn, Ms. Celine Tessor WGNE 98FM, Daytona called upon Bobby Henry for his services. Henry drove to Daytona and performed his traditional rain dance and rain came with – too much lightning! "You can't please everyone!" quoted Henry.

Armed with shakers and a long shirt, the medicine man went to work. Chanting and using his shakers he asked the Breath Giver for some relief from this unseasonable hot and dry weather.

"I asked for some rain for the wild animals in the woods. I asked for rain for the crops, for the cattle and grass. All things need water to live and



Bobby Henry makes it rain again.

grow all living things are as one. When it come to their need for water. Water is needed to sustain life. The cattle and wild life need water for the grass to grow so they can eat the grass and become food for man. The crops need water and rain so they can grow to feed man and animals to keep them healthy." Bobby Henry.

"My uncle taught me the rain dance. I stand by the chickee pole and shake the shakers, then use my long shirt to pull the rain towards me or where ever the rain is needed. I sit by the chickee pole and ask again, telling the Breath Giver why the rain is important. Then I shake the shakers again and use my long shirt to bring the rain and water closer."

The rain will come, it may be in four weeks, four days, or in four hours but it will come. Four days after Bobby danced his rain dance we received the first rain we'd had in months.

A Brighton resident told me that, "One time Bobby Henry did his rain dance, he brought in five hurricanes." I asked Bobby about that statement and Bobby laughed and said "Sometimes you have to be careful how and what you ask for."

Betty

Continued from page 1

half-white — she had a difficult time fitting in. She was too white to fit in the Indian community and too Indian to fit in the white communities.

Besides, at that time, half-breed children were considered bad luck for the Tribal people and half-breed babies were routinely put to death. Although Betty Mae escaped from the hands that threatened her, she writes that she grew up feeling rejected. She writes that many children would mistreat her and call her names.

But Betty decided to grow strong and determined to make a difference rather than stay bitter and resentful. She found the strength to fight and survive in Jesus' words.

"As I came to understand Christianity, I learned that love is much more powerful than hate and can displace it," writes Betty Mae. "The journey towards that understanding started on a hot day in the early summer of 1936."

A few years after the arrival of Minister Willie King from Oklahoma – he left the Hollywood Reservation to take God's words to the Cow Creek Indians at Okeechobee — a school bus carrying a few Christians arrived at the Hollywood Reservation.

They were there to invite some of the Seminole Indians to Oklahoma for two months of church meetings and learning. Betty Mae, her mother and uncle were among the group of Seminoles who chose to go. It was a trip that was to have a profound impact on the young woman who would one day head the Seminole Tribe.

Betty says that's when she began to learn of a young man named Jesus, who was persecuted but "turned the hatred that was hurled at him to a love for all humanity."

She returned from Oklahoma changed into a new person and from then she continued her life committed to spread Jesus' message of sacrifice and love.

"I offer to you, my reader, the lessons of peace and strength that have transformed my life. Open your hearts and minds to receive the light and the blessing."

In 1997, Betty Mae, who has also authored *Legends of the Seminoles*, won the first Lifetime Achievement Award ever presented by the Native American Journalists Association.

She was named Woman of the Year by the Jewish Women's Defense League, Pioneer Woman' by the City of Dania and has been awarded with the 1994 Florida Department of State Folklife Heritage Award.

She has also been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Florida State University and in 1995 was inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame.

"This is a fine book that captures the feeling of a time when the Native Americans were going through a tremendous amount of change," said Rev. Payne. "This book captures the struggles and the faith it took to convert to a new religion. It's a very inspiring book."

...And with the *Wagon Came God's Word* was first published in 1985. It was soon out of print. The newest version has been re-edited and republished with new drawings and photographs. Both of her books can be purchased at the Seminole Tribe's web page at www.seminoletribe.com.

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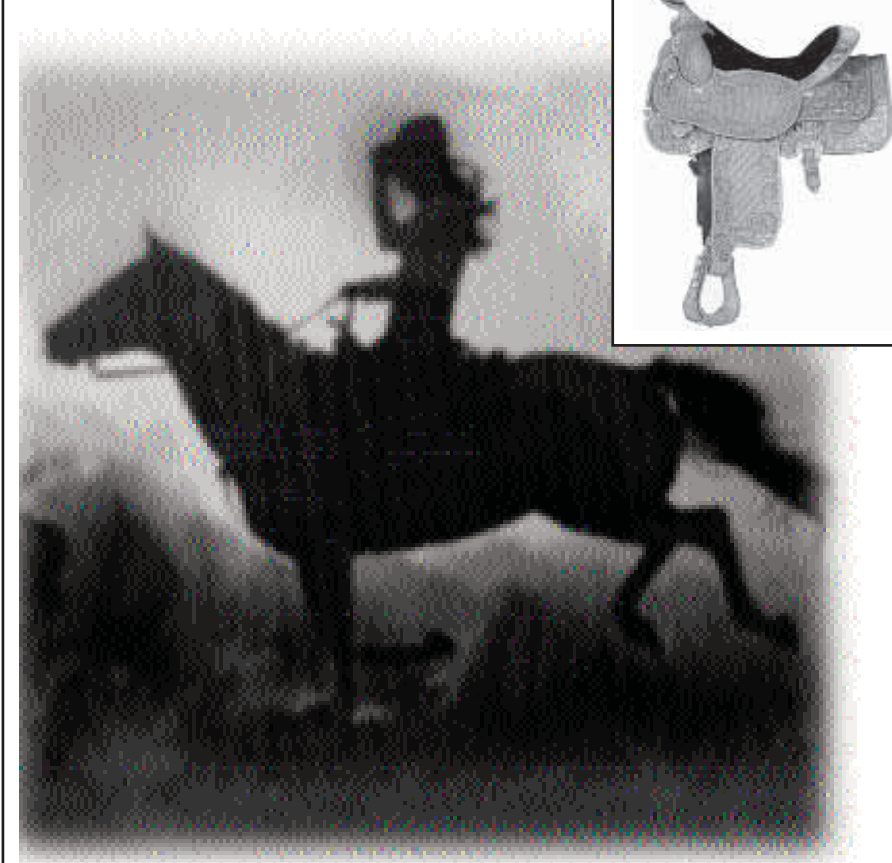
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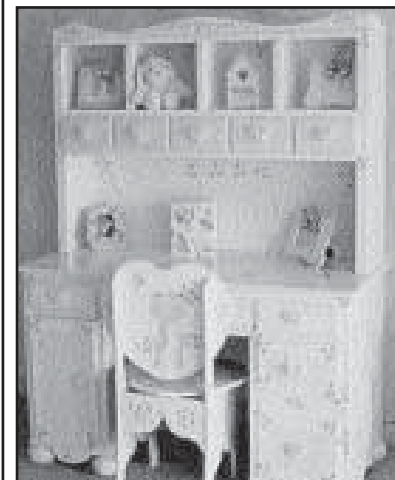
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START OF BAD BLOOD: Gator John asnwers innocent question on wrestling.



SNEAK ATTACK: New Age Spoiler pounds Gator John for insulting his profession.



NEW AGE WATER TORTURE: Spoiler tosses stunned Gator John into swamp.

New Age Spoiler Attacks Gator John

By Libby Blake
BIG CYPRESS — During filming of an alligator demonstration June 26 at Billie Swamp Safari, professional wrestler New Age Spoiler and his manager, Vicious Vinnie, took offense at a comment made by Gator John and attacked. Gator John, who was in the midst of a talk about the perils of alligator wrestling with a group of school children for a Seminole Broadcasting special, was taken by surprise by the Florida Championship Wrestler.

John was explaining, in response to a question from one of the children, the increased danger involved in wrestling alligators as opposed to the "minor" chance of injury in championship wrestling.

Vicious Vinnie and the New Age Spoiler, who were at the Safari finalizing contracts with Jack Gorton for the Big Cypress Snackdown July 15, overheard the comments and confronted Gator John.

A verbal battle ensued and ended with the Spoiler, abetted by Vinnie, physically thrashing Gator John and tossing his body into the swamp. While John was in the water, the legendary Skunk Ape, who had witnessed the struggle from the reeds, actually came forward and protected Gator from drowning. The Skunk Ape, which normally shuns human contact, brought the semi-conscious John to the Cracker Shack.

Raiford Starke, who was at the Shack seeking inspiration for a new mega-hit song, rushed to aid the injured John. Just as Gator John was coming around, the Spoiler and Vinnie came by in a canoe. The Skunk Ape and Starke had to hold a struggling John back as the wrestlers continued to hurl insults.

"If I lose my match against Gomez (wrestler Joe Gomez, who is coincidentally managed by Gator), Vinnie will wrestle an alligator," shouted the Spoiler as he and Vinnie paddled away.

Watch the Seminole Broadcasting channel for complete coverage of the confrontation and be at the Big Cypress Gym on July 15 for the Snackdown as Vicious Vinnie, the New Age Spoiler, Gator John, and Raiford Starke face off in a man vs. reptile match.


Also check out the new Raiford Starke hit single "The Legend of Gator John," available soon on Swamp Records.




TAG TEAM RESCUE: Skunk Ape and Raiford Starke carry Gator to safety.



RAIFORD'S RHAPSODY: Starke wonders if Skunk Ape would be good roommate.




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VS
NEW AGE SPOILER
Managed by Vicious Vinnie



Joe Gomez


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SPORTS

Keyah Osceola Named Athlete Of The Year



Tommy Benn

By T.R. Benn

BRIGHTON — Keyah the name and roundball is her game.

Keyah Osceola, 12, has been playing basketball since she could walk, with her dad Kevin Osceola as her mentor. Keyah proved that hard work, dedication and determination does pay off as the young Seminole girl was honored as Okeechobee's Yearling Middle School Athlete of the Year 2000.

When Keyah entered Yearling Middle School last year, she was the first sixth grade student to start for the Yearlings. She worked harder than ever, sharpening and honing her skills on the basketball court.

