



Congratulations to All 2010 Graduates!

The Seminole

Voice of the Unconquered



Tribune

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Ahfachkee School Features Commencement Exercises for its 2010 Graduates



Naji Tobias

At the Ahfachkee School's Graduation Commencement Exercises on June 1, the kindergarten class performs a couple of graduation-related songs to the delight of the attendees at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium. The 14 kindergarten graduates are, in alphabetical order: Nicholus Andrews, Athena Bert, Talia Billie, Sontino Billie, Evan Cypress, Harmony Cypress, Lauren Doctor, Gabriel Hendrickson-Porter, Cale Osceola, Charlie Osceola, Dacia Osceola, Daylan Osceola, Edie Robbins and Chyler Villareal.

Tribal Youth Celebrate Graduating from Hollywood Christian



Chris C. Jenkins

Hollywood Christian Academy Tribal fifth graders on stage during graduation ceremonies held June 3 on campus. From left, Richard Primeaux, Kenzie Motlow, Travis Stubbs, Dasani Cypress, Skyla Osceola and Brady Latchford.

Pemayetv Emahakv Has Fourth Nine Weeks Awards Ceremony



Rachel Buxton

Fourth graders Bailey Tedders, Crysten Smith, Jermaine Bennett, Bethany Billie, and Diamond Shore receive the Citizenship award for their outstanding help and attitude at the Fourth Nine Weeks Awards ceremony.

Tampa High School Senior Celebrates Graduation



Ryan Watson

Tampa Tribal Member Phaydra Clark graduated with honors from Armwood High School in Seffner, Fla. She will attend Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Orlando. Pictured are mother Debbie Henry, graduate Phaydra Clark, sister Christina Clark and grandmother Linda O' Henry.

Students Showcase Their Talents at School's Annual Show

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — Students of Pemayetv Emahakv put aside their academic talent on the last day of school to show off their many other skills during the school's annual talent show.

The talent show June 9 was held in the cafeteria and provided fun and laughter for all with a variety of performances from all grade levels. Pemayetv Emahakv's Performance Arts Club kicked off the event with their rendition of "The Tortoise and the Hare Race Again." The play emphasized the importance of not littering and keeping the environment clean. Following the play, the laughter came out with dances, singing and skits

♦ Please see SHOW on page 2A

Annual Howard Tiger Memorial Award Highlights Education



Laquila Jumper

From right, Moses Jumper, Jr. and Mike Tiger recognize Haskell University Coach and Professor Benny Smith with the Howard Tiger Memorial Award.

BY JUDY WEEKS
Staff Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Acknowledging Native Americans who dedicate their lives to helping young people through sports and education, the Howard Tiger Memorial Award was presented for the fourth time on May 6 at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan.

Hollywood Council Rep. Max B. Osceola said, "The Howard Tiger Memorial Award recognizes the ability of a person to choose in athletics and life, a course that will benefit others and have a positive impact. As a U.S. Marine, Howard Tiger was a decorated World War II veteran, who participated

in the Battle for Iwo Jima. He returned to become an influential Tribal leader and was instrumental in establishing the Seminole Recreation Department. As our first coach, he helped instill strength and leadership qualities, necessary to guide our future generations."

"A Seminole Sports Hall of Fame inductee, Howard Tiger had a tremendous effect upon Seminole youth through his athletic programs and encouraged numerous Tribal members to further their education," said Moses Jumper, Jr. "A boxer, semi-pro baseball and football player, as well as a coach, he was my mentor and inspired me to attend Haskell."

♦ Please see AWARD on page 2A

Immokalee Graduates Achieve Their Goals

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

IMMOKALEE — Five Immokalee residents celebrated their 2010 High School Graduation during commencement exercises from three learning institutions.

"As we travel down the road of life, we are all on a journey to become a complete person," said Chairman Mitchell Cypress. "Unfortunately, there is no map to follow and we must make our own choices when we reach a turn in the road or obstacles. By earning their high school diplomas, all of our graduates are following the right path for a positive direction to their lives. Education provides a key to the future for these young people, who are the future of the Seminole Tribe of Florida."



Elsa Zamora

Graduating from Immokalee High School is just a beginning for Cassandra Jimmie.

Josie Davis and Alec Cypress received their high school diplomas on June 1 at the Big Cypress Ahfachkee School graduation ceremony at the Herman Osceola Gym. Tribal leaders officiated at the proceedings and emphasized the importance of establishing and achieving goals through education.

A long time student of the Ahfachkee School, Alec Cypress transferred to iTECH Immokalee Technical Center to acquire his final credits. He there-

fore joined Cheyenne McInturff at the iTECH commencement program on the evening of June 4. Dressed in royal blue caps and gowns, they were among the second class to graduate from the recently established school.

Members of the Collier County School Board addressed the 2010 high school and vocational technical school graduates prior to conveying diplomas and degrees.

Nikki Davis and Cassandra Jimmie were among the 276 students who received their Immokalee High School diplomas on the evening of June 4 at the Harborside Event Center. Wearing red and white caps and gowns to depict their class colors, they participated in an emotionally charged, two-hour long ceremony.

Members of the student body of the class of 2010 orchestrated the entire proceedings and delivered the commencement addresses to a capacity audience of family and friends.

Receiving their diplomas marks the beginning of a new era for the graduates.

Cassandra Jimmie has enrolled in the Le Cordon



Judy Weeks

Cheyenne McInturff earned her diploma to ensure a future for her daughter, Dakota.

♦ Please see HIGH SCHOOL on page 2A

The Sky Is The Limit for 11 Students Graduating from Big Cypress Preschool



Naji Tobias

The 2010 Big Cypress Preschool Graduates celebrate their achievements with Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress, left, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, center, and President Richard Bowers, toward the conclusion of the May 27 festivities. After the 11 students were honored, they spent lunch with their families, who were all at the graduation in support of them. The 2010 Big Cypress Preschool graduates are, in alphabetical order: Aaliyah Billie, Nayanashie Billie, Jody Cabral, Leighton Jim, Phoenix Kimble, Dyan Koenes, Tristen Osceola, Sarah Robbins, Micah Stockton, Mara Turtle and Kaley Zepeda.



Rachel Buxton

The kindergartners lasso in the audience with their cowboy dance.

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□ HIGH SCHOOL

From page 1A

Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Orlando. She will begin attending classes on July 6, and major in chef, business and athletic coaching courses.

At the present time, Nikki Davis has a full time job as mother to her baby daughter, Isis. However, she plans to give careful consideration to furthering her education.

Holding her infant daughter, Dakota, Cheyenne McInturff said, "I came back to school to earn my GED for her. She is an important part of my future and I want to be able to provide for her future."



Alec Cypress graduates with the class of 2010 from ITECH Immokalee Technical Center.



Nikki Davis received her high school diploma with the 2010 Immokalee High School Class.



Chairman Mitchell Cypress joins Kenny Joe Davis, Sr. and his mother, Martha Billie, in congratulating Josie Davis upon receiving her high school diploma.

□ AWARD

From page 1A

Four years ago Mike Tosee, Director of the Haskell College of Arts and Sciences, joined alumni Moses Jumper, Jr. and Howard Tiger's son, Seminole Treasurer Mike Tiger, in instituting the Award to honor Native American coaches and professors who had dedicated themselves to guiding Native American youth.

Originally established in 1884 as a U.S. Indian Industrial Training and Boarding School, Haskell expanded its academic studies in 1894 to include high school students. Incorporating college classes in 1927, it graduated its final high school class in 1965 and became an accredited junior college. With the addition of a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1993, the school was granted university status.

Each of the Howard Tiger Memorial Award recipients have had distinguished careers as coaches and professors and been instrumental in the transition of the University.

"I think it is wonderful that the Seminole Tribe and Haskell University have such a wonderful working relationship," said Mike Tiger. "Together they are keeping the memory of deceased veterans and outstanding teachers and coaches alive. My father was a coach and believed that the future depended upon proper guidance for our next generations. His legacy continues when we honor these educators."

During the 2010 Haskell Faculty Awards Ceremony on May 6, Moses Jumper, Jr. and Mike Tiger presented Benny Smith with the Howard Tiger Memorial Award. A full blooded Cherokee, Smith joined the Haskell faculty in 1971 as a football coach, and then worked with students in track, basketball and the rodeo club. Transferring to an administrative capacity, Smith is a strong advocate of cultural and Native American language fluency. He dedicated his life to mentoring his students and retired three years ago from a position as Director of Student Counseling.

Among past honorees were

Coach H.E. "Lou" Llewellyn, Phil Homer Ratha and Jerry Tuckwin. Coach Llewellyn started as the high school football coach in 1956 and put Haskell on the map with track, field and football. His colleague, cross country coach Tuckwin, excelled in numerous sports and continues his teaching career as a professor in the Haskell School of Business.

Phil Homer Ratha grew up in the Haskell educational system and spent the next forty years coaching and teaching at his alma mater. "During my tenure, I have had a long association with students from the Seminole Tribe that goes all the way back to sharing a room with Eugene Bowers in 1956," said Ratha. "I have a great deal of admiration for the wonderful accomplishments of the Seminole Tribe and their dedication to improving education, health and wellness. A few years ago, I enjoyed an inspiring visit to the Ahfachkee School and look forward to reviewing the Tribe's innovative wellness programs in the not too distant future."

President Bowers Visits Immokalee Preschoolers

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

IMMOKALEE – To the surprise of the Immokalee Preschool's staff and students, President Richard Bowers Jr. made a stop at the Tribal facility on May 24.

The visit to Immokalee was one to remember, in particular, for two Immokalee Preschool graduates – 5-year-old students Amara Martinez and Brandon



At Ms. Maria Castro's classroom, President Bowers speaks encouraging words to the 3- and 4-year-old students during his visit to the Immokalee Preschool on May 24.

Posada. Both youngsters, who graduated from the Immokalee Preschool on May 12, were treated to a photo shoot with President Bowers at the school.

The entire Immokalee Preschool family later got into the action, sharing some laughs and quality photo time with the Seminole Tribe of Florida President as well.

"This is our future of the Tribe," President Bowers said of the 14 Immokalee Preschool students in attendance (18 overall). "I just want to let them know that we support them all the way in what we do. We are here to make them the best Tribal citizens they can be. Even at a young age, they can always count on the Tribe to be there for them."

Alex Ibarra, parent involvement aide for the Immokalee Preschool, expressed her appreciation for the President's visit to the site on an early Monday morning.

"The children were able to see somebody else other than their everyday teachers," Ibarra said. "It was a fun and happy experience for all of us to spend time with our President. We hope he comes back soon and enjoy some more time with our children."

The 2009-2010 school year for the Immokalee Preschool concluded on May 28.



The entire Immokalee Preschool family, consisting of 14 students and seven staff members, enjoys the shade with President Bowers.

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□ SHOW

From page 1A



The Performance Arts Club shows off its three months of hard work in the performance of "The Tortoise and the Hare Race Again."



Jason Webber rides'em cowboy during the kindergartners country dance.

performed by the students for the entire school, parents and guests.

"We've tried to create a tradition here at PECS for doing something a little fun and get them entertained for the last day of school," teacher Pamela Hudson said.

The talent show was open to all grade levels and students. Hudson, who helped organize the event, said that each grade level had the option of doing a performance together or students could team up with friends and do a performance of their choice.

The kindergarten classes got together and did a cowboy dance with all the students clad in cowboy hats and country attire.

"Teachers often get in there and work with their students," Hudson said. "It gives them something to work on in the downtime to keep the kids excited for the last three or four days of school."

Many students stayed after school days leading up to the talent show practicing with friends.

Other performances included raps about school and fellow classmates, skits to popular songs, and the sixth graders had a little fun poking at a few of their past favorite teachers.

Parents enjoyed themselves trying to keep their cameras steady as they snapped pictures and filmed the performances.

"We like to draw the parents in any time that we can," Hudson said. "It's about enjoying the last day of school and showing off some of their other talents."

Photo extra from Big Cypress' Preschool Graduation



During the Big Cypress Preschool Graduation Ceremony, the 11 graduates performed in a staged play entitled "Three Little Pigs." The graduation acting sequence took place just before they lined up to receive their certificates from Chairman Mitchell Cypress. The play was one of the two highlights of the May 27 special event, held at the Big Cypress Community Center.

More photos from Ahfachkee's Graduation Ceremony



Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola was one of several speakers who were on board to congratulate the Ahfachkee School's graduates and staff on a job well done at the June 1 commencement exercises.



Ahfachkee School students Dayra Koenes, left, and Eynna Billie recite the pledges to both the Seminole and American flags in respective order at the graduation commencement on June 1.



The Ahfachkee School eighth graders sit together in unison as they wait to be called up for their diplomas.

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Community

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After More Than 50 Years, South Carolinian Gives Thanks to Tribal Citizen for Saving his Life

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — This is a story of homage and of a heroic act by Tribal senior Coleman Josh.

On a hot summer day in July of 1959 while at Camp Wewa, an Apopka, Fla.-based recreation encampment, Josh saved the life of his former co-worker Gene Goodwyn in a near-drowning accident with little fanfare or attention.

It was an act of bravery which never left the thoughts of Goodwyn, who was 18 years old at the time. Goodwyn, now 69 and a resident of Seneca, S.C., wanted the story to be told. He still remains tremendously honored and indebted to Josh, even more than 50 years after the incident.

"I owe him a great service and I am in his debt," Goodwyn said. "It has been on my mind for many years and it is something I wanted to do in thanking him before I die."

"He is a hero in my mind and I will be forever grateful to him, he deserves the recognition and I thought it would make for a good story," the former camp cabin counselor added.

Goodwyn said declining health issues including diabetes complications and impaired kidney functions also spurred the move to reconnect.

Back then, Josh was a 21-year-old Seminole folklorist and crafts instructor at the camp who happened to be safety, first aide certified as well. The modest Bird Clan member recalled the incident as an act of circumstance, not bravery.