This year for the first time in Yearling history, the prestigious Athlete of the Year trophy. She was also named to the All Conference Team. Not being satisfied with just outstanding basketball merits, Keyah picked up another trophy for her efforts on the volleyball courts. In that sport, she picked up the school's Yearling Award.

Keyah's goal is to someday play in the Women's Professional Basketball League.

"I want to thank my Dad for all he had done for me, for always being there and to the Lord for the guidance throughout my life," Keyah said.

Keyah's science teacher, Mrs. Palmero, nominated the young Seminole from the student body of the Yearling Middle School to participate in the United States Achievement Academy National Awards Program. Keyah was selected by the academy as an All-American Scholar At Large, placing the young woman among the top academically talented students in America.

The academy honors students for their hard work and commitment to academic excellence. Keyah is now eligible to compete for scholarship grants that only All American scholar students can qualify for.

Keyah Osceola was named her school's Athlete of the Year.

Pool Tourney Honors Edna Cypress

By Libby Blake

IMMOKALEE — The 4th Annual Edna Mae Cypress Pool Tournament was held June 17 at Andy's Place in Immokalee. Edna's brothers, Mitchell and David Cypress, and Delores Jumper, Immokalee Board Rep., co-sponsored the event.

Double elimination 8-ball contests were held in both men's and women's divisions. The open tournament drew seven women and 17 men to compete for \$2,000 in prize monies. The top three finishers in each division also received trophies.

Winners were as follows:
Women: 1st place – Libby Blake, 2nd place – Maria Billie, 3rd place – Esther Buster, 4th place – Dale Grasshopper, 5th place – Gina Pina.
Men: 1st place – George Grasshopper, 2nd place – Abel Salgado, 3rd place – Ralph Sanchez, 4th place – Manuel Garza, 5th place – Mario Posada.



Libby Blake

WHAT'S UP: Delores Jumper asks, "I got my trophy, where's my cash?"



E. Tiger

(L-R) David DeHass, Jarred Smith, Klye Jumper Clinton Holt, Garrett Anderson, Roy Stewart and Nick Jumper were part of crew that went to the Davie rodeo to perform.

Hollywood Cowboy Jarred Smith Wins Rodeo Event

By E. Tiger

DAVIE — Jarred Smith took first place in the Junior Bull Riding June 23, at the Bergeron Rodeo Grounds in Davie.

Jarred, who is part of the Seminole Tribe's Junior Bull Riding Program on the Hollywood Reservation, participated in the Rodeo, the first the group has participated in outside of the Seminole Arena. The rodeo gave the Seminole Tribe's cowboys and cowgirls the chance to rope in some winning money and possibly take place in a division.

David DeHass, Horse Manager of the Summer Bull Riding Program, brought seven of his youth to compete for \$100, which had been donated by Troy Weekly, owner of stock contractor Five Star.

"It's the first time Seminole youth have participated in a rodeo outside of the Seminole Arena, but we're ready and hopefully well give the crowd a good show," said DeHass.

The Summer Bull Riding Program started in 1994 under the guidance of Carl Baxley and Moses Jumper.

"There were just a few youths participating in the summer youth program when I first started in 1994 working," said DeHass. "Now the program rounds up 25 to 30 youths weekly."

"The rodeo gave the youth and staff officials a great show and the opportunity to see youths their age participating in a sport that was not known to them," said Hollywood resident Winifred Tiger, who came to the show that morning to watch Seminole youth compete. "This gives them something they can relate to that is positive."

The following are the results:
Bull Riding: 1st Jarred Smith, 2nd Garrett Anderson, 3rd Clinton Holt, 4th Roy Stewart, 5th Nick Jumper, 6th Kiel Jumper. Barrel Racing: Shadole Billie, 18 Seconds.

EIRA Rodeo Results

The following are the results of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association Big Cypress Rodeo held June 10.

Bare Back Riding- Alex Johns, 64, 10 points. Steer Wrestling- Robbie Chalfant, 9.8, 10 points. Josh Jumper, 11.8, 9 points. Marty Johns, 27.2, 8 points. Calf Roping- Naha Jumper, 12.4, 10 points. Josh Jumper, 14.0, 9 points. Saddle Bronc Riding- No qualified times.

Team Roping- Sidney Gore and Billie Tiger, 9.6, 10 points. Marty Johns and Shaun John, 13.9, 9 points. Billy Joe Johns and Robbie Chalfant, 15.3, 8 points. Cicero Osceola and Rudy Osceola, 16.3, 7 points. Women's Barrel Racing- Tess Ducheneaux, 17.40, 10 points. Bonita Osceola, 18.20, 9 points. Holly "Scooter" Johns, 18.40, 8 points. Women's Break Away- Billie Tiger, 5.1, 10 points. Bull Riding- Justin Gopher, 70, 10 points. All Around- Billie Tiger, 20 points.

Muttin Bustin- Jonathan Robbins, 10.7. Jamie Gonzalez, 6.6. Nauthkee Henry, 4.8. Calf Riding- Ethan Gopher, 61. Randel Osceola, 2.86. Roy Stewart, 2.59. Beginners Barrels- Nauthkee Henry, 19.505. Sheyanna Osceola, 19.770. Morningstar Webster, 20.330.

50 and Over Break Away- Moses Jumper, Jr., 5.8 seconds. Novice Barrels- Reba Osceola, 18.57. Leanna Billie, 21.59. Junior Bull Riding- Clinton Holt, 71. Wilson Bowers, 63. Jarred Smith, 61. Total Points Per Event:

Saddle Bronc Riding: Jay Louis 30; Shawn Best 19; Robert Simpson 19; Robert Youngblood 17; Sidney Gore 9; Travis

Nanaeto 8. Women's Barrel Racing- Holly Johns 50; Jo Leigh Johns 41.5; Tess Ducheneaux 40; Emma Johns 38.5; Ayze Henry 17; Trina Bowers 10; Clarissa Bowers 10; Bonita Osceola 9; Lissa Osceola 8; Brenda Youngblood 7.

Bare Back Riding- Alex Johns 49; Shawn Best 20; Adam Turtle 17; Hank Winnier 9; Robert Simpson 9; Michael Henry 8. Steer Wrestling- Sidney Gore 35; Naha Jumper 33; Josh Jumper 33; Marty Johns 25; Robbie Chalfant 20; Howard Edmundson 19; Jason Grasshopper 18; Brandon Wright 17; Corbin Warren 9; Jeff Johns 8.

Women's Break Away Roping- Billie Tiger 60; Jo Leigh Johns 18; Bull Riding- Justin Gopher 20; Shawn Best 19; Hank Winnier 10; Austin Billie 9; Adam Turtle 7.5; Travis Nanaeto 7.5. Team Roping Headers- Marty Johns 37; Cicero Osceola 31; Howard Edmundson 28; Moses Jumper 26; Josh Jumper 19; Sidney Gore 19; Billy Jo Johns 15; Justin Gopher 8; Alfonso Tigertail 8; Jeff Johns 8; Parker Jones 7; Hank Winnier 7.

Team Roping Healers- Shaun Johns 37; Naha Jumper 34; Brandon Wright 28; Rudy Osceola 23; Billie Tiger 19; Jason Grasshopper 18; Sampson Gopher 16; Robbie Chalfant 15; Happy Jumper 10; Corbin Warren 8; Jay Louis 8; todd Johns 8; Norman Johns 8; robert Simpson 7.

Men's Calf Roping- Naha Jumper 39.5; Marty Johns 35; Corbin Warren 30; Josh Jumper 27; Howard Edmundson 26; Brandon Wright 9; Happy Jumper 16.5; Billy Joe Johns 8.

Junior Rodeo Series Standings

Muttin Bustin- Colby Strickland, 19.37, 10 points. Nauthkee Henry, 10.3, 9 points. Jamie Gonzalez, 6.65, 8 points. Kevin Hipp, 2.56, 7 points. Kelton Smedley, 13 seconds, 6 points. Dummy Calf Roping- Kevin Hipp, 3 catches, 10 points.

Calf Riding- Randel Osceola, 4.46, 10 points. Ethan Gopher, 3.94, 9 points. Dayne Johns, 3.19, 8 points. William Corona, 3.03, 7 points. Roy Stewart, 2.06, 6 points. Chebon Gooden, 10.6, 5 points. Junior Steer Undecorating- Reba Osceola, 3.90, 10 points.

Senior Steer Undecorating- Cody Gornto, 1.65, 10 points. Benny Hernandez, 2.60, 9 points. Ayze Henry, 9.59, 8 points. Wild Pony Riding- Buckshot Morrison, 61, 10 points. William Corona, 59, 9 points. Reed Hair, 3.90, 8 points. Roy Stewart, 3.71, 7 points. Jonathan Torres, 3.41, 6 points. Frank Garcia, 2.38, 5 points. Jerome Davis, 2.34, 4 points.

Junior Break Away- Dayne Johns, 21.49, 10 points. Jonathan Torres, 45.15, 9 points. Senior Break Away- Cody Gornto, 1.95, 10 points. Ben Mayworth, 2.22, 9 points. Cody Ariola, 6.27, 8 points. Trina Bowers, 7.97, 7 points. Team Roping- Joshua Torres and Clint P, 10.31, 10 points. Ben Mayworth and Jimmy Kidwell, 12.40, 9 points. Benny Hernandez and Cody A, 31.72, 8 points.

Junior Goat Tying- Jonathan Torres, 20.66, 10 points. Dayne Johns, 32.06, 9 points. Randel Osceola, 33.60, 8 points. Reba Osceola, 34.50, 7 points. Shelby DeHass, 43.32, 6 points. Senior Goat Tying- Ben Mayworth, 12.57, 10 points. Stephanie Sullivan, 13.53, 9 points. Frank Garcia, 17.47, 8 points. Carolyn Gonzalez, 17.54, 7 points. Jimmy Kidwell, 17.78, 6 points.