"It was just a part of something anyone could have done," Josh said.

He explained it was actually another person that pointed out the struggling Goodwyn that day as he was attempting to swim back toward the shore while caught in the swell of a strong undercurrent.

"I was so scared and really thought I was going to pass that day," Goodwyn said.

Goodwyn, now a retired math teacher said he never got the opportunity to thank Josh in person afterwards because he had to leave the camp early but he felt it was the right time to reach out to him so he began searching for Josh with a series of letters to him dating back to April. He finally contacted Josh with the help of the Seminole Police Department.

"I would want someone to help me if I were in the same situation," the now 72-year-old Josh said. "The whole thing was quite surprising when [Goodwyn] contacted me. He helped me recall a lot of things I forgot about."

In another surprising step, once Goodwyn finally located Josh he took his gratitude to the next level by writing Josh a \$1,000 check.

"I was very taken back by him sending it," Josh said. "He told me it was just a small token of his appreciation. He asked me if I could use the money. I said yes, sure, but I told him he did not have to do something like that. He insisted though."

The act has left such an indelible mark on Goodwyn that he said he has also been more giving toward Native American charities throughout the years.

"Because of Coleman saving my life I have often given small donations to Indian causes and charities in his honor for the last 30 years," Goodwyn said.

As a married, devote Christian with eight kids and 17 grandchildren and great grandchildren, Josh said he is grateful for Goodwyn and it was an act of God to reconnect the two after so long.

"I appreciate him. He is a good person and I am thankful for him and praise the Lord for him," Josh said.

The two now have plans to meet at next February's Tribal Fair in 2011.



Tribal senior Coleman Josh recently received thanks from former co-worker Gene Goodwyn who saved more than five decades ago.

Tribal Council Holds Special Session on Amendment

HOLLYWOOD — The Tribal Council convened for a special session at the Tribal Headquarters on the Hollywood Reservation passing one resolution on the June 4 agenda: Resolution 5: Amendment No.

—By Chris C. Jenkins

Attorney Talks Business in Upcoming Workshop

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

PORT ST. LUCIE — Tribal citizens will soon benefit from third generation business attorney Frank E. Marley III of the Marley Firm, P.A., as he offers insight to those interested in starting their own business.

Marley, a Tunica Biloxi tribal member, will discuss several areas of entrepreneurship including types of businesses, requirements, financial and legal considerations and other key areas in an upcoming workshop/ seminar called Starting a Business 101, scheduled for July 14 at the Hilton Garden Inn PGA Village.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the event running until 5 p.m. and will be open to all Tribal citizens on all reservations, with plans to rotate locations based on the success of the Fort Pierce community visit.

"The Tribe's overall success in the business realm is just a part of them. I can not thank them enough for letting me share my knowledge in helping allow them to succeed further," Marley said. "The Tribe has been very good to me and Mr. Shore [General Counsel of the Tribal Legal Department] as well as the Chairman [Mitchell Cypress] thought a workshop would be a good idea."

"Every idea will be seen as important. I just want to give the Tribal citizens the tools to know what they need to do. It is the least I can do," the 11-year law veteran Marley continued.

The firm specializes in the areas of federal Indian law, sports, media, entertainment and securities/private equity transactions.

"It has always been a goal of mine to provide this type of information to all our Tribal members before they sign on that dotted line as to what they need to expect," said S.R. Tommie Fort Pierce Reservation Liaison and workshop co-organizer.

His company also represents several current and former National Football League, National Basketball Association and Major League Baseball players as their business counsel.

"Being a Native and learning from him [Marley] is key," said Tommie of the 36-year-old Tunica-Biloxi tribal member and Managing Partner of the firm. "We [as Seminoles] have so much inside of us and honing into our skills more and into other areas is important."

Marley is a graduate of Florida State University, Indiana University School of Law and the University of Georgia-Terry School of Business where he received his MBA.

According to its website at marleylaw.com, the firm's main focus is to provide legal services and representation to Native American tribes in their for-profit endeavors on contracts and negotiations, sponsorships and licensing deals with professional athletic organizations franchises, corporations, event staging and planning, artists and entertainers, as well as business transactions related to new ventures, marketing and products.

For more information, call 954-447-3460.



Attorney Frank Marley III will conduct a business workshop for Tribal citizens on July 14 on the Fort Pierce Reservation.



Seminole Interim Director of Housing Omar Barrera opened the Tribe's Housing and Building Workshop with an overview of the housing department's primary mission and objective, which is to provide a sense of quality and affordability to the Tribal citizens as far as homeownership and rental housing opportunities are concerned. "We are here to give service to the Tribal members," Barrera said to employees in attendance. "Please, let's do it with pride." Housing and building employees from the Trail, Hollywood, Big Cypress, Immokalee, Brighton, Fort Pierce and Tampa Reservations attended the May 13 workshop.



Seminole Housing's Sandra Atkins organized the Tribe's Housing and Building Workshop on May 13 in Big Cypress.

Housing and Building Workshop Brings Awareness to Tribal Citizens, Employees



Tribal citizens and employees from the housing and building departments listen intently to the services that the Tribe offers to its members when it comes to housing management and care. The housing department conducts regular maintenance on the Tribal citizens' residential homes, which includes lawn mowing and landscaping and tree/shrubbery trimming.



Big Cypress Tribal Board Rep. Paul Bowers Jr., left, and President Richard Bowers Jr. evaluate the material covered at the May 13 Housing and Building Workshop with their evaluation forms toward the conclusion of the four-hour seminar. Information was given on credit counseling, home loans, home planning and development and payment approval requirements. For more information on the housing department's operations, call Barrera at 954-985-2300, ext. 10662 or e-mail him at obarrera@semtbribe.com.



Tribal citizens and employees from the housing and building departments participate in the Tribe's Housing and Building Workshop on May 13 in Big Cypress.



President Richard Bowers talks to Tribal citizen Dorothy Tucker, from Hollywood.

Hamish Dods, chief executive of Hard Rock International.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress speaks to Tribal citizens at the Owners Meeting on May 22.

Owners Meeting Brings Message of Hope and Strength in a Still Tough Economy

BY ADINA LOOCHKARTT
Senior Editor

HOLLYWOOD — Hard Rock International has 162 venues in 52 countries and 26,000 employees system wide. Very few companies are in so many countries. The United Airlines is only in 48 countries, according to Hamish Dods, chief executive of Hard Rock International.

These interesting facts were mentioned to Tribal members during a thorough presentation on the financial status for last year and information on expectations for next year, at the Owners Meeting on May 22, held at Hard Rock Live in Hollywood.

"We're still in recession. It's kind of surprising how we're still able to compete with everybody and going strong. I think we have the right marketing and the right team of people to help us stay afloat," said Tribal Council Chairman Mitchell Cypress.

"There were important questions asked that makes us aware of those answers given," he added.

President Richard Bowers Jr. said, "We're where we probably want to be considering the economy. Some of the things, the vision, will come into place."

"We're trying to make as much money for the Tribe as we can in an environment like this. Our teams are very smart, [they] have good predictions; they advise us how to operate in this market and to strengthen the Hard Rock brand."

Dods said the Hard Rock International added three countries to its repertoire last year: a hotel and a casino in Macau, a café in the Czech Republic and one in Vietnam.

"I am not expecting 2010 to be a great year

for everybody, but I am expecting to do better than everybody else. The outlook will continue to look challenging," Dods said.

Even in a rough economical environment Hard Rock International was involved in numerous charity events. Dods talked about a record-breaking fundraising for last year of \$3.5 million and philanthropic programs that raised money for the environment or helped children. A partnership with Bon Jovi benefited the affordable housing cause and the Pinktober event generated money for cancer research.

Speaking of all the charity events Dods said, "From my point of view it's marketing, and part of our personality and culture. I'd like to thank all of you for the support for Haiti. [We had] such huge contributions. [It] helps us when we go out there and show how the Tribe is helping."

Referring to the informational meeting, Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr. said it's always good to get info and be knowledgeable.

"The more they know, the more proud they are. It's not just about money; it's about philanthropy and helping the other Tribes."

"I think the economy forecast is bright. Even though we are in recession, we're not going back. We're doing well and the future is bright."

Chief Operations Officer Elrod Bowers said he was pleased with the turnout and that the questions from the Tribal members were impressive.

"I think that we should want to make sure that we have a presence in all the markets in the world. One of the main things after the Seminole Tribe bought Hard Rock, we want to have a good representation worldwide of our brand."

Preston Osceola Prepares His First Album

BY RYAN WATSON
Contributing Writer

TAMPA — He's appeared on stage at various Tribal events and won for his age bracket at the Seminole Star Search 2009. Now, at 16, Preston Osceola is preparing his first studio album this summer.

"I'm going to be mixing in some of my acoustics [guitars] with the electric [guitars] to have sort of a duet of the electric and the acoustics going together," said Osceola, who is tentatively scheduled to travel out of state to record his album. "People who have heard me play they have just been hearing just the acoustics, but in the album, you're going to hear the acoustics, the electrics, all the distortion with that rock sound to it."

Osceola is a self-taught musician who started playing guitar when he was 8 years old. He is left-handed and spent his early years oblivious to the fact that he had been playing on a right-handed guitar.

"When I realized I had been playing the guitar upside-down, I re-strung it so the body was still upside-down but the strings had the order of a left-handed guitar," he said.

"I played it that way until I could get a left-handed guitar."

Osceola said he idolized Jimi Hendrix who was also a left-handed guitarist of Native American descent. "I used to see videos of him I'd see him play that way, [left-handed] so I played the same way," he said.

Osceola admits that he got a little frustrated in his early years but as time went by his persistence paid off.

"I just started thinking if I keep playing maybe I could get somewhere with this," said Osceola, who just wrapped up his freshman year at Tavares High School. "I always wanted to be some famous in music."

And it appears he is getting his chance. In addition to recording an album this summer, his parents are building him a music studio that is attached to the backyard pool deck of the family home in the quiet town of Howie-in-the-Hills, Fla. Osceola's mother, Ruth, serves as his manager and said keeping up with Preston's activities is a full time job.



Ryan Watson
Sixteen-year-old Preston Osceola, of Howie-in-the-Hills, Fla., is preparing his first studio album.

"It's like I have three jobs in one. It really keeps me on my toes," she said. "If I'm not at home being the mom and dealing with school, I'm dealing with Preston's performances."

Preston's younger brother, Devin, has also taken a liking to music and mom Ruth said she is prepared to manage both Preston and Devin should Devin decide to pursue a career in the music industry. "I would already have some experience [and would] know the dos and don'ts," she said.



Naji Tobias
Braden Jim, 10, picks up a Seminole Explorers Program application from SPD Officer Terry Tartsah at the Y.O.U.T.H. Committee Program Fair on May 14.



Naji Tobias
Tribal youngster Roderick Bert, 11, answers a history question posed by Higher Education Recruiter Luis Yeguez during a game of Jeopardy.

Y.O.U.T.H. Committee Informs Parents about Summer Activities at Program Fair

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — The Y.O.U.T.H. Committee held its inaugural Summer Program Fair May 14 to inform the Tribal youth and their parents about the vast array of activities available this summer.

A total of 12 Big Cypress departments assembled booths at the Herman L. Osceola Gymnasium to show off the happenings that they will offer throughout the summer months.

The departments that participated in this fair were Big Cypress Recreation, Big Cypress Boys & Girls Club, Ahfachkee School, Seminole Police Department, Seminole Fire Rescue, Seminole Health & Wellness, Seminole Fitness, Big Cypress Community Center, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, Culture, Education and the Big Cypress Tribal Council.

At the Seminole Fitness station Tribal youngsters from the Ahfachkee School, the Sagemont School and Hollywood Christian Academy filled out forms for the Fitness Dome's summer gymnastics camp, while others went over to the martial arts exhibit to engage in some lessons from Big Cypress Martial Arts Instructor Luis Gutierrez.

The Boys & Girls Club's exhibit, hosted by Instructor Tommy Doud, featured a game of Egg Roll in which the Tribal youth had to use pizza boxes to move their eggs forward. It proved to be perhaps the most popular attraction at the program fair, with the vast majority of the Tribal youngsters trying it out.

At the SPD station, the Tribal children got to experience what it's like to receive fingerprints — an important feature of the law enforcement agency.

The Big Cypress Tribal Council Office and SPD collaborated to take identification pictures of the Tribal youth in preparation for the summer and for the 2010-2011 academic year, which begins in August.

The Ahfachkee School set up its booth in an effort to advertise its summer school session, which runs June 21-July 15.

"It gives everybody a good idea of what's going on this summer with all the different programs Big Cypress is going to have out here," Ahfachkee School Principal Walter Swan said. "There is a whole bunch for all the kids to do at this reservation. If they're bored, it won't be for a lack of services. You could really have a good time and not have to leave Big Cypress."

The Recreation Department's booth featured calendars for the Tribal youth to take a look at. For the month of July, the Tribal youngsters will have a variety of activities to engage in, including trips to Lion Country Safari, the Miami Sea Aquarium and Sun Splash.

The reservation's four-week disc golf camp, which started with the week blocks of June 7-10 and June 21-24, will be held July 12-15 and Aug. 9-12 at the Big Cypress Indigo Disc Golf Park. Classes will be from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

"It's very difficult for the kids to honestly say that they're bored this summer," Big Cypress Recreation Assistant Director Stan Frischman said. "You name it, and somewhere on our reservation, we have it available for them."

In total, about 200 Tribal and community youngsters and parents took their time to learn of what's to come in the summer months.

The Ahfachkee School's students — 160 in all — were at the program fair from 11 a.m. until noon, while the Tribal and community youth attending public and private schools off the Big Cypress Reservation came out to the event from 4-6 p.m.

"It's a great addition to our reservation," Swan said of the program fair. "Down the line, the kids will see that every department here at Big Cypress really cares about them in all of our efforts to put them first."