Joshua Torres, 19.47, 5 points. Shelby Osceola, 20.23, 4 points. Cody Gornto, 29.14, 3 points. Trina Bowers, 30.82, 2 points. Ayze Henry, 34.06, 1 points.

Pee Wee Barrels- Nauthkee Henry, 30.187, 10 points. Junior Barrels- Sheyanna Osceola, 21.045, 10 points. Morning Star Webster, 21.098, 9 points. Her sister, 21.241, 8 points. Shelby Dehass, 25.229, 7 points. Dayne Johns, 26.635, 6 points. Shorty Ulrici, 39.182, 5 points. Reba Osceola, 24.039, 4 points. Jonathan Torres, 33.382, 3 points.

Senior Barrels- Jennifer Deaveugh, 18.471, 10 points. Trina Bowers, 18.582, 9 points. Ayze Henry, 18.589, 8 points. Kari Kroepelin, 18.802, 7 points. Ashley Hair, 18.972, 6 points. Jessica Alvarez, 19.737, 5 points. Shelby Osceola, 19.756, 4 points. April Billie, 20.873, 3 points. Joshua Torres, 22.347, 2 points. Victoria Hernandez, 23.123, 1 point.

Junior Bull Riding- Coddy Wilson, 69, 10 points. Jerome Davis, 60, 9 points. Joshua Gray, 3.38, 8 points. Zachary Billie, 3.15, 7 points. Buckshot Morrison, 2.58, 6 points.

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Brighton Athletes Honored

By Michael James

OKEECHOBEE — A group of approximately 250 athletes, families and friends gathered at the Okeechobee KOA Banquet Room to honor Brighton athletes on June 22.

Master of ceremonies Kevin Osceola gave the invocation and introduced keynote speaker Billy Mills, a Lakota Sioux who earned a gold medal in the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo.

Mills created one of the greatest upsets in Olympic history,



(Back to front) Russell Osceola, Johnny Mack Kinsaul, Eddie Shore and Cecil Johns gather together to recall their sporting careers.

winning the 10,000-meter run with a stunning come-from-behind-finish that made him a national treasure. Mills, became the first and only America to win gold in the men's 10,000-meter run.

An unknown heading into the 10,000 meters in Tokyo in 1964, Mills beat past Mohammed Gammoudi and world record holder Ron Clarke on the final lap to win the gold medal. Mills' winning time of



(Back to front) Kerwin Miller, Steele Gopher, Amber Craig, Keyha Osceola, Lysandra Osceola, Garrett Madrigal, Jordan Jones, Mary Huff, D'Anna Osceola, Danette Bowers, Ethan Gopher, Jacob Robinson, Jacoby Johns, Marshall Tommie, Austin Fisher, Tommie Jackson, Joshua Johns, Melanie Jones, Justin Aldridge, Hilliard Gopher.

28:24.4 was approximately 46 seconds faster than his previous personal best, and set an Olympic record.

Mills said his win has become known as the greatest upset in

track history and the 4th greatest race of all time. Mills said at the time he was ranked 8th in the world but wasn't ranked at all in America.

Mills said during school and college, he was mostly referred to as 'that Indian guy.' He struggled with his identity and what it meant to be a young Indian athlete. He related to the Seminole youth the values that participation in sports imparts and how those values transcend racial and other barriers.

Mills delivered a powerful message to the youth about having faith in one's self, aspiring to learning and higher education, never quitting, helping others, and being ever mindful of the 'warrior' nature inherent in all native people. Mills' accomplishment include the American Hero Award, Sports Illustrated Athlete of the Century (State of South Dakota), Induction into National Running Hall of Fame and the 1984 motion picture about his life, *Running Brave*.

Mills has also raised millions of dollars which have been directed across the globe for improving the quality of life of the less fortunate.

After his speech, John Wayne Huff announced a new honor, the Seminole Sports Legends, where well known Seminole athletes from the past would receive plaques for their outstanding contribution to sports.

This year the honors went to Russell Osceola, Cecil Johns, and Eddie Shore, all outstanding athletes in their high school days during the latter 50s and early 60s. During the special dedication, Johnny Mack Kinsaul, who coached these men in their youth, shared some stories with the audience about those days.

"Cecil Johns told me that he started out as a water boy," said Kinsaul. "One day the team ran short on players and they drafted him on the spot thus beginning an illustrious high school sports career."

Johns played for coach Jim Young who said Johns, "had the smoothest gait of any athlete he had ever seen. When he ran it was natural."

Kinsaul said Johns was injured during the 53-54 season, but not before the team had won the first five matches of the year. Johns was a class officer and president of the 'O' club during the 1953-54 school year and was voted All Conference (Tamiامي). In addition, Johns was voted most athletic 54-55. Kinsaul said Johns set high standards for everyone to follow, academically as well as athletic.

Kinsaul described Eddie Shore as a quiet, steady, and dependable athlete who led by example. "He is the kind of guy you wouldn't mind sharing a foxhole with," said Kinsaul. Shore played football and basketball for Okeechobee from 1957-1960. He was chosen most athletic during the 1959-60 school year. Kinsaul added Shore was also very popular in school.

Russell Osceola played football, baseball, basketball, and track for Okeechobee in the early 60s. He was voted All Conference for football.

"He was a real standout and the other teams would try and gear their defense just for Russell," said Kinsaul. "He was an all around athlete." Osceola also pitched one of, if not the first no-hitter baseball games in Okeechobee history.

Other recipients of awards include:

T-Ball: Joseph John, Stoney Fish, Jaryaca Baker, Marshall Tommie, Tommie Jackson, Paul Billie, Destiny Billie, Stevie Brantley, Randy Shore, Joshua Johns, Erena Billie, Maude Gopher, Janet Smith, Sheila Jones, Minnie Osceola, Wade Micco, Austin Fisher.



Athlete Billy Mills shown in his shocking victory in the 1964 Olympics.

Coaches: Elton Bert, Team Manager, Jeff Tommie, Matthew Gopher, Pernell Shore, **Dan Mum:** Linda Tommie.

Football: Marcus Robinson, Jacob Robinson, Steel Gopher, Joshua Girtman, Clint Girtman, Seth Randolph, Travores Moss, Pete Hahn, Andrew Bowers.

Bowling: James Girtman, Avalon Jumper, Kerwin Miller, Joshua Girtman, Mary Huff, Adam Osceola, Alyssa Willie, Hilliard Gopher, Erin White, Shaun Billie, Troy Billie, Wesley Bishop, Marcus Robinson, Eric Robinson, Ashton Baxley, Destiny Nunez, Alicia Nunez, Terence Billie, Kristina Osceola, Melanie Jones, Sheila Jones, Minnie Osceola, William Bearden, Brandon Billie, Erena Billie, Patty Snow.

YABA Coordinators: Hosea Girtman, Denise Girtman.

Softball: D'Anna Osceola, Mary Huff, Josie Snow, Nikki Osceola.

Wrestling: Jacob Robinson, Pete Hahn. **Coach:** Jeff Robinson.

Volleyball: Holly Johns, Danette Bowers, Keyah Osceola, D'Anna Osceola. **Soccer:** Stephanie Johns, Danette Bowers. **Track & Field:** Stephanie Johns, Garrett Madrigal, Jordan Jones, Jacoby Johns, Erin Willie, Hilliard Gopher.

Basketball: Shyla Jones, Lysandra Osceola, Megan Steel, Brittany Smith, Audrey Snow, Keyah Osceola, Melanye Jones, Justin Aldridge, Jacob Robinson, Zina Simmons, Travores Moss, Andrew Bowers, Johnny Jones, Brian Arledge. **Basketball Coaches:** Kevin Osceola, Emma Jane Urbina.

Golf: Kyle Doney. **Motor Cross:** Christian Buck, Farrah Lytle.

Rodeo: Reba Osceola, Dayne Johns, Randel Osceola, Seth Randolph, Jacoby Johns, Mary Huff, Jade Braswell, Justin Aldridge, Ethan Gopher, Nathan Gopher, Taylor Johns, Merilee Johns, McKenzie Johns, Kari Kroepflin, Holly Johns, Trina Bowers, Jared Smith.

Tae Kwon Do: Amber Craig, Pierson Hunsinger. **Baseball:** Melanie Jones, Justin Aldridge, Clint Girtman, Jacoby Johns, Seth Randolph, Cordy Jumper, Cordell Jumper, Jordan Jones, Hilliard Gopher, Steel Gopher, James Girtman, Pete Hahn, Andrew Bowers. **Baseball Coach:** Johnny Jones.

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Youth Conference Aims At Communication

By T. R. Benn
TAMPA — The annual youth conference, hosted by Glenn and Bonita Osceola for the Big Cypress/Immokalee Reservations, took place June 12 - 15 at the Sheridan Four-Points Tampa.

“We had a few problems at first, but nothing we couldn’t work out,” said Bonita Osceola. “The keynote speakers and program presenters did an outstanding job keeping everyone’s interest on the various topics discussed.”

This year’s general topic was “Effective Communication Skills,” and the show presented ways to keep in touch with your children and have them stay in tune with you. It also gave ways to look for tell tale signs of problems that may be troubling your child and ways to react them.

The presenters stressed that communication does not have to be verbal. Reactions sometimes speak louder than words, and being able to read your child can make all the difference to their well being both physically and mentally.

One of the greatest feelings to a child is knowing they can come to you with any problem they may incur. It lets children know you are there for them, and your children are loved.

Peer pressure bullying and harassment are all forms of nega-



Bonita Osceola was host of youth conference.

tive acts that may cause insecurity in your child. They can appear in various forms such as physical emotion or verbal. Any and all of these factors can cause a child to go into a shell. Grades may decline, or it may lead a child to rebel against school entirely. Most generally these acts occur away from responsible adults and the troublemakers go unpunished. Watch for signs within your own children and do something positive about them for the child’s welfare.