The Y.O.U.T.H. Committee, which stands for Youth Outreach United to Help, is comprised of approximately 20 Big Cypress departments and is sponsored by the office of Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress. The committee typically meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Big Cypress Family Investment Center's conference room.

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In the Week 5 class of the SPD Citizen's Police Academy series on May 17, Jack Morgan performs a K-9 demonstration in which the trained dog sniffs out for a hide of narcotics in the Public Safety Complex's training room.

SPD Officers Jean Jospitre, left, and Marvin Stanley, right, assist Tribal citizen/academy student Mornin Osceola in the mock heel-and-toe field sobriety test at the Week 7 class on June 7.

SPD Citizens Police Academy Reaches Midway Point

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — After seven weeks in the Seminole Police Department's Third Annual Citizen's Police Academy, Big Cypress Tribal citizen and student Mornin Osceola sees the workshop series as an introspective way to learn about law enforcement in detail.

Osceola, also an executive administrative assistant for the President's Office, was one of several Tribal participants who were excited about the report writing and DUI presentations held by the SPD on June 7.

SPD Officers Marvin Stanley and Jean Jospitre were on hand to give a visual demonstration of how traffic offenders pulled over for DUI (driving under the influence) perform a series of field sobriety tests.

Osceola, one of two Tribal academy students to volunteer for the mock field sobriety demonstration, was instructed by Officers Stanley and Jospitre to take nine steps forward and back on a yellow-and-black stripe tape.

Using beer goggles, Osceola struggled to perform the heel-and-toe field sobriety operation, as she needed much assistance by both SPD officers to complete the drill.

"Is that person [the offender] swerving? Is that person racing? Is that person sleeping on the wheel when the light is green?" Officer Jospitre asked aloud before answering his own question. "All these things are taken into consideration before an arrest is made."

According to Officer Jospitre, it is a state law and requirement for all licensed drivers to take a field sobriety test if they are stopped for a possible DUI charge.

The other field sobriety exercises used by the SPD are the finger-to-nose and Romberg with recitation tests. As for the beer goggles, there were two that SPD officers had on hand for the presentation; one with a representation of a person having up to a .06 blood alcohol content and the other possessing a BAC of anywhere between .17 and .20 BAC — more than twice the legal limit.

If an offender is charged with DUI, then he/she will lose his license for at least a year, according to Jospitre. Subsequent charges typically carry stiffer penalties, such as permanent license revocation.

Meanwhile, the earlier portion of the Week 7 class featured a report writing presentation by SPD Officer Robert Betz. He touched on that aspect in detail, as the Tribal academy students were informed it's the "most important facet of law enforcement."

Officer Betz went on to explain that report writing of any law enforcement document and field notes must be accurate, as they are subject to subpoena in the court of law at any time. If an officer improperly

competes a police report, then the offender could possibly be "set free and avoid prosecution," the officer said.

"Don't put something on paper that's not there," Officer Betz said. "Reports either make or break you. It could possibly make it to the supreme Court and be seen by people of all different agencies."

At least four types of legal affidavits are used by law enforcement officials. They include a sworn statement, a victim's statement, a witness statement and a waiver of prosecution document.

Information that is found to be false on any document, whether it's written by a victim, witness or officer, is classified as a second degree misdemeanor, according to the state statutes. Civil penalties may also be placed on the offender in question.

Osceola said she has gained a greater respect for law enforcement, in no small part by what she's learned in the academy series.

"It was very informative with each officer explaining their in-depth experiences in their particular areas of training," Osceola said. "That gives me more insight of the procedures the police officers have to abide by and the ridicules that they endure when they are protecting, serving the citizens of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. With the opportunity that the Seminole Tribe and the Seminole Police Department has given the students, and as one of the students, I learned more than what I have known or didn't know before."

From Weeks 5-7, other law enforcement topics presented to the Tribal academy student included a K-9 visual, identification theft and fraud, narcotics and prescriptions, child abuse and sex crimes.

The Week 8 and 9 classes featured a series of use of force scenarios, a MILO firearms simulator and a volunteer ride-along.

The Third Annual SPD Citizen's Police Academy is tentatively scheduled to host its graduation ceremony on July 1 at 6 p.m. in the Hollywood Reservation's Tribal Auditorium. For more information, call Officer Marvin Stanley at 954-967-5100.

Tribal Council Meets for Special Session in Brighton

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — The Tribal Council met in the Brighton Field Office auditorium May 18 for a special session where Brighton Tribal Council Rep. Andrew J. Bowers Jr. stood in as the acting Chairman in Chairman Mitchell Cypress's absence.

Before the Council attended to the agenda, Rep. Bowers acknowledged recent Florida State University graduate Bryan Arledge for his academic achievement.

"We'd like to keep pumping these graduates out," Rep. Bowers said.

Rep. Bowers also introduced the Pemayev Emahav Charter School Student Council members who sat in on the council meeting to get a first hand look at how Tribal government is run. After the announcements, the meeting resumed as normal with 18 resolutions on the agenda being passed including:

Resolution 11: Twenty-third annual work plan submitted to the South Florida Water Management district by the Seminole Tribe of Florida;

Resolution 14: Approval of agreement with Klai-Juba Architects, Ltd. For architectural, engineering and design services to construct a parking garage and pedestrian bridges at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino;

Resolution 18: Memorandum of under-

standing between the state of Florida Department of Health and the Seminole Tribe of Florida for development of the H1N1 influenza pandemic preparedness program; Ratification;

Resolution 20: Winnercomm, Inc. 2009 and 2010 Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association Xtreme Bulls Tour title sponsorship agreement title sponsorship fee;

Resolution 23: First Amendment to lease between the Seminole Tribe of Florida D/B/A Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood (tenant) and the Guardian Life Insurance Co. of America (landlord); limited waiver of sovereign immunity.



Council Rep. Andrew J. Bowers Jr. congratulates Bryan Arledge on his recent college graduation.

Big Cypress Seniors Travel to the Holy Land Experience



Naji Tobias

Big Cypress Reservation's seniors took a three-day trip to Orlando on a tour of the Holy Land Experience from May 20-22. It was a special Mother's Day/Father's Day treat given to them by the staff of the Big Cypress Senior Center. At the Holy Land Experience Tour, they got to see a live demonstration of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and watched a play depicting the Bible character Daniel in the Lion's Den, among many other spiritual acts. Many of the seniors said they enjoyed the experience and would like to come back at another time.

First Seminole Church Holds Revival

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — Everyone from the devote and curious to the even the latter gathered in the name of faith for a spiritual revival at the First Seminole Indian Baptist Church.

Dozens of Tribal citizens from across all the reservations and community members came together for spiritual growth and renewed hope with dinner, music and special guests for the four-day event under the direction of Paul Buster, Pastor of the First Seminole Indian Baptist Church.

May 23 through 26, guest Evangelists, church members and guests gave inspiring personal testimonies of their life struggles on different topics such as addiction, sin, faith and graciousness.

"Revivals are good to have and give ministers a chance to talk to those that are lost and those that know the Lord as well," said guest speaker Josh Jumper. "You may not know why you are here; maybe it was the food. If so, you need to have some nourishment for your souls also."

"I hope you all came here on empty and the fire on the coals has been relit for you," Jumper added.

Other church goers and guests spoke about the blessings they have been provided through their faith.

"I am here to make myself stronger and thank the Lord for pulling my mother [Minnie Doctor] through her surgery situation," church goer Virgil Doctor said of his mothers medical issues.

Joe Herrera talked about overcoming his battles as a young adult with drugs and alcohol abuse.

"In my younger days I longed for freedom and with my sense of freedom came all kinds of things like the drugs and alcohol and it led me down a road into a hard life," Herrera said. "As I grew up it was a continuing addiction for me into more drugs and women and a crazy lifestyle doing what I wanted to do and forgetting about Jesus. He was the very foundation I forgot about in living that life of sin."

"The life I was living will also help you to easily forget about the important things like your family," Herrera continued.

Other speakers throughout the week included Tribal citizens Alfonso Tigertail and Moses Jumper Jr.

Located at 4701 Stirling Road on the Hollywood Reservation, the First Seminole Indian Baptist Church has worship services at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sundays.



Chris C. Jenkins

Pastor Paul Buster talks about the importance of the Bible and faith during a four-day spiritual gathering May 23-26 at the First Seminole Indian Baptist Church.



Chris C. Jenkins

Guest evangelist Josh Jumper discusses his own personal trials and the meaning of faith, in front of guests and family.

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A Mother's/Father's Day Tribute: Senior Profile of Claudia Doctor and Rudy Osceola

Big Cypress Seniors Share Their Life Experiences, Talk about Their Time at the Holy Land Experience

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS/ORLANDO — On June 7, Tribal Seniors Claudia Doctor and Rudy Osceola took the time to reflect on some of their past memories at the Big Cypress Senior Center.

Sitting at a table in the Senior Center's dining hall, they talked at length not only about their lives, but how their Mother's Day/Father's Day bus trip went at the Holy Land Experience in Orlando.

They were among 22 Big Cypress Seniors who traveled to Orlando from May 20-22.

Big Cypress Senior Center Director Cecilia Guzman said the trip was meant

to combine the Mother's and Father's Day holidays and honor all of the Tribal Senior mothers and fathers.

"The seniors wanted to go to the Holy Land. So, we did that as a way for them to spend time together as a group and exercise themselves," Guzman said. "It's great to allow them to feel young and independent again."

The excursion, which took them to the Holy Land Experience in Orlando, was one that evoked some teachable moments from their pasts. The three-day charter bus trip, which also featured stints at a few shopping spots, was one to remember.

Claudia Doctor's Spiritually Enhancing Moment

It was a clear, hot, humid and somewhat muggy day at the Holy Land Experience in Orlando on May 21. With Doctor and her fellow seniors taking in the variety of religious visual elements to grace the facility, she was taken right back to how church was as a youngster.

Fanning herself with a Holy Land itinerary to keep cool, Doctor watched a graphic demonstration of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. While soaking that all in, she reminisced about her grandfather, the late Frank Billie.

Billie, who was born and raised in the Everglades, according to Doctor, founded the New Testament Baptist Church in Big Cypress. He was in the Tribal church ministry for more than 60 years prior to his passing.

Just by hearing back to her grandfather, Doctor refers the Holy Land Experience as a place "just like being in church."

"From the beginning, it was a blessing for me to be here today because I was raised in a Christian Church," Doctor said on May 21. "Church is holy and it's just a blessing to be in God's presence. A lot of people think there's no God out there."

Doctor and her fellow seniors got a chance to take in "The Last Supper" communion festivities and later watched a spiritual play on the Bible story of Daniel in the lion's den, to name just two stops made that day.

The Holy Land Experience Trip proved to be an eye-opener for Doctor. She said she wants more Tribal members to check out the facility in the future.

"It's exciting to see other things besides Big Cypress," Doctor said. "It's like a breath of fresh air to me."

Life Before the Holy Land Experience

Talking about her past life and her family, Doctor sees that as a refreshing element to delve into. Born in 1951, Doctor was raised in a chickee at the Big Cypress Reservation with seven siblings and her parents.

Other than attending church regularly, Doctor's upbringing consisted of helping her mother, Mary B. Billie, cook and assisting her in the rearing of her younger brothers and sisters.

"I didn't have much time for play," Doctor said.

In Doctor's early days, her father, the late Stanley Cypress, operated a tractor to provide for the family. Cypress was considered a hunter in his day, regularly bringing home deer, turtle and fish.

"We also grew tomatoes, peppers and watermelon," Doctor said. "That was our main source of food."

Doctor would go on to receive her schooling in Big Cypress, where she would receive her GED in 1975. Doctor raised two children: Jonathan Harjo, now 38; and El-dean Jo Billie, 24.

Doctor, a grandmother of five, regularly took her children to the New Testament Baptist Church on Sundays. From there, it was family time at the Billie Swamp Safari.

What Doctor remembers from that experience is that her children enjoyed the church and family moments every week. It stays with her even today.

Rudy's Memorable Moments

Doctor said she will always remember Rudy Osceola, her fellow senior, as a "cowboy."

"Rudy was raised a cowboy and he'll always be one," Doctor said. "That's all I can think of him."

Born in 1944 to Betty Mae and Henry Osceola, Osceola was the third of five children. A Clewiston native, Osceola went to the Big Cypress First Baptist Church as a young boy.

He said he always went to church with

his parents on Sundays. It was a way to introduce him to the Bible and to the Christian faith.

"Growing up, I was scared to get in trouble," Osceola said. "My elders told me I would burn in hell if I died in my sins. I was taught to keep my body clean and useful for God's work."

Osceola's favorite hobby was horseback riding, something he would later use as a springboard to his cowboy experiences. Osceola's great uncles, Junior and Jimmie Cypress, who were part of the original Seminole cowboys in the early days, taught him how to work the cattle and become a good horseman.

Osceola, who said being a "cowboy" is a God-given talent for him, touched on how he fell in love with his favorite activity.

"I tried to hang on to a horse one day, so it wouldn't beat me down to the ground," Osceola said. "When it didn't, that's how I learned to be a cowboy."

A Clewiston High School graduate in 1966, Osceola tried the field of automobile mechanics for a few years, including a one-year stint at a trading school in Dallas, Texas. In case automobile mechanics didn't work out, Osceola knew he always had the cowboy route to fall back on.

After the one-year trade school stint in 1967, Osceola returned to Clewiston to work as a mechanic for Ford and Chevrolet vehicles at a car dealership.

However, he decided a few years later to return to what he loved: being a cowboy. Osceola opened up about all this both during his time at the Holy Land Experience and at the round table in the Big Cypress Senior Center.

"My great uncles always wanted me to work cows with them," Osceola said. "If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be loving what I do today."

An outdoorsman who loves to play with horseshoes, Osceola has served as a cattle herdsman for the Tribe's Cattle and Range Department over the last 35 years. He has one adopted son, Cicero Osceola, and a grandson, 17-year-old Rowdy Osceola.

Osceola's natural son, Carl, was born in 1972 and passed away in 2004.

Even with all that has transpired throughout his life, Osceola still hadn't got-



Naji Tobias

Rudy Osceola watches the EIRA/Sports Festival's Rodeo Competition from the bleachers on the night of May 22, just hours after returning from a three-day trip to Orlando for a chance to see the Holy Land Experience.

ten a chance to see the Holy Land Experience.

That was until May 21, a day that will likely be etched in his mental memory log for the rest of his life.

"The trip made me want to believe more in God," Osceola said. "It was good to see [the Holy Land Experience] in person."

Claudia and Rudy Come Full Circle

Both Doctor and Osceola said they were thankful to Guzman and her staff for giving them the chance to gain a spiritually enhancing experience. Both seniors said they loved everything about the Mother's Day/Father's Day trip.

Doctor liked the fact she was able to reach Big Cypress before dusk on May 22. Meanwhile, Osceola was happy to get home in time to watch the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association's Sports Festival Rodeo for the night.

"It was refreshing for all of us to ride on the bus and see the sights," Doctor said. "We enjoyed each other."

With that being said, both seniors, getting ready to get up from their seats at the Senior Center table, offered a special message for all the mothers and fathers Tribal-wide.

"Happy Mother's and Father's Day to the young and old," the two elders said in unison.



Naji Tobias

Big Cypress Tribal Elder Claudia Doctor enjoys her experience at the Holy Land in Orlando on May 21, highlighted by her stop at the Tiny Town of Bethlehem, among others.

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Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal citizen and hip-hop artist Carradine Billie keeps the crowds entertained onstage performing one of his original songs.



Chris C. Jenkins

Driver Martin Mejia puts the finishing touches on Tribal citizen Charlie Cypress's custom painted 2007 Cadillac Escalade.

Second Annual Car Warz Returns to Hard Rock

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — For anyone with a love for custom cars, the second annual Car Warz did not disappoint.

In its second year, the energized event displayed hundreds of the brightest, biggest and boldest exotic, domestic, concept, im-

port and low-rider cars and trucks. Enthusiasts from all over the South Florida area took part, all vying for \$40,000 in cash and prizes on May 16 at the Hard Rock.

The Tribally run Warriors Car Club and the Seminole Tribe had co-sponsorship with 10 featured car categories, a "best of" category and a special sound category for those that enjoy maximum sound from their car stereos.

"Last year was a big success in a lot of ways, even in our first year," said Eric Osceola, President of the Warriors Car Club. "We had a couple of setbacks but we overcame them this year, and it was bigger and better."

"As a car enthusiast, I have a few myself but I just like bringing together all the different types of makes and models of cars," he added.

The day also featured special performances by Tribal hip-hop art-

ists Carradine Billie and Stephen Chad Billie.

"This has allowed me to gain a new hobby," said Tribal citizen Sandy Billie of Brighton.

He had two entries in different categories: a 1984 Chevrolet J-10 truck and a 1995 Jeep Wrangler. Both were designed in homage to his beloved University of Miami Hurricanes.

First year entrant Marty Dobrilovic of West Palm Beach said he heard about the event through a friend and enrolled his drag-racing licensed 1967 Chevrolet Chevelle Super Sport (SS).

"It was all neat and it was the first time for me to be involved. I liked all the diversity in cars it all brought," the 25 year car owner, Dobrilovic said. "It was awesome how all the different types of cars were in the same place."

Car enthusiast and Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr. had two of his own cars on hand for show and said it was easy agreeing to support such an event.

"[My family] have been car enthusiasts for years so when Eric [Osceola] came to me and said he goes to car shows and that he wanted to have one here, I told him we are going to have the best one," Rep. Osceola said. "It was a nice family event and this type of gathering promotes a family lifestyle."



Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal citizen Sandy Billie with his custom-designed 1984 Chevrolet J-10 truck, left, and 1995 Jeep Wrangler, right. Both vehicles pay homage to the University of Miami.

Seminole Film Club Debuts 'March Point' at Screening

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Film Club made its debut at the Okalee Village with the screening of an independent, thought provoking, ambitious documentary entitled "March Point."

Tribal citizen, poet, writer and film maker Elgin Jumper and Diane Stone, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Education Coordinator, co-organized the event and created the club with the intent of spotlighting more of the artistic endeavors of Native Americans in the film industry.

"This is for people who are really into movies," Jumper said of the May 14 gathering. "The good thing about this club is that it will give people a chance to see the type of film we have shown that they ordinarily would not get to see."

"I am still learning, and this film was a sneak peek into what I am doing in the future," he said. "The benefits and potential for this will achieve so much. This type of thing enhances the whole Seminole Tribal organization."

As a winner of numerous Native and in-

dependent film awards, the 2006 short film follows three teens: Cody, Travis and Nick on a journey of truth and discovery as the three chose to make a documentary exploring the effects of oil refinery dumping on and around their Swinomish Indian Tribal Community reservation lands located in the western town of La Conner, Wash. The young filmmakers eventually take their concerns and findings all the way to the governor of the state.

"I chose this particular film to watch because I thought it was inspiring and empowering," Jumper said. "They [the youth] got into their situation not knowing where it would lead them and in the end it changed them," Jumper said.

"The main motivation for me to come and see the movie was the choices the kids made. It had a lot of good points in it that a lot of our Seminole kids need to see," said Tribal citizen Steve Osceola.

Jumper and Stone said the next screening will be on June 25 with the hopes of future screenings taking place once a month on a Friday.

For more information on the club call 954-914-9375 or 863-902-1113, ext. 1207.



Chris C. Jenkins

Guests watch the short film "March Point."

Seminole Star Search Second Music Camp Discovers New Talents



Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal veteran and newcomer artists and judges came together on stage for another session of the Seminole Star Search Music Camp at the Seminole Okalee Village June 5. It was the second camp of 2010 with special judges on hand to critique and evaluate the performers representing five of the Tribe's reservations in several musical genres including: thrash-rock, hip-hop and pop.



Monthly Seminole Moments Series Emphasizes Importance of Museum Exhibits

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — In the latest edition of the monthly Seminole Moments series, about 40 inquisitive individuals spent their lunch break on May 19 learning about the Tribe's impact on museum exhibits.

Held at the Big Cypress Community Center, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Presenter/Curator Saul Drake conducted a PowerPoint presentation and virtual tour of the Tribally sponsored Postcards and Perceptions exhibit.

Drake talked to the attendees about several exhibits at the museum, which include the Corn Dance, the Tools of War as it relates to the three Seminole Wars, the Cattle Keepers display and a Seminole Traveling piece. According to Drake, the exhibits, which he described as "Seminole-specific," are aimed to obtain a wider, non-Tribal audience.

Drake also showed the participants three postcards that individuals many years ago used as a part of their vacation scrapbooks, providing for a litany of lasting memories for generations. One of the Seminole postcards was made out of Plexiglas, while the other two were erected on a foam core board.

There are about 600 postcards at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, which showcase early Seminole times. Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Education Coordinator Diana Stone said the foam core board is acid-free, which prevents the postcards from degrading the ink on its text panels.

"They hold up really well and are sturdy," Stone said. "It describes an artifact that we show to the public."

Brighton Reservation Outreach Specialist Willie Johns reminisced about the early Seminole days when his ancestors were making hand crafts and patchwork to sell to tourists between Naples and Miami in the early 1900s.

Only some of Johns' ancestors were directly involved in the postcards era, he said. It was due to the fact that most of his family hailed from the Okeechobee/Fort Pierce area, where individuals in early times spent their time hunting and raising cattle.

"It's good that we were able to obtain these postcards in the 1900s," Johns said. "It gave us a

good description of how our ancestors lived before we had reservations."

Museum visitors can now take a look at all that via a Touch Table, which is somewhat akin to an Apple iPhone, according to Drake. The feature is primarily geared toward providing a sound educational opportunity for children and their families, given the fact many products today are computerized.

"Kids are so technologically savvy, so this is our attempt to draw them educationally," Drake said. "They want to be able to see and touch what they're looking at."

Coming this August will likely be a Touch Table that focuses on the Seminole Wars' timeline — a welcome new feature that shapes up to add to the plethora of Seminole items available to the viewing public.

"Some people have perceptions of museum exhibits being static and kind of frozen and unchanging," Drake said. "Nothing's moving, but I want to make people aware there's a whole back story to it. Hopefully, this inspires people to come check out our museum, as we have a lot of cool things in store for the future."

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's Traveling Exhibit will be available to museums nationwide in Feb. 2011, Drake said.

For more information, please visit www.ahththiki.com.



Naji Tobias

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Presenter/Curator Saul Drake points out the scrapbook style for this year's "Postcards and Perceptions" exhibit, which began in March and runs until February 2011.

High School Senior Receives Dawn Marie Snow Fertitta Scholarship

McKayla Snow presents in honor of her late mother the Dawn Marie Snow Fertitta Memorial Nursing Scholarship to Okeechobee High School senior Brooke Stewart. The event was May 20 at Scholarship Night in the high school auditorium. It is the fourth year the scholarship has been given out memorializing the late Fertitta who was in the nursing field. The scholarship is given to a senior each year who plans to enter the nursing medical field. —Rachel Butts



Elbert Snow

HURRICANE SEASON'S UPON US BE PREPARED

This Season Learn How to Keep Your Animals Safe

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — For this year's hurricane season, Nick and Traci Andrews have made plans to keep their pets safe.

The Big Cypress couple, who owns 10 horses and five dogs, plans to keep them all in their horse barns and kennels at his family's home site. Their four children — Dalton Koenigs, 12, Dayra Koenigs, 9, Nicholas Andrews, 6 and Lane Andrews, 1 — also are pet owners. Dalton and Dayra each have a horse, Nicholas owns a pony, and Lane takes care of a few puppies.

The youngsters' pets are typically kept in their respective horse barns and kennels right alongside their parents' animals.

"It's [the horse barns and kennels] a lot better for them [the animals] because we have to deal with flying branches and fall-

ing trees — they're safer that way," Nick Andrews said of the animals.

Nick Andrews, who owns the Big Cypress family Feed Store, offers some animal safety tips for the Tribal communities to take heed should a hurricane hit any of the areas.

"Make sure you pick up all types of debris in your area and clear the ground of it," he said. "You need to secure anything that could be airborne."

He said it's important to pick up a sufficient supply of water and food for the pets to live on in advance of any storm activity.

"You'll need that for a minimum of five days, as well as any types of medical supplies, like bandages, vet wraps and gauze pads," Nick Andrews said.

Pet Shelter Possibilities

Seminole Animal Wildlife Control Officer Donna Williamson recommends that cattle owners allow their animals to flee into pasture for safety.

"The cattle know where to go in case of a hurricane," Williamson said.

Before a hurricane touches down here, Williamson said it's important for all animals — cattle, dogs and cats — to receive a microchip and a pet identification tag in case they get lost in the inclement weather.

It allows the Seminole Health and Animal Control units a better opportunity to locate the missing animals for their owners in case a storm hits them.

□ Please see **ANIMALS** on page 10A



Don't Forget to Plan for Your Health Before a Hurricane Hits

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — As soon as a hurricane hits the radar, people also hit the hardware and grocery stores.

When thinking about preparing for a hurricane, the first thoughts usually involve putting up shutters, boarding up windows and stocking up on food. However, another important thing that must be preplanned for is health and medical needs.

The Seminole Health Department is helping community members prepare for a safe and healthy season.

"At the beginning of hurricane season what we do is send out a flyer to the community just to let them know that if they have any special needs, any patients out there that would qualify for special needs, they need to fill that out and get that back in to us and make us aware that they are there and that they would require our assistance," said Health Department's Barbara Boling.

Once the paperwork is returned, nurses flag the patients that may require medical assistance during a storm and continue to follow up throughout the hurricane season. At the first site of a threat, nurses and caregivers tend to the community and provide them with medical options.

Boling said their first option for patients is to always encourage them to stay with their families during the hurricane, but if that's not possible then there are caregivers available to the patients.

For those patients who are eligible for special needs services and need to reside in a shelter during a storm, the Hollywood and Tampa Hard Rock Hotels are designated special needs shelters. The Health Department will work with the patients to coordinate any needed transportation.

Community members must not just rely

on the Seminole Health Department, but must take their health in their own hands and be prepared in the case of a disaster.

"The big thing is going to be medications that you are not able to get out and get those during the storm so you should try to make sure you have at least a two-week supply," Boling said. "Take stock in your inventory. If you're a diabetic and you need to test your blood sugar, make sure you have your strips, that you have enough of those strips, that you have your insulin."

Any special needs patient or elder who requires a CPAP breathing machine or any other electronic medical device must make arrangements prior to a storm to receive portable devices that can be used without a standby generator. Or, if a generator is necessary, the local Buildings and Grounds Department can make those arrangements.

During the event of a hurricane nurses will work closely with patients that require special treatment such as dialysis. Nurses will help coordinate with treatment facilities to rearrange dialysis dates so patients are still receiving the same number of days needed.

□ Please see **HEALTH** on page 10A



Tribe Maintains Support of Governor's Hurricane Conference Amid Impending Storm Season

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

As another impending hurricane season approaches, emergency service personnel have begun the process of teaching and implementing preparation and safety procedures.

The Tribe's Emergency Management Department lead the way along with a host of others with workshops, networking, exhibits and training seminars throughout the week of May 23-28 for the 24th annual Governor's Hurricane Conference at the Broward County Convention Center.

"Each year is a new challenge and we have to take each year as it comes," said Carl Fowler, Tribal Emergency Management Department Coordinator, regarding the upcoming hurricane season which runs June 1 through Nov. 30. "I know some years there has been a relaxed forecast, but for the current season that we are in now, it calls for a pretty active year."