Good nutrition, adequate rest and proper exercise all factor in the equation of a well-rounded and adjusted child. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Make the time to send your child off with something in their stomach.

Get your child involved in some type of organized sport such as baseball, soccer, basketball or horse back riding. Activities are positive and constructive.

Culture was another topic presented at the conference. It was stressed that knowing your roots and history helps children feel at ease in the world.

The conference also highlighted various careers. One of the best received was David Billy, who is on the Collier County Sheriff’s Department SWAT Team. He had all the youngster wanting to don bulletproof vests.



Youngsters will learn many lessons about running a cattle operation.

Youth Start Cattle Program

By T.R. Benn
BRIGHTON — Brighton’s Youth Cattle Producers is a new program established for young adults — still in school — to promote agriculture in a hands-on daily work related environment. The participants would benefit knowing the day to day routine and the knowledge and understanding of what it takes to run a small cattle operation. The course also explains what chores have be done and in what time for a successful cattle venture.

The program will be under the Natural Resource Program and be supervised by Don Robertson and Brighton Representative Alex Johns. A budget has been set up that includes land participation, including planting grass, fertilizing, and mowing. It also covers fencing, cul-

verts and gates, mineral boxes, and holding pens on the 200 acres allotted to the program.

“We hope the youth who participate will learn several lessons,” stated Johns. “Getting the land prepared for the project and maintaining it. The experience of how a cow calf operation is run. And they’ll learn the Tribal permitting process. These factors will help them with their own business activities in the future.”

If the program is successful, it will be put in place on the other reservations.

“This will be a Pilot Program for the Seminole Tribe as we hope to start similar programs on the other reservations in the near future,” said Don Robertson.

Council

Continued from page 1

to be fully paid up before receiving a new loan.

Dividends were also increased to \$2,000 a month. The dividend increase “is due to the cuts in budgets and expenditures,” said Director of Operations and Compliance, Tim Cox. The increase is to take place in October.

Other changes include:

- *The designation of the Councilmen as Reservation Managers, a salaried position, for the Brighton, Big Cypress, Hollywood, and Immokalee reservations.
- *Pre-school programs will now be under the control of each reservation.
- *Council meetings will be held every month, in the future twice a month, and will be held, on a rotating basis, on the Brighton, Big Cypress, and Hollywood reservations.

President Mitchell Cypress questioned Tribal Counsel Jim Shore about the proposed Dreamcatcher Resort, which came before the Council on Feb. 27, 1998. At that time, businessman John G.

Warrior was directed to work with Shore and Brighton Councilman Jack Smith Jr. Cypress spoke of numerous questions from Tribal members inquiring about the resort and seeing a “newspaper article that said they were going to break ground in 30 days.” Cypress said Dreamcatcher representatives seemed to be “working with a group out in Brighton” as well as the Glades County Commission.

Shore replied that Council had approved nothing, and that although the Dreamcatcher group had been told to work with the Tribe’s legal department, there has been no contact in the past two years.

Councilman Jack Smith Jr. stated the Dreamcatcher representatives had not been in contact with him or the committee, made up of Brighton community members, to review the proposal. Smith also said the Dreamcatcher group reportedly had a meeting with Okeechobee County officials.

Later in the meeting, when deciding which reservation would be the first to host the Tribal Council meeting, Chairman Billie remarked, “We’ll go to Brighton first, I heard there’s a

Dreamcatcher over there!”

The Council also:

- *Approved the installation of Class II gaming machines at Billie Swamp Safari. Under the current situation, the machines may need to be accompanied by bingo. Therefore, the actual installation will not begin until approval is received from the gaming commission.
- *Authorized negotiations to finalize a contract with RacePark, USA. A proposed NASCAR-themed amusement park and restaurant on 14 acres in Charlotte, N.C., the Tribe would have 40 percent ownership and hold title to the property, which is 22 miles from the Charlotte Motor Speedway.
- *Terminated an agreement to invest \$1 million in the Native American Bank.
- *Welcomed Grace Bunner, Mekko of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town in central Oklahoma and Christie Fixico, her Executive-Secretary. Bunner defines Mekko as “King” in the Creek language. Thlopthlocco is one of four tribal towns, two are near Wetumka, in the Creek Nation which is headquartered in Okmulgee, OK.

4Hers Calling All Steers

By T.R. Benn
Its time to start looking for your 4-H project steer for the 2001 Seminole 4-H Steer Show and Sale. 4-H director Polly Hayes is urging all members to be

looking for a quality steer that will weigh between 600 and 700 pounds at weigh in.

Contact your local Seminole cattlemen and ask if they have in their herd a steer that might work as a project animal. Do not go into any pasture without the cattle owners’ permission. Owners must accompany you to the pastures.

Contact Don Robertson, Natural Resource Director, or Board Representatives for steers in the Board Cattle Project whether on the Miccosukee Land Lease, managed by Gary Raulerson or the Parker Island Project supervised by Jerry Skates.

As in the past steers must come from an independent Seminole Cattle operator, or from the Board’s Cattle Programs to be eligible for the 4-H program.



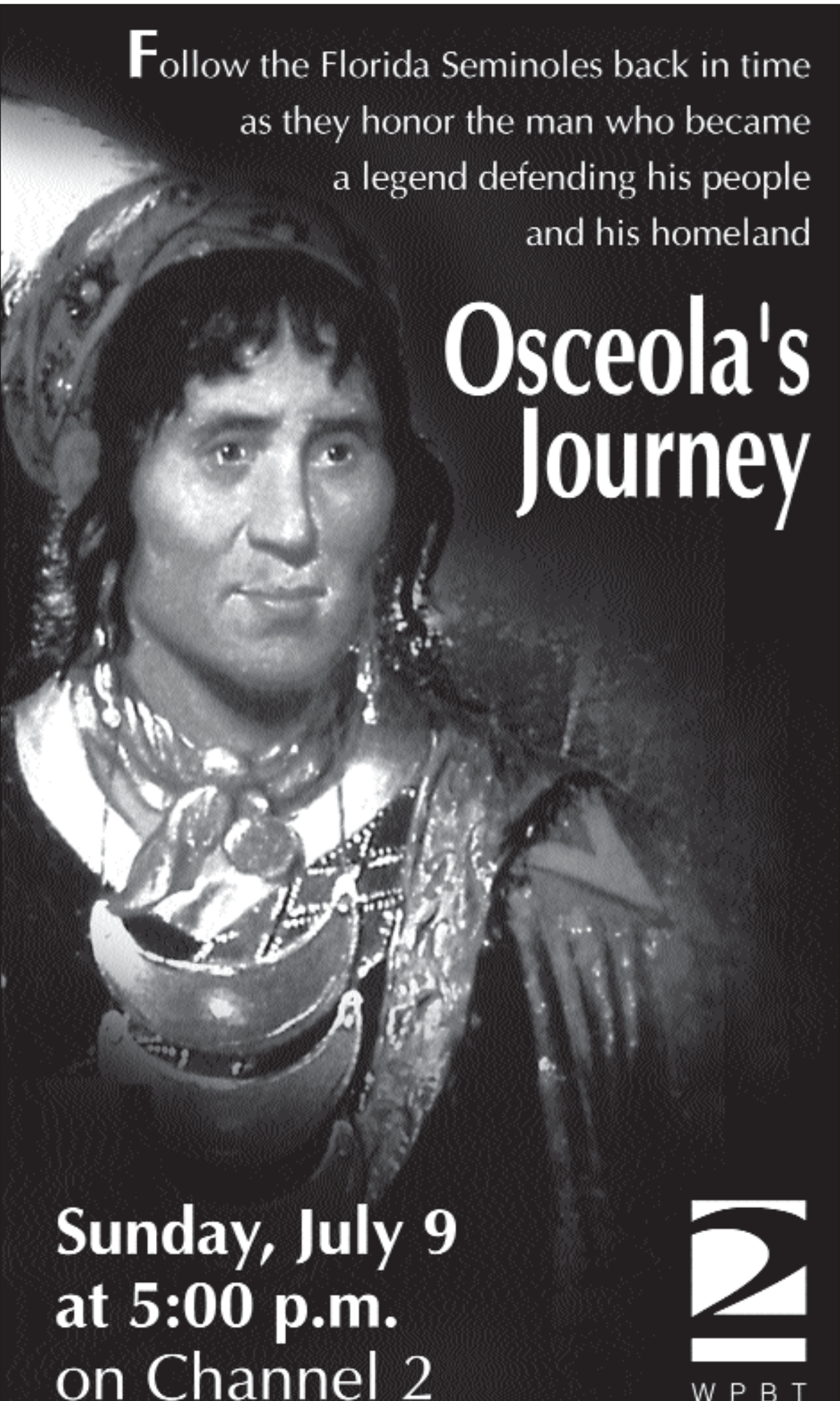
Youngsters will select steers like this.

Follow the Florida Seminoles back in time as they honor the man who became a legend defending his people and his homeland

Osceola's Journey

Sunday, July 9 at 5:00 p.m. on Channel 2

WPBT



Someone You Know May be serving an Illegal Sentence

1. Were they sentenced for a crime committed between 1995 and 1997?
2. Would they like a chance to be re-sentenced or released early?
3. Will friends or family help them hire a private lawyer to fight for them?

If so, recent developments in the law may permit them to to be re-sentenced for time served. this means a lawyer may not be able to:

- *Get them out;
- * Shorten their sentence; or
- * modify their sentence.

Call us for a free consultation! To help we will need:

- * The data of the offense for which they were sentenced;
- * Their date of birth;
- *The correct spelling of their name;
- * Where they were sentenced; and
- * A copy of the disposition for the case under which they are serving their sentence

Guy Seligman, P.A.
320 S.E. 9th Street
Fort Lauderdale, Fl. 33316

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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Guy J. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the State Attorney and Public Defenders offices in Broward County; he has been in private practice for twelve years. He graduated from Nova Southeastern University Law School in 1987. and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1988. He is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys. Adam Neidenberg is a former Assistant State Attorney for over two years. He graduated from Hofstra University School of Law in 1966 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1997. Together, both attorneys have defended thousands of criminal cases and concentrate on criminal defense representations.



*Her frybread is famous on the reservation.
Just don't tell anybody the recipe is really her grandfather's.*

People like Doris Parker who are neighbors and friends will be coming around to ask for a small amount of your time. The investment of time to participate in Census 2000 means that the voice of our American Indian communities, our ancestors and generations of Indian people to come will be heard. If we do not participate, we may not receive the services and programs we need. In the circle of life, we speak not only for ourselves, but for all our Indian people.

United States
**Census
2000**

Generations are counting on this. Don't leave it blank.

Classified • Announcements

Happy Birthday



We would like to wish a **Happy Birthday** to **Mary E. Huff**, who will be 10 years old on July 1. Also we would like to congratulate her on making the **honor roll** throughout the school year and **passing to the 5th grade; Placing** at the Seminole Elementary and Countywide in Okeechobee at the **4-H Tropicana Public Speaking Contest; Making it to the All-star team** in the Girls Fastpitch softball on the Dixie Angels league and winning at District and going to State Competition on June 30, 2000. “Happy Birthday and Good Luck at State.” Love, **Mom, Dad, Jimi, Grandma** and the rest of the family.



We would like to wish a **Happy Birthday** to **Jimi Lu Huff** on July 23, who is also the 1999-2000 **Seminole Rodeo Queen**. Love, **Mom, Dad, Mary, Grandma** and the rest of the family.



Happy 1st B-Day Brady Osceola Hatchford, May 27. Love, **Mommy, Dad & Family**.



Happy Birthday to my “Baby Doll,” **Chelsey Nicole Ford**, who turned two on July 3. Everyday, I thank God He gave you to me to take care of. Everyday you grow more and more into a beautiful little girl and you fill my life with so much joy and happiness. I remember the day you came into this world. You were so small and I cried with so much happiness, because I finally had my own “Baby Doll.” I get to have the joy of seeing all your first everything.

I was there to see you take your first steps, I cried when you broke your little arm and you had to have a cast on for three weeks. I was there every night when you couldn’t sleep and I would sing you to sleep. I was there for you when you were sick and all you wanted was for Mommy to hold you. I was there when you started to ride Ashley and you won two ribbons.

I love it when you call me Mom, and you start talking and talking and I have no clue as to what you are saying. I love it when you give me your sweet little kisses and hugs everyday and you say “My Mommy.” No matter how much time God lets me take care of you, I will always be there for you and Mommy will always love her sweet, little “Baby Doll.”

Happy Birthday to **Vernon Baker** on July 22, from **Janel & Isiah**.

Happy Birthday to my **Daddy (Vernon)**. From your loving son **Blake Baker**.

Happy Birthday to **Preston Baker** on July 18. From **Vernon, Blake, Kasey**.



Tribal members and friends gathered at the Seminole Fair Grounds to celebrate the **Sweet Sixteenth Birthday of Mercedes Osceola**. Mercedes celebrated to the fullest with a 30-foot tall Rock Climbing Wall, dance floor with a DJ, and a 30-foot blow up slide, which attracted children and young adults who competed to get chances to try the slide.

Also participants dined on a catered dinner and cotton candy. **Joe Dan Osceola, Mercedes’** farther, also took time during the night to call out to his daughter for an individual dance.

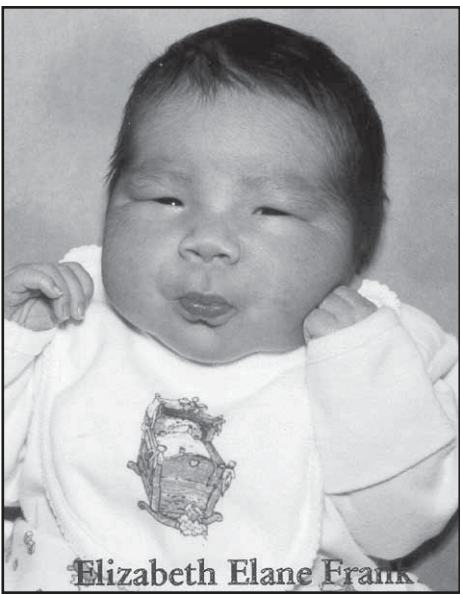
In addition, parents **Joe Dan and Virginia Osceola** wanted to wish their daughter **Mercedes a Happy 16th Birthday** and thank the Hollywood Board Representatives for also participating in **Mercedes’** birthday.

We would like to wish our brother **Andy Cypress** a very **Happy 37th Birthday**. We wish that you look at this day to re-evaluate the importance of your life, of who you are as a son, brother, uncle, grandfather and as a grandson, also the many lives you’ve touched in your lifetime. We all love you always and God Bless You.

Your Family (The Big Towns).

We would also like to wish a belated **Happy Birthday** to **John Huff, Jr.** on June 25. Love, **Mom, Dad, Jimi, Mary, Ty and Frank**.

New Kids



We would like to welcome our newest arrival, **Elizabeth Elane Frank**. Proud parents are **Robert and Terri Frank**. Brothers are **Bobby, Jonathan, Justin and Brent**. Proud grandparents are **Sally Gipson and Edna Frank** and great grandparents are **Willie Frank and Virginia Noble**. We would like to thank **Dr. Suidmak, Maria Zludia** and the rest of their staff.



We are proud to announce the birth of our son **Charles Lloyd Alexander III**. He was born on March 15, 2000 at 4:09 p.m. He weighed 9 lbs. 2 oz. and was 21 ½ inches long. Proud parents are **Charles and Catherine Alexander** of Big Cypress.

Happy Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to **Vernon & Kasey Baker** on July 24. Hope y’all have lots of fun and be careful. From **Janel**.

I would like to wish my husband **Vernon a Happy Anniversary** and a **Happy Birthday** on July 22 and 24th. Love **Kasey**.

Thank You

I would like to personally thank all the students and parents of the Ahfackkee School. Thank you for taking the time to remember me and I appreciate the beautiful plaque.

Here at the Tribune, we’re always ready to accommodate all of Seminole Country. A pleasure to work with all of you, hope we will continue to do so.
— **Virginia Mitchell**

Thank you

To the many friends and family who assisted and/or visited us during our loss – The family of Lottie Shore deeply appreciates and gratefully acknowledges your kind expression and sympathy. Geneva, Eddie, Brown, Jim, Nancy, Mary Jane, and Milly.

Poems

Dear Momma

*Dear Momma the pride & joy of my heart & soul,
To make you proud of me one time in my life is my ultimate goal.*

*I’ve caused so much stress & pain
momma I
Do apologize, now I’ve gotten much older
As well as wise.*

*I must let you know it’s not your fault
For the way I am, you raised me proper
Momma I’m just a hardheaded man.*

*You are appreciated each & everyday, so
Much love for you Momma in a
Unconditional way.*

*I must apologize momma for those long
Sleepless nights, you sittin’ up worried
About me hoping I’m all right.*

*Don’t worry Momma with me your job’s
Been done, enjoy life with your
Grandkids have some fun.*

*Dear momma I love & miss you, Pop’s &
the family so damn much, stay strong
& take good care Ike be in touch.
— **Ike T. Harjo***

Summer Activities

Summer Camp Opens For Children

BIG CYPRESS — Boxing, paintball survival games, karate and wrestling are available for coed ages 8 years and up, from June 19 to July 13. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday - Thursday. Lunch is included. Call Big Cypress Gymnasium for more information and sign up at (863) 983-9659.

Big Cypress Recreation Summer Schedule

Monday, July 3 — Movies – leave at noon, return at 6 p.m.; Tuesday, July 4 – Carnival/fireworks – leave at noon, return open; Wednesday, July 5 – Sun Splash; Thursday, July 6 – Roller Skating – leave noon, return 6 p.m.; Friday, July 7 – Safari – leave noon, return 6 p.m.

Monday, July 10 – Movies; Tuesday, July 11 – Activity at Gym; Wed., July 12 – Bowling; Thursday, July 13 – Trail Ride; Friday, July 14 – Grand Prix – leave noon, return 6 p.m.

Monday, July 17 – Movies; Tuesday, July 18 – Sun Splash; Wednesday, July 19 – Bowling; Thursday, July 20 – Roller skating; Friday, July 21 – Museum of Discovery & Science, leave 10, return at 6 p.m.

Monday, July 24 – Movies; Tuesday, July 25 – Ice skating; Wednesday, July 26 – Grand Prix, leave at 10, return 6 p.m.; Thursday, July 27 – Pool Party; Friday, July 28 – Fort Lauderdale beach – leave at 10 a.m., return at 6 p.m.

Cigna Results

Periods Ending: April 30, 2000, CHTR
Guaranteed Income Fund4.90 *M (*M – Annualized rates are net of applicable asset charge.)

		1	2	3
		Month	YTD	Year
AIM CONSTELLATION FUND		5.16	48.81	28.98
DREYFUS FOUNDERS BALANCED ACCT	-6.59	-0.93	-3.14	7.51
DREYFUS ADVISOR GROWTH ACCT		-12.01	-3.90	23.26
FIDELITY ADVISOR GROWTH OPPORT		-4.10	-4.66	-3.74
INVESCO DYNAMICS FUND		-9.61	4.06	55.13
CHTR BALANCED FUND 1 – INVESCO		-0.15	-3.15	-8.93
JANUS WORLDWIDE FUND		-7.29	3.66	57.12
CIGNA LIFETIME 20		-3.84	0.44	18.58
CIGNA LIFETIME 30		-3.09	0.52	15.00
CIGNA LIFETIME 40		-3.15	0.43	14.17
CIGNA LIFETIME 50		-2.37	0.47	9.79
CIGNA LIFETIME 60		-1.19	1.04	5.33
NEUBERGER & BERMAN GUARDIAN		-0.75	3.25	0.89
PBGH GROWTH FUND			-15.65	4.56
25.47				
CHTR LARGE CO STK INDEX-CIGNA		-3.01	-0.85	9.86
AMERICAN CENTURY ULTRA		-8.07	-1.44	27.06
TEMPLETON FOREIGN FUND		-3.31	-8.73	5.44
WARBURG – PINCUS EMERGING GROWTH	-10.50	0.63	47.73	10.23
WARBURG PINCUS ADV VALUE ACCT		0.56	-1.69	-6.13
WARBURG PINCUS INTERNATIONAL		-9.39	-11.70	34.13

Results for periods longer than one year are annualized. Rates are net of management fee, and before applicable asset charge.
*L – Fund returns prior to July 1, 1994 represent performa composite results. NOTE – Individual results are influenced by the size and timing of contributions and withdrawals during the period; therefore, results in an individual participant’s account may differ from those shown above.