"It is very important that Tribal citizens understand that I feel preparedness is a participatory sport," said Tribal Emergency Management Director Robert Tarrant. "We all have to be involved and we do so by finding out what the hazards are that we will encounter on our reservations and what steps can we take to prepare ourselves if certain eventualities occur."

Tarrant said there will be improvements in the Tribe's emergency preparation planning with a new automated notification

system in place to alert Tribal officials and department heads, but still warns that communication among the Tribal communities must remain steady as severe weather approaches.

"Tribal citizens need to be encouraged to attend community meetings throughout the months of the hurricane season so they can learn themselves about the location and operation of shelters with our coordinators," Tarrant said.

Jamie Rhome, Storm Surge Specialist from the National Hurricane Center in Miami, said this year there are approximately 14-23 named tropical storms predicted to develop. The first storm of 2010 will be named Alex.

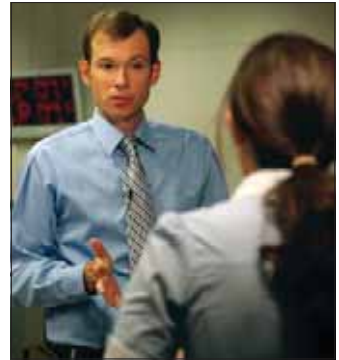
According to the National Hurricane Center's website, nhc.noaa.gov, each year an average of 11 tropical storms develop over the Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico. At least

six of these storms will become hurricanes. When the winds from these storms reach 39 mph (34 kts), the cyclones are given names.

Each year an average of five hurricanes strike the U.S. coastline, killing 50 to 100 people from the state of Texas all the way up to northeastern Maine. Of these, two are typically considered "major" or "intense" hurricanes of Category 3 or higher over an average three-year period.

Rhorne also explained that storm surge threats are another critical aspect of the storm season.

"I help people to understand the threat of these storm surges and how to prepare for them," he said.



Chris C. Jenkins

Jamie Rhome, Storm Surge Specialist from the National Hurricane Center, is interviewed by Seminole Media Productions Briana Abitain, right, on the upcoming Florida hurricane season and storm surges.

A storm surge is water that is pushed toward the shore by wind forces swirling around a storm. These surges combine with the other tides to create a hurricane storm tide, which can increase the water level 15 feet or more.

Rhorne and other experts feel these surges pose the greatest potential for loss of life during a hurricane and historically claim nine out of 10 victims.

"If you are a coastal resident storm surges are definitely your primary concern," Rhorne said. "It is impossible though, to forecast the impact the surges will have."

Developing a family game plan, creating a disaster supplies kit and securing your home are three major safety requirements suggested in the hurricane preparation process.

For more information, call the Emergency Management hotline at 1-800-617-7154.



Education Department Is Prepared for Hurricane Season

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — With the hurricane season beginning, the Education Department along with Tribal schools are taking all necessary precautions to keep students and staff informed, as well as to have a smooth school year.

At the start of any hurricane season the Education Department makes it a priority to attend all preplanning meetings to know what their role will be and what is expected of them in the case of a hurricane.

One of the department's roles is to keep the reservation school buses ready for possible evacuation at all times.

"In case of a mandatory emergency evacuation, if the dike breaks, if we have to get people out, senior citizens out that aren't able to have family members get to them in adequate time, then we make sure our buses are ready to roll," said Director of Education Emma Johns. "We have four buses out here that we keep on full at all times so that in the event if they do need them and they do need the drivers, then we are ready."

The Tribal schools have also begun hurricane preparation starting in the classroom.

"We have discussions the first week or

two, where we go over our school policies and rules and part of that is crisis situations and we include hurricanes, tornadoes and any potential situations that could come up on campus," Pemayetv Emahavh Principal Russell Brown said.

The Education Department's most important role is to serve as the liaison between the school districts and the Tribal communities. With Tribal youth attending schools spread out the Education Department stays in constant contact with the different county school boards to maintain an updated school schedule. If schools will be closed, the Education Department will notify the respective communities via flyers, global e-mails, reservation scrolling marquees and even word of mouth by numerous phone calls.

Once a storm hits, the Education Department and schools continue to work diligently in disseminating information and keeping the communities informed.

"We'll go door to door if we have to; whatever measures that we have to take that's what we're willing to do," Johns said. "We have a 24/7 phone line that we give all the parents whether it's our cell phones or home phones; and hopefully if the phone lines are working, they can get that information right from us. We'll take their calls and let them know what's going on minute

by minute as we get the information."

After a storm passes, schools must be assessed for damage with the help of the Seminole Police Department and Fire Rescue. If the schools are deemed safe, classes will resume back to normal. If damage has occurred, the Tribe, school and county will make the necessary decisions to move forward with the school year, immediately fixing the damage and then resuming the school year, or making arrangements to relocate.

"I'd just like to reiterate to the community that our first priority is always the safety of the students and the staff. So, if it's a questionable call in regards of a crisis such as a hurricane, then we would rather take the time off and make it up at a later time," Brown said.

For more information and to remain linked in, call your local Education Department at:

Brighton: 863-763-3572
Hollywood: 954-989-6840
Big Cypress: 863-902-3200
Immokalee: 239-867-5303
Fort Pierce: 772-467-2454
Tampa: 813-246-3100

Are You Prepared for Hurricane Season? Plan Now for a Busy 2010 Storm Season

BY BRIANA ABITAIN
Staff Reporter

It's a matter of when, not if a hurricane will hit South Florida and with 14 to 23 named storms on the National Hurricane Center's radar, the best advice is preparation.

"I try to convince people that they really need to be prepared each year as if this is the year that one major storm is going to roll right over them," said Bill Read, director of The National Hurricane Center. After almost five years since Hurricane Wilma touched down causing much devastation to our homes and the Everglades, it's important not to be complacent.

Putting together an emergency preparedness kit is simple and you most likely have everything you'll need in your home. (Note: See Box 1 Emergency Preparedness Kit)

"We recommend that the kit have

enough basic supplies for sustainability, for anywhere from 24-72 hours," said Carl Fowler, The Seminole Tribe's Emergency Management Coordinator.

Securing your vehicles and homes is also important. Shutters or 3/8-inch plywood on windows and doors should sustain hurricane force winds. In addition, learning where the nearest shelters are located, could reduce the stress level come evacuation time.

Hurricane Season runs June 1 through Nov. 30 and sea level surface temperatures increase at the beginning of the season. This could trigger a tropical storm and if winds sustain up to 74 miles per hour, a hurricane could form. El Niño (warm) and La Niña (cold) are larger scale changes in the temperatures that result from the interaction of the surface of the ocean and the atmosphere.

"We have a pretty good handle on the forecast models," Read said. "El Niño is in its demise and we'll probably be in the La Niña oceanographic event in the Pacific by the peak of the hurricane season. Most La Niña years trend towards more active seasons." Hurricanes can be very frightening,

Emergency Preparedness Kit:

One gallon of water per person, per day
Non-Perishable food items i.e. canned goods, dry snacks, etc.
Can Opener
Infant Needs i.e. diapers, baby food, formula, etc.
Dietary Needs i.e. syringes, lancets, 3-5 days of prescriptions
Flash Light
Batteries
Matches
Candles
Games
Full Tank of Gas

ing; however, those who reside in the Everglades, should be in good shape.

"The Everglades is a natural phenomenon," Read said. "They're actually designed to handle quite a bit of water. Given where you are and given that it's native trees, it can absorb a lot of water and come up with the rain water."

The important thing is to have a plan, understand the risks associated with hurricanes, and the responsibilities.

BY CARL FOWLER

Emergency Management Coordinator
Brighton, Fort Pierce & Tampa Reservations

The news from last month's annual Florida Governor's Hurricane Conference was not what we wanted to hear — that the 2010 Atlantic Hurricane Season will be a busy one and may produce a record number of storms. The good news is that the Department of Emergency Management was there to get the latest updates and to meet with state and local government planners on how best to prepare our communities for the six month storm season that began June 1 and extends through Nov. 30.

Director Bob Tarrant and Emergency Management Coordinator Carl Fowler discussed planning and preparation for hurricanes and tropical storms for a special program on the 2010 season that is being broadcast on the Seminole Channel through Nov. 30. Assistant Director Lori Yun Kannon, who has been an active supporter of the Conference for several years, once again served in a leadership role as a Conference Director. Emergency Management Coordinators Jason Dobronz and Brian Barton provided their support and attended training sessions and workshops to gain the latest information on preparedness plans and recovery operations for this year.

Among the scientists and weather forecasters who gathered for the event that took place the week of May 23 at the Broward County Convention Center, there was solid agreement that this year could mirror the unprecedented storm season of 2005.

That's when a record number of tropical systems developed in the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico, including Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Wilma which battered much of South Florida. And with the oil spill disaster in the Gulf, the prospect of a moderate to a powerful hurricane dispersing and driving the plume toward widespread areas of shoreline is particularly troublesome.

While there are numerous organizations and weather forecasters who make annual hurricane season predictions on the number of storms that could develop, there are two that emergency managers especially rely upon; the federal government's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and a team of weather and climate researchers at Colorado State University. Dr. Bill Gray and Dr. Phil Klotzbach. Dr. Gray is internationally known and is often cited for the accuracy of his forecasts that are based upon a combination of historical and current weather data.

For 2010, the NOAA forecast that was issued May 27 calls for 14 to 23 named storms (with top winds of 39 mph or higher) including 8 to 14 hurricanes (with top winds of 74 mph or higher) of which three to seven could be major hurricanes (with winds of at least 111 mph). NOAA also predicts a 70 percent chance for the numbers in each of these categories to occur.

Dr. Gray and Dr. Klotzbach, in issuing their annual forecast June 2, use specific numbers instead

□ Please see **SEASON** on page 10A

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ANIMALS

From page 9A

"During a storm, an ID or tag may come off, but a microchip stays with the pet," Williamson said. "It's placed under its skin, so it doesn't come off."

Williamson also provided specific advice for horse owners — in particular — to follow in the event of a hurricane.

"For the horses, the best thing to do is spray paint their backsides with the owner's telephone number," she said. "Owners have to have a current coggins or a picture of them with a horse to show any Animal Control Agency proof of ownership."

Patrick Peck, the Tribe's Environmental Health Program Manager, said there won't be a specific pet shelter available for cattle this hurricane season. But there could be one for pets such as cats and dogs, he said.

The Animal Control unit is considering the garage area of the Big Cypress Reservation's Cattle and Range Building for pet shelter use. According to Peck, in order for a pet shelter facility to be approved, it must have lighting capacity, air conditioning, running water and resources to be easily cleaned and maintained.

Peck added that the Animal Control Department was recently in the process of ordering a pet shelter trailer for Big Cypress. However, the proposed deal fell through, according to him.

"We're going to try hard to find a location," Peck said. "Our directors are trying to get authorized for a suitable pet shelter location for our Tribal members."

A pet shelter facility is also up for consideration at the Brighton Reservation, Peck said.

The program manager said he hopes a decision will be made by Seminole Health Director Connie Whidden and the Tribal Council within the next few weeks for pet shelters in Big Cypress and Brighton.

If approved, the Immokalee Reservation, in addition to the Trail and Naples Tribal communities, would share the proposed Big Cypress pet shelter. Meanwhile, the Fort Pierce Reservation's residents would be able to use Brighton's, should they desire to do so.

The Tampa Reservation's residents have several options for pet shelter storages.

Provided that the Tampa Tribal pet owners have a cage and proof of vaccination, they can place their pets at any of these following Hillsborough County shelter locations:

- Sickles High School in Tampa
- Shields Middle School in Ruskin
- Bartels Middle School in Tampa
- Burnett Middle School in Seffner

The Hollywood Reservation uses the Broward Humane Society for its pet sheltering needs.

If any Tribal or community member would like to pre-register for his/her pet(s) to be secured in a hurricane shelter, they can call Seminole Animal Wildlife Services at 239-503-4160.

For more information, call the Tribe's Environmental Health Department at 954-962-2009, ext. 10325.

—Seminole Tribune Contributing Writer Ryan Watson contributed to this story.

SEASON

From page 9A

a range, although their message is the same as NOAA's. They predict that there will be 18 named storms that include 10 hurricanes. Of the 10 hurricanes, five are expected to be major (Categories 3, 4 or 5 with winds of at least 111 mph).

So why do the experts feel that this hurricane season will be especially active? Basically, there are three main reasons: (1) El Niño in the eastern Pacific, which can suppress hurricane development in the Atlantic, is gone. (2) Several areas of the Atlantic are warmer than usual for this time of year, and warm water is a main ingredient for tropical storms and hurricanes. (3) Unfortunately, we're still in a period of increased Atlantic storm activity that began in 1995. Eight of the last 15 Atlantic hurricane seasons rank in the top ten for the most named storms; 2005 is the current record holder with 28.

In view of these predictions, the Department of Emergency Management urges all Seminole Tribe employees and members to prepare now for the possibility of severe weather striking one or more of our communities by taking the following steps:

Develop a Family Emergency Plan.

Evaluate the condition of your home and decide if it will be best to evacuate if severe weather threatens. The National Weather Service recently increased the notification times for watches and warnings to give officials and residents more time to prepare. Now, when a hurricane watch is issued, it means that hurricane conditions are expected to arrive within 48 hours. When a hurricane warning is issued, sustained winds of at least 74 mph are expected within 36 hours.

If you and your family decide not to evacuate, locate a safe room or the safest area in the home where you can go during a storm.

If possible, staying in your home during severe weather is the best choice. If you decide to evacuate, the next best option is to go to the safe home of a family member or friend. A third option is to plan on going to the nearest emergency shelter that is located either at your reservation or within the county where

your reservation is located.

Stock a Home Emergency Supplies Kit.

Include nonperishable foods, water, a flashlight with extra batteries, a first aid kit, a portable radio and/or a portable digital TV and a NOAA Weather Radio. Remember to include items for infants, those with special dietetic needs, and pets. (Pets are not allowed in emergency shelters.) Prepare enough supplies to last for up to 72 hours. For water, one gallon per person per day is recommended, which can be adjusted based upon individual need.