Employment

Position: Survey Party Chief
Location: Water Resource Management Big Cypress
Opening: Jan. 27, 00
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$14.03 per hour plus benefits

Position: Staff Nutritionist
Location: Health Department Brighton
Opening: February 2, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$30,000/Yearly (Negotiable) Plus Benefits

Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee
Location: – Hollywood
Opening: February 23, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$8.00 per hour plus benefits

Position: Dental Assistant
Location: Health (Hollywood)
Opening: Feb. 11, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$10.00 per hour plus benefits

Position: Assistant Education Counselor
Location: Education (Big Cypress)
Opening: January 25, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$7.18 per hour plus benefits

Position: Certified Behavioral Analyst (LaBelle)
Location: Health (Big Cypress)
Opening: January 25, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$25,000 – 35,000 annually plus benefits

Position: Direct Care Aides (5 needed in LaBelle)
Location: Health Department Big Cypress
Opening: January 25, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$10.00 – 15.00 per hour full time

Position: Alternative High School Teacher in Math and Science
Location: Ahfachkee School Big Cypress
Opening: January 25, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Based on salary schedule

Position: Assistant Cook (Brighton)
Location: Preschool Program
Opening: February 9, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$8.29 per hour plus benefits

Position: Speech Language Therapist
Location: Ahfachkee School
Opening: February 22, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Based on Instructional Salary Scale

Position: Reading Specialist
Location: Ahfachkee School Big Cypress
Opening: January 12, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Instructional salary scale plus benefits

Position: Transporter
Location: Health (Big Cypress)
Opening: January 11, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$7.90 per hour plus benefits

Position: Teacher Aide II – 2
Location: need/1
Opening: year olds & infants Education Preschool Hollywood
Closing: February 29, 2000
Salary: March 14, 2000 \$8.73 per hour plus benefits

Position: Maintenance Supervisor
Location: Buildings and Grounds Big Cypress
Opening: March 8, 2000
Closing: March 22, 2000
Salary: \$8.00 per hour plus benefits

Position: Classroom Teacher
Location: Ahfachkee School Big Cypress
Opening: November 22, 1999
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Negotiable (Instructional Salary Schedule)

Position: Background Investigator
Location: Hollywood
Opening: March 31, 2000
Closing: April 14, 2000
Salary: \$9.00 per hour plus benefits

Position: Permanent Substitute Teacher
Location: Ahfachkee School - BC
Opening: April 13, 2000
Closing: April 27, 2000
Salary: Negotiable (Has Benefits)

Position: Benefits Coordinator
Location: Personnel Department, Hollywood
Opening: February 22, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$28,000 Plus Benefits

Position: Museum Receptionist
Location: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki (Big

Cypress)
Opening: May 29, 2000
Closing: June 12, 2000
Salary: Negotiable (Has Benefits)

Position: Secretary II
Location: Family Services Program
Opening: May 31, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$10 per hour Plus Benefits

Position: Office Clerk Part Time
Location: Utilities - Hollywood
Opening: May 31, 2000
Closing: June 15, 2000
Salary: \$8 per hour - No Benefits

Position: Youth Center Attendant
Location: Juvenile Justice
Opening: May 14, 2000
Closing: June 31, 2000
Salary: \$6.20 per hour - plus benefits

Position: Community Health Representative
Location: Health – Big Cypress
Opening: May 12, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$9.00 per hour - plus benefits

Position: Secretary II
Location: Family Services
Opening: May 31, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$10.00 per hour - plus benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker
Location: Building and Grounds – Big Cypress
Opening: June 6, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$7.00 per hour - plus benefits

Position: Museum Receptionist
Location: Ah-Tah-Thi Ki – Big

Cypress
Opening: May 29, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$6.00 per hour - Plus Benefits

Position: Office Manager
Location: Seminole Broadcasting - Hollywood
Opening: June 12, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$9.60 per hour - Plus Benefits

Position: Teacher IV Preschool
Location: Ahfachkee School – Big Cypress
Opening: May 1, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Mid-20’s Plus Benefits (Salary will Commensurate with experience)

Position: Teacher IV Preschool
Location: Hollywood – Broward County
Opening: May 1, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Mid-20’s Plus Benefits (Salary will Commensurate with experience)

Position: Teacher IV Preschool
Location: Big Cypress – Hendry County
Opening: May 1, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Mid-20’s Plus Benefits (Salary will Commensurate with experience)

Position: Teacher IV Preschool
Location: Brighton – Glades County
Opening: May 1, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: Mid-20’s Plus Benefits (Salary will Commensurate with experience)

Health Corner

Health/Career Fair Held At Big Cypress

BIG CYPRESS — The Seminole Health Department, led by Toni Taglione of the Health School/Health and Career Fair at the Herman Osceola Gymnasium in Big Cypress May 24.

There were over 25 presenters who offered a wide variety of health education and career information. Each table displayed age-appropriate topics that focused on those issues most specific to the Seminole Community.

McGruff the Crime Dog entertained the younger students while relaying his famous, "Help Take a Bite Out of Crime" message. Through the help of electronic imaging and the National Medical Research Institute many students were able to see on screen what was happening inside their bodies.

For those a little older, a representative from Broward Community College was available to answer

questions and provide information for anyone interested in a future career in the health field. Finally, after reviewing all tables and

maybe feeling a bit overwhelmed, many sought relief in a soothing head or neck massage given by therapists from, A Healing Touch, located in Bonita Springs.

Other presenters included the Dental Program, Nutrition Program, Health Education, Planned Parenthood, Hendry Regional Medical Center, Hendry County EMS, Ah-Tah-Thi-Kee museum, Hendry/Glades Mental Health, Environmental Health, Miccosukee Wellness, Lice Services, 4-H, Hendry County Health Department and the Memorial Blood Bank.

When asked to comment on the combination of both a career and health fair, Connie Whidden the Health Department Director responded, "It is important for our children to see the diversity of health careers that are available to them. This is one way to spark their interest in the medical field."

In addition to the table exhibits, new to this year's health fair were presentations given exclusively to some of the attendees. Susan Welke, an RN from Memorial West Hospital in Pembroke Pines spoke to the 4th-6th graders and gave them tips on babysitting.

Lynn Selzer and staff from the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center addressed the 7th -12th grade on the issue of HIV and its prevalence in the teenage community. At the end of the day, Sandra Chittedan, a massage therapist, taught moms how to use infant massage as a way to both nurture and bond with their new babies.



John Ross Billie finds value of massage.



Aileen Osceola, Cypress Billie, Darren Jim had time for some 'healthy' fun.

Six-Billionth Forest Tree Planted

TALLAHASSEE — Florida Agriculture Commissioner Bob Crawford announced that the Division of Forestry commemorated the planting of the state's six-billionth forest tree seedling in Daytona's Tiger Bay Forest.

"The planting of this tree marks a milestone for reforestation," Crawford said. "This seedling represents the ongoing commitment of the forestry community to sustain Florida's natural resources."

The state first began growing forest tree seedlings in public operated tree nurseries in 1928.

Division of Forestry Director Earl Peterson, along with local officials, was on hand to watch a group of Deland school children plant a 5-foot native cypress

tree. The tree was planted in a part of the Tiger Bay Forest, which was severely damaged by wildfires in 1998.

The Department's Division of Forestry oversees 800,000 acres of statewide forests. More than 100 million seedlings are grown each year in Florida by state, industry, and private tree nurseries to meet reforestation needs.

Reforestation is vital to controlling soil erosion and protecting water quality as well as providing fiber for wood products, shelter for wildlife and revenue for landowners.

It is estimated more than 100,00 acres of tree seedlings are planted every year in Florida. While a variety of tree species are produced, Slash, Loblolly and Longleaf Pine are the most popular.

Addictions Can Be Treated

By Nery Mejicano

HOLLYWOOD — How many times have you heard the phrase, 'I'll quit tomorrow,' or for that matter, how many times have we said it?

When it comes to stopping a long entrenched behavior, be it alcohol or drugs or a negative and self-damaging behavior such as a gambling addiction, changing can be very difficult, but not impossible.

The person addicted, with all the best intentions really believes that he or she can quit tomorrow; that they are strong enough or have the will power to 'just stop.' The problem is that in most cases, tomorrow never comes or tomorrow becomes months and then years.

The National Medical Association in 1956 declared alcoholism and other drug dependency as treatable illnesses. Just like a diabetic can not cure his diabetes by 'will power' nor can the alcoholic or drug dependent individual cure their illness by will power and good intentions.

The first step in changing a negative behavior is to recognize that the behavior has become a problem. What kind of problem? Any kind of problem. If you drink and because of your drinking you get a DUI, get in a fight, argue with your spouse, neglect your children or get in financial problems (any one of this qualifies) you have a drinking problem.

Once the individual has accepted there is a problem, there is hope that help can be found. Just like diabetes, addictions can not be cured, but they

can be arrested and the individual can live a full and rewarding life. As with diabetes, a positive life style change has to occur.