Preregister those with special needs.

The Health Department has a Preregistration Form for Tribal members with current medical conditions who wish to apply for Special Needs sheltering during a storm. The forms are reviewed on a case by case basis to determine if there is a need to place the person in the Special Needs Shelter. Currently, the Special Needs Shelter is the Hard Rock Hotel in Hollywood or Tampa, depending on the projected path of the storm.

The Department of Emergency Management stands ready to safeguard all Tribal communities should severe weather threaten this hurricane season by providing advance notifications to all governmental and department officials. The Department will also coordinate with Police and Fire/Rescue in communicating emergency information and guidance to the communities and to assist with any emergency actions that are necessary.

While the 2010 Atlantic hurricane season may turn out to be an active one, early preparation both collectively and individually is the key to successfully surviving and recovering from a storm.

Additional information on preparing for hurricanes and other hazards can be found in the 2010 All Hazards Guide that will be available throughout the year at all reservations. The Guide will also be posted, along with other valuable information, at the Department of Emergency Management website at <http://www.stofemd.com/>. To report emergencies or for information on severe weather that affects us, call the Department of Emergency Management anytime at 1-800-617-7514.

have the EOC [Emergency Operation Center] here in Brighton and one in Hollywood at the Hollywood clinic. So we are in constant communication if people are calling in; then they are going to be able to be updated anytime during the storm."

When preparing for a hurricane the most important thing is not to wait until the last minute.

For more information on how to prepare medically for a storm, call your local health departments or call the Emergency Management hotline that is available 24/7.

Hollywood — 954-962-2009

Big Cypress — 863-983-5151

Brighton — 863-763-0271

Immokalee — 239-867-3400

Tampa — 813-620-2860

Emergency Management Hotline — 1-800-617-7514.

HEALTH

From page 9A

Throughout hurricane season the Seminole Health Department teams up with the Seminole Emergency Management and makes themselves readily available to community members at all times.

"Our whole clinic staff stays," Boiling said. "We



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2009-2010 SEMINOLE TRIBE INDIAN 4-H SHOW AND SALE PARTICIPANTS

2010-2011 4-H Schedule

The Seminole Indian 4-H is proud to show off our 4-H members from the 2009-2010 year. We are excited about the upcoming year and we look forward to a record breaking participation in 2011.

We have included pictures of our 2009-2010 members whom participated at the Seminole Tribe Indian 4-H show and sale.

It is getting close to cattle shipping which means it will be time to pick our steer projects for this year.

4-H deadline to be enrolled is October 31, 2010. Included below is some quick information that we would like to share with you. This is a great opportunity for our youth so please consider 4-H in your upcoming plans.

5-7 years old - Small Animal Club

8 years old - Hog project

9 years old - Steer Project if Hog was first project at age 8 years old

10 years old - Steer project or Hog

Cattle Shipping for Brighton are July 5th - 10th

Cattle shipping Big Cypress July 12th - 17th

Seminole Indian 4-H Director: Polly Hayes

Hollywood Reservation 4-H Leader: Michele Osceola

Big Cypress 4-H Leaders: Crystal Burkett Wilcox and Toi Andrews

Imnokalee 4-H Leader: Melonie Hamlett

Brighton 4-H Leader: Dionne Smedley, Donnie Hayes,

Seminole Indian 4-H Extension Agent: Michael Bond

If you have any questions please call 863-763-5020 and ask for Polly Hayes or Dionne Smedley.



AALIYAH MORA



AARON ALVARADO



ANNIE JUMPER



AIDEN TOMMIE



AIYANA TOMMIE



ALEXIS AGUILAR



ALEXIS JAMES



ALEXIS JIMMIE



ALICE OSCEOLA



ALYSSA GONZALEZ



ANDRE JUMPER



ANNIE JOE



ANTHONY JOE



ASHLEY FAZ



ASHTON BAXLEY



ASHTON BEER



AUBBY BILLIE



BC CLUB HOG



BC CLUB STEER



BILLIE YATES



BLAKE BAKER



BLEVYNS JUMPER



BRIAN BISHOP



BRIANNA BOWERS



BRYDGETT KOONTZ



CABLE BOWERS



CHEBON GOODEN



DAMIAN ESCOBAR



DESTINEY NUNEZ



CALLIE JOE



CHEYANNE & BRIANNA NUNEZ



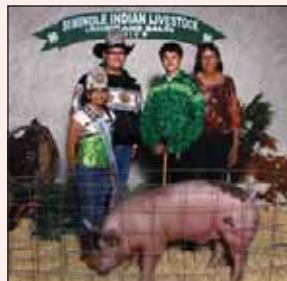
DANI JAE TOMMIE



DRAKE LAWRENCE



CAMRYN THOMAS



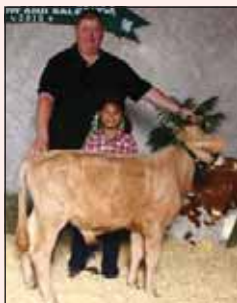
CHRISTOPHER BRISCALL



DAYRA KOONES SWINE



DRAYTON BILLIE



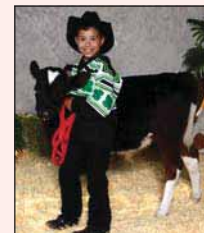
CANIAH BILLIE AGUILAR



COURTNEY GORE



DEIDRA HALL



ECHO BILLIE



CARTAYA BILLIE



CREEK GOPHER



DENNIS GONZALEZ



EDWARD AGUILAR JR.



CHASTITY HARMON



DALTON KOONES



DESTINEE JIMMIE



ERENA BILLIE



EZEKIEL ROBERTO



GARRETT THOMAS



JACK AGUILAR



JAYLEE WILCOX



JUSTIN ROFF



GENEVA GARCIA



JACOB COTTOM



JENNA MCDUFFIE



KAILIN BROWN



HARMONY CYPRESS



JADA TAPIA



JESSICA LOPEZ



KALEB DOCTOR THOMAS



HEATH LAWRENCE



JALYAH ARTEAGA



JEWEL BUCK



KALGARY JOHNS



HUNTER STRICKLAND



JARRETT BEECHAM



JOHN JIMMIE



KAMONIE SMITH



IMMOKALEE CLUB HOG



JAYCEE JUMPER



JAYCO BILLIE



KARLYNE URBINA



ISSIAH ALVARADO



JAYDEN PUENTE



JUSTIN GOPHER JR.



KEANU CORREA



KELTON SMEDLEY



MADISYN OSCEOLA



NICK ANDREWS



RICHARD SMITH



KENYA YZAGURRE



MALONIE PEREZ



NIKKI DAVIS



ROBERT FUDGE



KENNY DESHENNE



MARCOS REYNA



NORMAN OSCEOLA



RODNI MERCER



KENNY JO DAVIS JR.



MARSHALL TOMMIE



OSCAR YATES



ROSA URBINA



KYLE GARCIA



MIKA LOPEZ



PRESTON SMITH



RUBEN BURGESS JR.



LARISSA DELAROSA



NEHEMAH ROBERTS



PRISCILLA ALVARADO



RYLEE SMITH



LIVITICUS ROBERTS



NICHOLAS CORREA



QUINTON SMITH



SABRE BILLIE



SEMINOLE SMALL ANIMAL CLUB



TADEN SANTIAGO



TROY CANTU



WILLIAM BEARDEN



SKYLER BURKE



TREVOR THOMAS



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*Photos and names courtesy of 4-H Department



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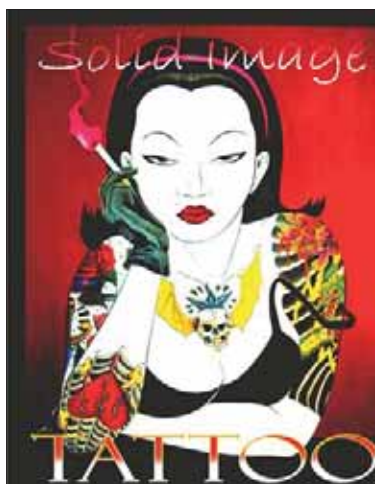
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2010 Preschoolers Graduate in Immokalee

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

IMMOKALEE — Family and friends of the Immokalee Seminole Preschoolers gathered at the Gym at 10:30 a.m. on May 12 to participate in the graduation exercises. The auditorium decorations used primary colors to create a festive staging area, balloon columns and age-appropriate center pieces.

The Wind Clan's Brandon Posada, son of Mario and Lorraine Posada, and Panther Clan's Amara Martinez, daughter of Rick Martinez and Crystal Billie, made up the graduating class of 2010. Wearing red caps and gowns accented with patchwork in the Tribal colors of red, yellow, black and white, the two young students marched down the aisle and took their places in the staging area.

Tribal elder Bobby Billie offered the invocation and then talked about the significance of introducing the children at an early age to their cultural background and native language. The graduates then offered a perfect example of cultural awareness by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Mantele in Mikasuki under the supervision of their culture teacher, Amy Clay.

All eyes were affixed on the large-screen slide show presentation depicting the precious moments in the lives of the young graduates. Beginning with their first photographs after birth, the viewers watched them taking their first steps, birthday parties, pets, nap times, play dates and school activities.

Laughter and applause filled the room as Amara Martinez and Brandon Posada were joined by their schoolmates, Shaniah Correa, Makayla Mata and Angelo Colon, Jr.

Dressed like green speckled frogs, they perched on a log and then jumped one at a time into a pool after singing individual verses of their favorite song.

Immokalee Preschool Site Manager Michelle Ford read the poem "Whose Child Is This?" Teacher Frances Fregoso followed with a short biographic presentation of the graduates denoting their personalities, special skills, favorite colors and career ambitions.

Parent Involvement Coordinator Dawna Bell joined Ford in awarding the graduation diplomas.

"I enjoy working with preschoolers because they are full of energy, challenging and inquisitive," said Seminole Fire Rescue Officer Bruce Britton as he handed out Safety Certificates. "They are very impressive at this age with an open mind for learning. Their response to safety training is amazing."

Congratulating their students on a job well done, teachers Castro and Fregoso joined Michelle Ford in distributing awards in the form of book bags and kindergarten school supplies. Fregoso said, "We have enjoyed the journey as we watched you grow and you will always be special to us. You are both determined, hard workers with your feet planted soundly on the road to the future."

A congratulatory buffet and cake completed the commencement celebration.



Five green speckled frogs performed for the Immokalee Preschool Graduation exercises.



Immokalee Preschool Site Manager Michelle Ford watches as Fire Rescue Officer Bruce Britton presents graduates Brandon Posada and Amara Martinez with Safety Certificates.



Above photo, 2010 Immokalee Preschool graduates Brandon Posada and Amara Martinez are ready to cut their cake at the commencement celebration. Right, Brandon and Amara.



Afhackkee preschool student Madasyn Osceola, 3, left, gets evaluated by Occupational Therapist Nina Stevenson, center, and Ahfachkee School Teacher Mrs. Jill Grismore, right, on her motor skills.



Afhackkee School Nurse Miss Danielle McCall administers a hearing test to preschool student Dyani Koenes, 4.

Ahfachkee School Rounds Up Readiness Testing for Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten Students

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — To gear up for the 2010-2011 academic year, the Ahfachkee School hosted its eighth annual Readiness Round Up function for the preschool and pre-kindergarten students on May 19 and May 27.

Located at the Tribal school's cafeteria, the youngsters engaged in a series of tests to see whether they need extra help in their academics for the upcoming school year.

According to Ahfachkee School ESE Coordinator Jillian Francis, the Readiness Round-Up's purpose is to identify students who may need specialized education and/or services. The students were screened in a variety of areas using the Developmental Indicators for the Assessment of Learning, Third Edition (DIAL-3) testing procedure guidelines.

The testing yielded either a result of OK or a potential delay, which would mean more screening tests for them, Francis said.

"It is our responsibility as the local education agency on Big Cypress Reservation to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities," she said.

At one testing session, the kids were tested in a host of motor exercises, which included jumping, skipping, block building, copying, cutting, catching and hopping.

They were also screened for their vision and hearing, as specialists evaluated them to see if their eyes and/or ears would potentially become an impediment to the learning process.

If the students had eye concerns, they were later referred to an optometrist for further testing. As for the hearing segment of the round up testing procedures, the kids would be referred to an audiologist for a further checkup.



Speech pathologist Miss Allison Mason, left, tests Ahfachkee pre-kindergarten student Akira Cabral, 5, right, in his language skills at the Readiness Round-Up on May 19.

The Ahfachkee School receives federal funding through the Bureau of Indian Education for eligible students that need special education and related services.

Pemayetv Emahakv Spelling Bees Helps Preserve Language

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School's Culture Department added a little bit of fun to their lessons by holding school-wide teacher, parent and student Creek Spelling Bees in effort to continue to instill the Seminole culture and language into the community.

Teachers and parents showed off their Creek language skills May 11, with the students competing May 17 in the Charter School cafeteria. Teacher Heather Dobbs took the first place trophy home for the second year in a row, while Laverne Thomas claimed the parent's trophy. Shaun Osceola was named the student Creek Spelling Bee winner.

"I think it definitely motivates the parents, the students and the teachers to participate in the culture aspect of the school," culture teacher Jade Braswell said about the annual spelling bee.

The Creek Spelling Bee is an opportunity the Charter School uses to get the entire school and Tribal community together to preserve and learn a language that is rapidly fading away.

"I feel it's important to see if everyone's catching on," Thomas said. "And just to see



Parent Laverne Thomas, left, and teacher Heather Dobbs show off their winning spelling bee trophies.

the teachers learning is pretty cool so then they can translate and help us to teach it back to our children."

All competitors stood before a cafeteria full of students and staff and spelled words such as punce, letket and tvmket. Each spelling bee competition consisted of several rounds with contestants correctly spelling the words. Weeks prior to the spelling bee students brought home Creek spelling lists and parents were able to print out lists from the Culture Department's website to practice.