Quitting is the first and most important part, but staying quit is the hard part, and the key to accomplishing a clean and sober life is reaching out for help. To admit there is a problem, and to know that help is available.

What do I mean by a positive life style change? I mean we may have to change our negative circle of friends, find new and healthier interests, take better care of our bodies, re-examine our priorities, discover new possibilities and enrich our spiritual life.

There are many resources available. The Tribe's Family Services Program is there to provide help. The program services are comprehensive and are provided in a confidential and professional manner.

Other resources include the family priest or rabbi. And let's not forget our family and friends. They can be the source of support when deciding to change our life in a positive direction.

Helpful phone numbers: Family Services Program, Hollywood, (954) 964-6338, Big Cypress, (863) 983-6920, Brighton, (863) 763-7700, Immokalee, (941) 657-6567 and Tampa, (813) 621-1302.

After hours you can call SPD. You can find AA, NA and GA (Gamblers Anonymous) numbers in your local phone book, or call our offices any time.

New Health Educator Just Arrived

Health Education is proud to have Jessica Novak join their team. Jessica will be working with Toni Taglione in providing health education programs to the community under the direction of Suzanne Davis. Jessica is a Certified Health Education Specialist with a Master's degree in Public Health from Indiana University and a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from Michigan State University.

Jessica recently relocated to South Florida from Tucson, Arizona where she was employed as the statewide health education coordinator for the March of Dimes. In Arizona, she provided pregnancy-related information to communities throughout the state including many Native American communities. Some of her projects include establishing a program to provide maternity clothing to women in need, developing a curriculum on folic acid supplementation, and speaking to students at the University of Arizona, Arizona state University and



Jessica Novak is the new health educator.

Northern Arizona University about prenatal care.

Jessica is very excited to be part of the Seminole Tribe Health Education team. Once she is settled in her new position, she will be working out of Big Cypress Reservation and Hollywood on alternate days. Feel free to contact her or Toni Taglione at 962-2009 for health education information.

Honor

Continued from page 1

helping the teacher before or after school, tutoring, helping in events outside of school, community projects, and babysitting without pay. Attendance at

regular meetings is also a requirement.

I am very proud of my daughter and congratulate her on her achievement in school. My brother Stephen and I were in the audience to witness her induction ceremonies, and we are so very proud of Christine.

— Wanda Faye Bowers.

Darlene T. Quinn

#1

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Notices

Indian Agriculture Export Readiness Seminar – July 13 – 14 at the Foxwoods Resort & Casino. For info call the IAC at (406) 259-3525, or the NTDA at (406) 395-4095.

Menominee Nation Contest Pow Wow – August 5-6 at the Woodland Bowl in Keshena, WI. Call (715) 799-5645/5231.

Mohegan Wigwam Pow Wow – August 18 – 20. Over \$50,000 in dance prizes. For more information call 1-800-MOHEGAN ext. 6150.

Employment 2000 – July 23 – 26, Reno, NV. The Employment Law and Human Resources Development Conference for Tribal Organizations. Call (800) 992-4489.

Governing in the 21st Century – August 20-23, San Diego, CA. Empowering tribal leaders of today for the challenges of tomorrow. Call (800) 992-4489 and reference C6OANIC.

Trail of Tears Motorcycle Ride – September 16. The largest organized motorcycle ride in history. FMI: HYPERLINK <http://www.al-tn-trailoftears.org> www.al-tn-trailoftears.org

West Coast Pow Wow Cruise – September 18. 4-day cruise from \$399 per person or East Coast Pow Wow Cruise – February 2, 2001. 3-day cruise to the Bahamas – Call (877) 369-2232 or visit us at HYPERLINK <http://www.powwowcruise.org> www.powwowcruise.org

Grant Writing in Indian Country – July 24 – 26 at the fabulous Treasure Island Casino Motel. Call (800) 222-7077 and ask for the J. Dalton Room Block.

Assertiveness Skills for Supervisors, Managers, Current and Future Leaders – August 14 – 15. Learn the special skills that will enhance your workplace performance. Ramkota Inn, Rapid City, SD. Call (800) 706-0102 to register.

43rd American Indian Boy Scouting/Girl Scouting Seminar – July 22- 26. For further information contact Don Rogers at (972) 580-2127, Rita Niemeyer at (800) 233-0624 or (212) 852-8582 or Al Tibbitts at (605) 342-2824.

Wolf's Flat EOD Conference – July 23 – 26 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. First Nations coming together to share experience in cleaning up Indigenous Lands. To register call (888) 341-1011 or

(403) 269-1011. E-mail: HYPERLINK <mailto:tamgrp@cadvision.com> tamgrp@cadvision.com

23rd Annual Pow Wow of Champions – August 11 – 13 at Tulsa, IL Fairgrounds Expo Building. For more info call (918) 836-1523.

70s Theme Party – July 30. Great tunes from 3 – 7pm. You could win a 3-day, 2-night cruise for two to the Bahamas as well as free dinner with limo service. For more information call Coconut Creek Casino at (954) 977-6700.

Dreaming of Hawaii – August 27 we'll have a Luau from 3 – 7pm. Win either dinner for two at the Mai-Kai or a six-day, five-night tip to Hawaii. Call Coconut Creek Casino at (954) 977-6700.

“What Tree Is That?” – a pocket guide for identifying trees, is available free of charge from The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

Annual Art Competition – Kids be post-marked by July 31. Send to Artists & Mists, Suite 101-2111, 3600 Crondall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Open to everyone 17 years of age and younger and entry is free. One original work of art – any style, any medium. Include name, address and age on back.

Four Winds PowWow – Sept. 16 – 17 at Killeen Special Events Center, Killeen, Texas. Contact Paula Brock at (254) 699-3167 or fax (254) 699-3038.

2001 Native Life Calendar – Fifteen dollars plus shipping charge of \$2.50. For information call (954) 973-7461 or visit HYPERLINK <http://www.nativelife-calendar.com> www.nativelife-calendar.com.

Car & Boat Auction – July 29. For more information call (954) 463-3725. Salvation Army Adult Rehab Center at 1901 W. Broward Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale.

Spiritual Poems Sought – One poem only of 21 lines or less. Deadline is July 20. To enter online HYPERLINK <http://www.freecontest.com> www.freecontest.com or write Free Poetry Contest, PMB70, 103 N. Wood Ave., Linden, NJ 07036.

Indian Web Sites Combine

AllNative.Com, the leading e-commerce site for Native American products, is proud to announce its recent merger with Indianz.Com, the Internet's most exciting Native American web site.

Formed in early 1999, AllNative.Com provides tribal and Native American owned companies with a much-needed outlet for authentic Native American products. AllNative.Com expects to expand its present product line from several hundred to several thousand products within the next six months. The site features products ranging from one of kind paintings to native American t-shirts.

Other e-commerce companies also utilize the regulatory advantages of reservation-based AllNative.Com. Several Internet companies, in addition to existing partner shops, have already agreed to use AllNative's distribution facilities for their online order fulfillment.

In the fall of 1999, two Native Americans began Indianz.Com based on a dream of making the Internet more accessible to Native Americans. Utilizing their educational and technical backgrounds obtained from Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the pair created one of the most popular and widely read Native American sites on the web today, with a readership extending from the nation's capital to the Navajo Nation. Featuring a fresh mix of daily content, news, information, and entertainment, Indianz.Com has truly broken through the digital divide and plans

to offer even more exciting services including free e-mail and collaborative chat.

“Indianz.Com is the destination of choice for users interested in native content,” says Acee Agoyo, Chief Information Officer of Indianz.Com, “We have experienced tremendous growth over the past several months, demonstrating the existence of an untapped, emerging demographic which includes Native Americans and millions of Internet users who have taken an interest in the first Americans.”

Lance Morgan, CEO of Ho-Chunk, Inc., concurs with Agoyos' sentiments. “AllNative.Com has exceeded all of our growth and revenue expectations. We are currently projecting revenues at \$3 million this year,” says Morgan, “With the addition of Indianz.Com, we will greatly expand our ability to reach a wider market. We believe that we are perfectly positioned to establish the first vertically integrated Native American product and content company on the web.”

AllNative.Com is majority owned by Ho-Chunk, Inc., the Development Corporation of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. AllNative.Com has offices in Winnebago, NE, and Cambridge, MA. It can be found online at <http://www.AllNative.Com>. Visit Indianz.Com today at <http://www.Indianz.Com>.

For additional information, please contact Lance Morgan, CEO, at 402-878-2809 or Mia Merrick at 402-878-2400.

Alligator Alley Hosts ‘Swamp Nite’

By Libby Blake

SUNRISE — “Back to the Swamp,” sang Chief Jim Billie as alligators, snakes, and falcons moved through the crowd June 24, at Alligator Alley in Sunrise. It was Billie Swamp Safari Night at the Tribal owned nightclub voted Best New Club by City Link Magazine.

Chief Billie performed with Raiford Starke and the Lifers while Gator John, Mark “Billie Bob” Blancet, Kim Royal, and the legendary Swamp Owl mingled through the crowd with their wild creatures. Half man, half beast Sasquatch Shelley was also spotted late in the night by a few of the more stouthearted (or more likely stout-filled) patrons.

Also appearing on stage was Washington, D.C. Swampabily legend, Evan Johns and the H-Bombs. “With social graces only a mother could love, Johns lives up to and beyond the rebel rap associated with musicians,” wrote City Link Magazine when it named Swamp Night as Saturday's ‘Best Bet.’ “His music is an offbeat mixture of Delta blues, swamp rock, punk, and surf guitar sung in a voice somewhere between Jerry Lee Lewis and Iggy Pop.”

The evening was also filled with trivia contests, giveaways, and a special Swamp menu. Double Eagle Distributors, along with Big 106, helped sponsor the event.

“This has been great,” said Swamp Owl. “The people seem to really enjoy the animals and want to know when we'll do it again.”