"I've talked to parents and they're like, 'Oh I sat down with my kid all night trying to learn these spelling words,' and they call up here, 'Can I get another copy of them, we've lost it and we're trying to go over it,'" Braswell said. "It makes us feel good that they are getting involved and trying to help not only themselves, but their child as well."



Sean Osceola gives a big cheer as Culture Department's Shelly Walker names him the Creek Spelling champ.

Hollywood Christian Senior Castillo Receives Graduation Diploma



Hollywood Christian Academy senior honor roll student Talena Castillo, second from left, received her graduation diploma June 4. The 18-year-old Hollywood resident plans to take some time off before attending the University of Miami to major in mathematics, with eventual plans to work for the Tribe. Castillo's family, from left, grandmother Judy Baker, mother Susie Stubbs and stepfather Glen Stubbs.

Hollywood Preschool Students Welcome a Bright Future at Graduation Ceremony



From left, Jake Osceola as Baby Bear, Suzannah Osceola as Mama Bear, Jose Puente Jr. as Papa Bear and Amelia Osceola as Goldie Locks in the preschool stage play version of "Goldie Locks and the Three Bears."



The Class of 2010 Hollywood Preschool students perform on stage while telling their family and teachers about their future professional dreams as part of graduation ceremonies held at the Hollywood Headquarters Auditorium May 26. The 17 youth included: Colton Bert, Adrian Cypress, Shilin Huggins, Isabella Josh, Jake Osceola, Suzannah Osceola, Jose Puente Jr., Melina Steve, Amelia Osceola, Antonio Billie, Tony Billie, Ashton Doctor, Moses Jumper, Jennie Osceola, Layla Petrillo, Nettie Smith and Jack Tiger. All received diplomas and backpacks with class rings and school supplies.

Pemayetv Emahakv's Fourth Nine Weeks Awards Ceremony

Jaden Puente, left, Andrew Dobbs and Trevor Thomas receive awards for straight A's not just for the fourth nine weeks but also the entire school year.



Rachel Beaton



Zachary Hudson, left, and Krystal Tones earn the Straight A award for the fourth nine weeks at the Fourth Nine Weeks Awards ceremony.

Rachel Beaton

Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School Awards Recipients 4TH NINE WEEKS

Kindergarten Effort

Tammy Martinez
Jaytron Baker
Tehya Howard
Warrik Billie
Reese Davis
Tadan Santiago
Lupe Mora-Lara
Corey Jumper
Jason Webber
Alanis Baker
Joss Youngblood

Kindergarten Citizenship

Diego Meras
Zion Romine
Leilani Burton
Kyra Tones
Kayven Emley
Hannah Moss
Karlyne Urbina
Kalyn Hammil
Jahcole Arnold
Hawk Micco
LaShae King
Dathen Garcia
Alice Osceola
Jaime Smith
Pherian Baker
Caleb Burton
Elle Thomas
Caitlyn Olivarez
Mariah Garner

100's Club

Pherian Baker
Caleb Burton
Kayven Emley
Tadan Santiago
Corey Jumper
Karlyne Urbina
Warrik Billie
Jahcole Arnold
Alanis Baker
Hawk Micco
Joss Youngblood

AR Medal Winner

Reese Davis
Elle Thomas
Kayven Emley
Hannah Moss
Awesome Alligator
Lupe Mora-Lara

Brilliant Bear

Mariah Garner

Buzzing Bee

Lupe Mora-Lara

Fantastic Frog

Pherian Baker
Warrik Billie
Caleb Burton
Kayven Emley
Karlyne Urbina
Corey Jumper
Jahcole Arnold
Alanis Baker
Hawk Micco
Joss Youngblood

Dazzling Duck

Hannah Moss
Reese Davis
Elle Thomas
Kayven Emley
Corey Jumper

Tadan Santiago
Caleb Burton

Perfect Attendance

Jahcole Arnold
Tammy Martinez

Student Council Representative

Elle Thomas

Citizenship Award for the Year

— students who consistently are ready to help others, always play fair, and treat everyone with respect.
Hannah Moss - Mrs. Webber's class
Diego Meras - Mrs. Duncan's class
Kalyn Hammil - Mrs. Pearce's class

First Grade Effort

Kanyon Billie
Hunter Howard
Daven Buck
Ramone Baker
Haylie Huff
Tanner Shore
Jayton Baker
Todd Pierce
Destiny Elliott
Jessie Benjamin
Jahbahn Arnold
Kiowa Garcia

First Grade Citizenship

John Beck
Alyssa Gonzalez
Jagger Gaucin
Ivory Herrera
Ruby Osceola
Ta-fv Harris
Ryanna Osceola
Caylie Huff
Jayton Baker
Kobe Jimmie
Davin Carrillo

First Grade Improvement

Morgan Yates
Shaela French
Norman Osceola
Heith Lawrence
Hyatt Pearce
Jaylen Baker
Billy Bailey
Laila Bennett
Justin Gopher
Mariah Billie

1st grade Bronze Award

(3.0-3.4) – 2nd semester
Hyatt Pearce
Laila Bennett
Mariah Billie
Justin Gopher

1st grade Silver Award

(3.5-3.9) – 2nd semester
Billy Bailey
Ramone Baker
Heith Lawrence
Jahbahn Arnold
Davin Carrillo
Todd Pierce
Aubee Billie
Corey Jumper
Dayven Buck

Shaela French
Jagger Gaucin
Alyssa Gonzalez

1st grade Gold Award

(4.0) – 2nd Semester
John Beck
Tanner Shore
Haylie Huff
Ruby Osceola
Caylie Huff
Destiny Elliott

Straight A's all year

John Beck
Destiny Elliott
Caylie Huff
Haylie Huff
Tanner Shore
Ruby Osceola

Citizenship Award for the Year

— students who consistently are ready to help others, always play fair, and treat everyone with respect.
Mrs. Davis' class-Heith Lawrence
Aubee Billie-Mrs. Johns' class
Mrs. Ringstaff's class-Jayton Baker

Student Council Representative

Haylie Huff

Second Grade Effort

Kaleb Doctor
Dakota Micco
Malcolm Jones
Aubrey Pearce
Dante Thomas
Tucker Johns
Burgundy Pierce
Edward Gaucin
Myron Billie
Jacee Jumper
Katie Beck
Silas Madrigal
Jarrett Bert
Aleah Turtle

Second Grade Citizenship

Kamani Smith
Mallorie Thomas
Dante Thomas
Malcolm Jones
Shyla Gopher
Joseph Davidson
Ozzy Osceola
Eecho Billie
Keira French
Waylynn Bennett
Kai Osceola
Savannah Fish
Madisyn Osceola
Jarrett Bert

Second Grade Improvement

Kaleb Doctor
Donovan Harris
Mallorie Thomas
Luzana Venzor
Brienna Brockman
Tavis Jumper
Bevyn Billie
Araya Youngblood

Kai Osceola
Aleah Turtle

2nd grade Bronze Award

(3.0-3.4) – 2nd semester
Bevyn Billie
Ozzy Osceola
Burgundy Pierce
Araya Youngblood
Myron Billie
Jarrett Bert
Malcolm Jones
Dakota Micco
Dante Thomas
Mallorie Thomas

2nd grade Silver Award

(3.5-3.9) – 2nd semester
Edward Gaucin
Tucker Johns
Silas Madrigal
Brienna Brockman
Kamani Smith

2nd grade Gold Award

(4.0) – 2nd Semester
Santiago Billie
Nyah Davidson
Shyla Gopher
Katie Beck
Savannah Fish
Aubrey Pearce

Straight A's all year

Katie Beck
Savannah Fish
Aubrey Pearce

Citizenship of the Year Award

— students who consistently are ready to help others, always play fair, and treat everyone with respect.
Malcolm Jones-Mrs. Ball's class
Waylynn Bennett- Mrs. Clement's class
Araya Youngblood-Mrs. Moss's class
Jarrett Bert-Mrs. Bond's class

Student Council Representative

Ozzy Osceola

Third Grade Effort

Lance Howard
Drake Lawrence
Joseph Tones
Keely Billie
Gage Riddle
Alicia Fudge
Andrew Fish
Satie Rico
Kano Puente
Sheldon Garcia

Third Grade Citizenship

Oscar Yates
Tyler Howard
Lucas Osceola
Keely Billie
Alicia Fudge
Satie Rico

Third Grade Bronze Award

(3.0-3.4)

Ridge Bailey
Alyke Baker
Aleina Micco
Joshlynn Micco
Cady Osceola

Third Grade Silver Award

(3.5-3.9)
Keely Billie
Andrew Fish
Alicia Fudge
Kano Puente
Oscar Yates
Krysta Burton
Conner Thomas
Aidan Tommie
Billy Yates

Third Grade Gold Award

(4.0)
Satie Rico
Raeley Matthews

Straight A's all year
Raeley Matthews

3rd Grade Creek Class

Lorene Gopher's Class
Most Improved –
Best Writing Skills –
Effort –
Best Creek Speaker –

3rd gr Jenny Shore's Class

Most Improved –
Best Writing Skills –
Effort –
Best Creek Speaker –

3rd gr Arts and Crafts Class

Nancy Shore's Class
Most Improved –
Craftsmanship
Effort –
Best Creek Speaker –

3rd Grade History Class

Jade Braswell's class
Most Improved –
Effort –
Achievement –

3rd gr Student Council Representative

Raeley Matthews

Citizenship of the Year Award

— students who consistently are ready to help others, always play fair, and treat everyone with respect.
Aleina Micco – Mrs. Williams' class
Alicia Fudge – Mrs. Pryor's class

Fourth Grade Effort

Bly Davidson
Michael Girtman
Camryn Thomas
Pernell Bert
Richard Harris
Brady Rhodes
Rudy Juarez
Sunni Bearden
Joseph Osceola
Cheyenne Fish
Dalton Girtman

Cyrus Smedley
Chloe Chalfant
Marquis Fudge

Fourth Grade Citizenship

Logan Ortiz
Morgan King
Jalynn Jones
Krystal Tones
Elijah Billie
Camryn Thomas
Ivess Baker
Brian Bishop
Easton Moss
Isaac Osceola
Layne Thomas
Chloe Chalfant

Fourth Grade Bronze Award

(3.0-3.4)
Brian Bishop
Chloe Chalfant
Isaac Osceola
Pernell Bert
Bly Davidson
Michael Girtman

Fourth Grade Silver Award

(3.5-3.9)
Dyami Nelson
Brady Rhodes
Ivess Baker
Camryn Thomas

Fourth Grade Gold Award

(Straight A's -4.0)
Chandler Pearce
Aiyana Tommie
Layne Thomas
Rudy Juarez
Joseph Osceola

Fourth Grade Straight A's All Year

Chandler Pearce
Aiyana Tommie

4th Gr Student Council Representative

Morgan King

Citizenship of the Year Award

— students who consistently are ready to help others, always play fair, and treat everyone with respect.
Camryn Thomas – Mrs. Tedder's class
Brian Bishop-Mrs. Paige's class

Safety Patrol

OFC. Jaylynn Jones
OFC. Brady Rhodes
OFC. Aiyana Tommie
OFC. Camryn Thomas

Fifth Grade Effort

Ruben Burgess
Deliah Carrillo
Demetrius Clark
Andrew Dobbs
Raylon Eagle
Robert Fudge
Erik Garcia
Alexus James
Odessa King

Ahfachkee School Celebrates End-of-Fourth-Nine-Weeks Awards Ceremony

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS – With the 2009-2010 school year reaching its conclusion at the Ahfachkee School, on May 28, the staff honored its Tribal and community students for all their academic achievements.

Students ranging from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade received a slew of quarterly and end-of-the-year honors at the End-of-Fourth-Nine-Weeks Awards Ceremony, held in the Ahfachkee School's cafeteria. The students earned quarterly awards in the following categories: citizenship, culture, perfect attendance, and honor roll.

Several of the Ahfachkee students even received end-of-year medals for their marks in perfect attendance, citizenship and honor. In addition, all students ranging from pre-kindergarten to the eighth grade received Rikswatch Safety awards, courtesy of the Seminole Fire Rescue.

To top off all the academic hardware, several Ahfachkee students were recognized for their writing skills as they were presented with PBS Kids Go! Writer's Contest awards by Ahfachkee School Gifted Teacher Mrs. Jill Grismore and Ahfachkee School Principal Walter Swan.

Ahfachkee School Dean of Students Pete Cade weighed in on all the student achievements made throughout the 2009-2010 school year.

"We raised the bar academically this year and our kids rose to the challenge," Cade said. "Their perseverance and commitment to learning were illustrated by the numerous amounts of awards they earned. The teachers kept the expectations high and this is proof of the students' capabilities."

The 2009-2010 academic year ended on June 3 for the Ahfachkee School. The next school year is slated to begin on Aug. 23.

"We wish the students nothing but the best moving forward," Cade said.



Naji Tobias

Ahfachkee School Second Grade Teacher Mrs. Yvonne Caldwell, center, is with second-graders Carlee Billie, left, and Richard Billie Jr., right, as the two youngsters are awarded perfect attendance for the fourth quarter of the 2009-2010 academic year at the awards ceremony on May 28.



Naji Tobias

Ahfachkee School Principal Walter Swan is with the third and fourth grade End-Of-Year Citizenship Awards at the May 28 ceremony.



Naji Tobias

Ahfachkee School Principal Walter Swan shares some smiles with the third and fourth grade End-Of-Year Honor Roll recipients.



Naji Tobias

The pre-kindergarten students receive their End of Year Citizenship Awards from Ahfachkee School Principal Walter Swan.