When asked about a repeat performance, Lucy Evanicki, Marketing Director for Billie Swamp Safari, stated, “Tonight was a big success and the crowd response was phenomenal. I would love to do more (events). I think it was good for Alligator Alley too and hopefully we can work together again.”



Pinellas County Drops the ‘S’ Word

LARGO — The American Indian Movement of Florida congratulates the Pinellas County School District on seizing the initiative.

Florida AIM State Executive Director Sheridan Murphy, North Regional Director David Narcomey, and State Information Director Mark Madric appeared before the Pinellas County School Board June 13 to address a November 1999 incident in which a Tyrone Elementary School teacher taught her students that the word “squaw” is an appropriate reference to American Indian women.

Narcomey included a packet of information for board members in his presentation. The board agreed to revisit and modify its curriculum and prevent any further usage of the word squaw.

Then to the pleasant surprise of Florida

AIM the board on its own initiative took up the question of banning sports mascots, making the link between the use of the word squaw and the use of American Indian peoples as a sports team mascot for America's fun and games.

Board members specifically pointed out Seminole High School “Warhawks” noting a hawk with a headdress was no different than “having a hawk with a yarmulke” the board directed the Pinellas County School Superintendent to “investigate the process” that Los Angeles, Dallas, Milwaukee and other locations have used to divest itself of sports mascots.

The Pinellas County School Board is to be informed of his findings through a future workshop in which the methodology to get rid of sports mascots is to be discussed.

Black Bear Hunting Not Being Re-Established

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) plans to receive a staff report concerning the status of black bear hunting the agency's Nov. 7-9 meeting. However, the agenda does not include any proposal regarding re-establishing bear hunting in Florida.

Recent news reports have created the impression that the bear status report may include a staff recommendation to allow some bear hunting in Florida. Bear hunting has been illegal in this state for the past 6 years.

"There is no such staff proposal," said Tim O'Meara, of the FWC's Division of Wildlife. "This report is merely to brief the Commissioners concerning how well the species is doing at the moment."

For the past couple of years the FWC's offices have received numerous phone calls and e-mails from individuals and news media who were under the impression the agency has plans to consider placing black bears back on the list

of game animals. Agency spokesmen are spending a great deal of time reassuring the public that re-establishing bear hunting is not under consideration at this time.

Black bears are listed as a threatened species in most of Florida. Although evidence suggests that the bear population has increased during the past few years, bears still face an uncertain future in Florida.

"Bear habitat is fragmented and is decreasing as Florida's human population growth continues to devour more and more wilderness areas," O'Meara said. "Individual bears can have a home range of as much as 40 to 100 square miles."

The Florida sub-species of black bear, known to scientists as *Ursus americanus floridanus*, occurs only in Florida and along the southern fringes of neighboring states. Black bears' diet consists of a variety of fruits, berries, insects and animals. Bears or bear signs are often spotted on the Tribe's Big Cypress Reservation.

Miccosukee Employees Win Hammer Award

MICCOSUKEE — The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians, who live in the Florida Everglades, announced recently two Tribal representatives were part of the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) Peer Review Team presented the Hammer Award by the National Partnership for Reinventing Government for their important work in the fight against contaminated water.

The Hammer Award was created by Vice-President Gore in 1993 to recognize teams of federal employees that develop and initiate programs that put customers first and get results Americans care about.

Miccosukee representatives F.K. Jones, Miccosukee Director, and Steve Terry, Director of Real Estate, received a certificate and Hammer lapel pin for their work to combat poor drinking water on Indian lands. Other members receiving the award were Susie Kippenberger (Seminole Tribe of Florida); Calvin Murphy (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians); Tony Darden (Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana); and Steve Stillwell (Poarch Band of Creek Indians).

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) represents 23 federally recognized tribes from twelve states. The USET Peer Review Team is a partnership between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and USET and its member tribes, and the Georgia Small System Peer Review Team. The USET Peer Review Team protects public health, increases compliance with federal drink-

ing water regulations, and improves the quality of drinking water for Indian communities in urban and rural settings.

“The Peer Review Team has improved public safety,” said John Hankinson, Jr., Regional Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.” Morley Winograd, Director of the National Partnership for Reinventing Government congratulated them and said, “The Team's outstanding service has helped rebuild the trust of the American people in our government.”

Keller George, President of USET recognized Calvin Murphy — the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and Steve Terry — the Miccosukee Tribe, as the driving force behind the PEER Review Team. “Calvin and Steve did an outstanding job on the Peer Review Committee,” said Mr. George. “They deserve special recognition for their leadership and hard work which made the Peer Review Team the success that it is today.”

The Miccosukee Tribe has long been dedicated to clean water, both for drinking and for the Everglades. The Miccosukee Tribe was one of the first tribes in United States to have adopted their own water quality standards to protect Tribal Everglades lands from pollution. The Tribe is pleased that Miccosukee Tribal representatives, Steve Terry and F.K. Jones, have been recognized for helping to achieve clean, safe drinking water for Indian Country.

Who Will Be The MILLENNIUM Princess?

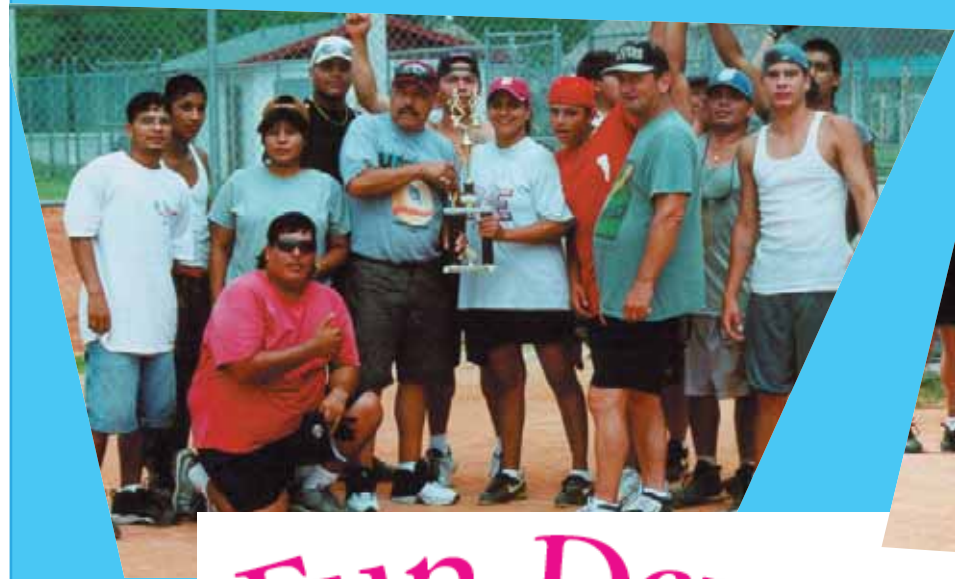


Come and see for yourself

◆ Date: August 12th, 2000

◆ Time: 7:00 p.m.

◆ Place Hollywood Tribal Office Auditorium



Fun Day At Big Cypress

By Benny Secody

BIG CYPRESS — Community members braved the scorching heat to come out to the ball diamond to join in the festivities of the Fun Day, June 24.

Sponsored by the Recreation Department, there were ball games, children's rides and activities as well as plenty of food prepared barbecue style.

Recreation Director George Grasshopper stated this event had been held two years ago. At the time, the Recreation Department planned for it to become a yearly event. However, the turnout was poor and the concept lacked the support of the community. Jack Gorton, Assistant Director of Recreation, hopes Fun Day finally becomes a yearly event as this year's response has been the best yet.

Four teams signed up, although only three showed to compete. The teams were Immokalee Recreation, headed by Gail Boone; Mondo Tiger's Blue Top Construction and a team comprised of Big Cypress Family Services and Big Cypress Recreation workers.

Seminole Police Department was a no-show, possibly because "they didn't want to look bad when they got beat," someone suggested.

Even Board President Mitchell Cypress joined in the games for Big Cypress Recreation team, going up against Big Cypress Board Representative Mondo Tiger and his team.

Mitchell, being multi-talented, served as catcher and first baseman — during different games.

The double elimination games began at 1 p.m. as the younger children and Pre-Schoolers continued their quest for new rides. The kids had a great time, and especially enjoying the cotton candy.

Benny Hernandez, who operates and maintains the Big Cypress rodeo ground, was on hand to provide horse and pony rides to the aspiring young cowboys and cowgirls. The children were thrilled to be able to ride around the area on one of the horses — usually reserved for the older youth.

The softball championship game was between Immokalee Recreation and Blue Top Construction. Immokalee came on with a vengeance and before Blue Top figured out what had hit them, the game was over with Immokalee's Raul Escobar blasting his winning homerun, capping a staggering 16-0 victory.

The winners snapped up the coveted trophy and posed for team pictures. A note of thanks goes to brothers Joe and Larry Stirone of the Broward County Super Sports Association of Officials, who served as umpires for the day.

It was a good day for all that attended. The children enjoyed themselves, as did the parents, players and spectators. Several of the residents stated they are already looking forward to next year's Big Cypress Fun Day.

Photos by Benny Secody

The Seminole Tribune



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American Indian Outreach

Hi, I'm Lee Tiger with the Florida Department of Transportation's Native American Outreach Program. I'd like to thank all the tribal members that participated in this past years workshops.



Lee Tiger

To those who would like to attend one, we will continue FDOT workshops throughout 1999. One of the more asked questions in getting DBE Certified was "Do we need to have a Florida Corporation?" The answer is no, you can apply for a registration with a fictitious name. We have these one page forms and can help you fill them out.

So if you or a family member are interested in pursuing contracts with the state of Florida's largest contracting agency The Department of Transportation, call me at (954) 370-3900. We will be happy to answer any questions and add you to our current mailing list to keep you informed on upcoming workshops.

If you have any questions regarding the Florida Department of Transportation Native American Outreach, please call (954) 370-3900.