AHFACHKEE SCHOOL END-OF-FOURTH-NINE-WEEKS AWARDS RECIPIENTS

(All honorees in their respective categories will be named in alphabetical order)

Councilman's Honor Roll - 3.0-3.49 Grade Point Average

Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades: 1. Nicholas Andrews, 2. Ciyah Avila, 3. Athena Bert, 4. Carlee Billie, 5. Jalycia Billie, 6. Richard Billie, 7. Talia Billie, 8. Lauren Doctor, 9. Kylen Jumper, 10. Cale Osceola, 11. Daleen Osceola, 12. Daylon Osceola, 13. Illiana Robbins, 14. Willie Smith; 3rd through 5th Grades: 1. Ethan Balentine, 2. Kevin Ivey, 3. Janessa Jones, 4. Dayra Koenes, 5. Evanne Pratt; 6th through 12th Grades: 1. Arnold Billie, 2. Jalen Cypress, 3. Alison Herrera, 4. Bradley Osceola, 5. Kaitlin Osceola, 6. Taylor Pratt, 7. Cooper Rivers, 8. Jonathan Robbins, 9. Rheannon Robbins, 10. Savannah Tiger, 11. Starzie Vargas.

President's Honor Roll - 3.5-3.99 GPA

Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades: 1. Spencer Aguilar, 2. Dayne Billie, 3. Lazzlow Billie, 4. Sontino Billie, 5. Tanoke Billie, 6. Alisa Brooks, 7. Akira Cabral, 8. Hermoine Calderon, 9. Katrina Columbo, 8. Elijah Cook, 9. Evan Cypress, 10. Harmony Cypress, 11. Ja'vian Cypress, 12. Jaylee Cypress, 13. Gabriel Hendrickson-Porter, 14. Kamari Ivey, 15. Canaan Jumper, 16. Hehchoo-Ye Jumper, 17. Keithana Onco, 18. Leo Osceola-Onco, 19. Charlie Osceola, 20. Dacia Osceola, 21. Miguel Reynosa, 22. Edie Robbins, 23. Grace Robbins, 24. Liberty Robbins, 25. Andrea Ryland, 26. Amaya Solano, 27. Xzavier Solano, 28. Kassim Stockton, 29. Chyler Villarreal, 30. Maria Villarreal, 31. Jaylee Wilcox; 3rd through 5th Grades: 1. Jonah Alvarado, 2. Alyssa Osceola, 3. Rynanne Pratt, 4. Chynna Villarreal, 5. Annabelle Whiteshield; 6th through 12th Grades: 1. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, 2. Chelsey Alvarado, 3. LiSandra Baker, 4. Terri Baker, 5. Leaura Billie, 6. Sabre Billie, 7. Chloe Hendrickson, 8. O'Sha'a Osceola, 9. Tequesta Tiger.

Perfect Attendance

Kindergarten: 1. Sontino Billie; 1st Grade: 1. Brandi Osceola; 2nd Grade: 1. Carlee Billie, 2. Richard Billie; 3rd Grade: 1. Issiah Alvarado; 4th Grade: 1. Dayra Koenes, 2. Annabelle Whiteshield; 5th Grade: 1. Jonah Billie, 2. GraySun Billie; 6th Grade: 1. Chelsey Alvarado; 7th Grade: Leaura Billie, 2. Kaitlin Osceola.

END-OF-YEAR AWARDS MEDAL RECIPIENTS

(Last name of students' teachers are written in bold italic – Pre-K through 5th Grades ONLY)

Citizenship

Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd Grades Barry: 1. Tanoke Billie, 2. Alisa Brooks, 3. Xzavier Solano, 4. Kassim Stockton, 5. Maria Villarreal, 6. Jaylee Wilcox; Stoots: 1. Ciyah Avila, 2. Dayne Billie, 3. Akira Cabral, 4. Ja'vian Cypress, 5. Jaylee Cypress, 6. Javien Jim-Washington, 7. Keithana Onco, 8. Grace Robbins, 9. Miguel Reynosa, 10. Andrea Ryland; Huckabee: 1. Anthony Avalos, 2. Talia Billie, 3. Evan Cypress, 4. Gabriel Hendrickson-Porter,

Klammer: 1. Athena Bert, 2. Evol Buck, 3. Jaiden Jim, 4. Daylon Osceola, 5. Anthony Wells; 5. Charlie Osceola, 6. Daleen Osceola; Caldwell: 1. Carlee Billie, 2. Jalycia Billie, 3. Elise Brown, 4. Lellani Gopher, 5. Gregorio Reynosa, 6. Alena Stockton, 7. Nigel Wells; Paige: 1. Spencer Aguilar, 2. Hermoine Calderon, 3. Elijah Cook, 4. Ramona Jimmie, 5. Canaan Jumper, 6. Hehchoo-Ye Jumper, 7. Brandi Osceola, 8. Liberty Robbins.

3rd through 5th Grades

Kittredge: 1. Eliza Billie, 2. Leslie Gopher Jr., 3. Katrina Huggins, 4. Janessa Jones, 5. Clayton Tiger Millicovic, 6. Carlos Romero, 7. Chynna Villarreal; Tiger: 1. Thomilyn Billie, 2. Alyssa Osceola, 3. Chaska Osceola, 4. Evanne Pratt; Schmidt: 1. Ethan Balentine, 2. Jazmine Billie, 3. Kevin Ivey, 4. Dayra Koenes, 5. Rynanne Pratt, 6. Celia Reynosa, 7. Stephanie Vargas, 8. Annabelle Whiteshield; Rhymes: 1. Jonah Alvarado, 2. GraySun Billie, 3. Samantha Vargas, 4. Nashoba Gonzalez.

6th through 12th Grades

6th Grade: 1. Arnold Billie; 7th Grade: 1. Leaura Billie, 2. Matthew Bluebird, 3. John Dell McInturff, 4. Rayce Noah, 5. Kaitlin Osceola; 8th Grade: 1. Terri Baker, 2. Savannah Tiger; 9th Grade: 1. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, 2. Taylor Fulton, 3. Alison Herrera, 4. Bradley Osceola, 5. Tequesta Tiger; 10th Grade: 1. Jalen Cypress, 2. Jonathan Robbins; 11th Grade: 1. Jon Ross Billie, 2. Ronnie Billie, 3. Rowley Osceola.

Perfect Attendance

***Note: No students achieved perfect attendance for the 2009-2010 school year. However, eight (8) students will receive an award for missing only one (1) day of school (99.4 percent attendance).

Kindergarten: 1. Sontino Billie; 2nd Grade: 1. Richard Billie, 2. Elise Brown; 4th Grade: 1. Ethan Balentine, 2. Eyma Billie, 3. Jathaniel Brooks; 5th Grades: 1. Jonah Alvarado, 2. GraySun Billie.

Honor Roll

***Note: A total of 45 Ahfachkee School students have maintained at least a 3.0 Grade Point Average during each of the four (4) grading periods and have made either the Councilman's, President's or Chairman's Honor Roll during each of the four (4) grading periods.

Pre-Kindergarten: 1. Ja'vian Cypress, 2. Grace Robbins, 3. Andrea Ryland, 4. Jaylee Wilcox; Kindergarten: 1. Athena Bert, 2. Lauren Doctor, 3. Gabriel Hendrickson-Porter, 4. Charlie Osceola, 5. Daylon Osceola, 6. Edie Robbins; 1st Grade: 1. Spencer Aguilar, 2. Hermoine Calderon, 3. Katrina Columbo, 3. Elijah Cook, 4. Harmony Cypress, 5. Kamari Ivey, 6. Canaan Jumper, 7. Hehchoo-Ye Jumper, 8. Leo Osceola-Onco, 9. Brandi Osceola, 10. Liberty Robbins, 11. Willie Smith, 12. Amaya Solano; 2nd Grade: 1. Carlee Billie, 2. Jalycia Billie, 3. Elise Brown; 3rd Grade: 1. Alyssa Osceola, 2. Evanne Pratt, 3. Chynna Villarreal; 4th Grade: 1. Kevin Ivey, 2. Dayra Koenes, 3. Rynanne Pratt, 4. Annabelle Whiteshield; 5th Grade: 1. Jonah Alvarado, 6th Grade: 1. Chelsey Alvarado, 2. Chloe Hendrickson; 7th Grade: 1. Sabre Billie, 2. Kaitlin Osceola; 8th Grade: 1. Terri Baker; 9th Grade: 1. Taylor Pratt, 2. Tequesta Tiger; 10th Grade: 1. Cooper Rivers, 2. Jonathan Robbins.

Students Show Off Seminole Knowledge at Culture Open House

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — The students of Pemayetv Emahakv got a chance to show off their year of hard work and growing knowledge of their Seminole culture during a Culture Open House held at the school.

The annual Culture Open House put on by the Culture Department was June 4 and was open to parents, family and community members. During the open house, guests visited each culture room seeing first hand what the children have been working on throughout the

school year.

"It's important that the parents get an idea of the accomplishments that the students have done all year long," culture history teacher Jade Braswell said.

Parents met the Creek teachers and then passed through the arts and crafts room where shadow boxes of beaded jewelry and patchwork made by the students were on display. A slideshow with pictures of the students on various culture field trips played in the background as students and guests enjoyed refreshments.

After touring the classrooms the parents and guests made their way outside to see the hard work the students have put into a new project the history class started this year, the cultural education garden. For the first time students planted seeds and grew fresh vegetables that were used in the preparation of some of their school lunches. Students were also able to bring some plants home to begin their own garden at home with their parents.

"We're trying to get the parents involved as much as we can," Braswell said, "that way their child can tell them exactly what they've done throughout the entire year."

Also on display outdoors was another new curriculum added this year. The male students showed off their wood carving of hatchets and tomahawks that they carved and hand painted.

The open house gives parents and the community the opportunity to see just how much Seminole culture the students are learning and retaining at the Charter School.

"Everything that they're doing now is all positive," Charter School parent Larry Howard said. "They're learning their culture."



Rodney Blaser

Jalynn Jones shows her mother Ginger Jones her hard work from her culture class.



Judy Weeks

Naples Community members participated in a healthy walk to kick off their Out of School Splash Bash.

Naples Hosts Out of School Splash Bash

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

NAPLES — School's out and the entire Naples Community celebrated. From grandparents to toddlers, party goers gathered at the Sun 'n Fun Lagoon to participate in the Out of School Splash Bash on May 11.

Assembling in the park's exhibition hall at 9 a.m., the group took part in a healthy breakfast of fresh fruit, juices, bagels, muffins and fiber rich treats.

Traditional Arts Specialist Jessica Osceola led the assembly in a short warm up exercise session. Donning their Juanita Osceola Community Center T-shirts, they departed for a two-mile walk on the trails and boardwalk that surround the lake and small ecological park.

A luncheon buffet awaited their return to the exhibition hall, where they relaxed and talked about upcoming events, individual summer vacations and the Education Incentive Awards that will take place during the community trip to Tennessee in July. The students were congratulated on having completed another fantastic year of school with numerous outstanding achievements.

Community Outreach Specialist Sandy Osceola addressed the important issues of safety while participating in summer activities. "Temperatures soar and the humidity is extremely high this time of the year," she said. "It is extremely important to drink plenty of water, dress properly and don't forget your sunscreen. When taking part in sports, have a great time but don't over exert."

"Don't go into the water alone! Always make sure that you have a lifeguard or adult supervision and employ the buddy system. The best swimmer in the world can suddenly develop a cramp, swallow too much water or become entangled in floating objects," continued Osceola. "This water park is a safe environment, but you must remain alert when swimming at the beach or in fresh water lakes. Remember, sharks and alligators like to eat too."

A table laden with water sports toys created a big stir with the younger generation as they prepared to enter the water park for an afternoon filled with fun, games and water-related activities. There was something for all ages and the afternoon flew by quickly as they played in the pools and lounged in the sun.

Pemayetv Emahakv Honors Teacher and Staff at Appreciation Banquet



Jeanine Gran

Teacher of the Year Melody Webber and Non-Instructional Employee of the Year Harry Tewksbury, center, were honored at Pemayetv Emahakv's Teacher and Staff Appreciation Banquet held May 6 at the Brighton Veterans' Building. -Rachel Buxton

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Echoc Billie holds his pet, Mom.



Rachel Buxton

George Micco holds 12-week-old Hershey for her first rabies vaccination.

Brighton Sets Attendance Record at Rabies Clinic

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BRIGHTON — Dogs and cats came by the trailer loads of 5, 10, and even up to 15 at a time to receive their annual rabies vaccination at the Tribe's biannual free rabies clinic on the Brighton Reservation.

A total of 242 animals were vaccinated May 15 at the Seminole Health Department. This clinic marked an all time record for vaccinations with prior clinics only averaging about 50 vaccinations.

"It is a testament to the outreach effort made by our Brighton Animal Control officer," Environmental Health Program Manager Patrick Peck said.

Veterinarian Amie Jo Lanier of Healthy Horse Veterinary Services, LLC, in Fort Myers was on hand to administer the vaccinations. Lanier explained how rabies is fatal and said humans are at risk of contracting the disease. To help prevent rabies, Lanier encourages all animal owners to have their pets over the age of 3 months receive the federally recognized vaccine.

Lanier also installed microchips in Tribal citizens' pets to track their pets if they ever go missing. The microchip was free to Tribal citizens but a cost will be incurred to register their animals online with the microchip service.

The event was also used as a way to register 261 animals on the Brighton Reservation to adhere to the Tribe's animal care and regulation ordinance that requires all Tribal citizens to register and tag their animals annually.

"We are obviously concerned about reuniting lost animals with their rightful owner. So tagging, registration and our community outreach efforts do help in curbing the stray animal population," Peck said.

If any animal is picked up by Animal Control without Tribal tags they will be impounded in Okeechobee.

The Seminole Health Department encourages all Tribal citizens to register their animals with the Seminole Tribe Health Department by contacting them at 954-965-1300, ext. 10326.



Rachel Buxton

Theresa Bowers, left, keeps her dog Jack calm while veterinarian Amie Jo Lanier takes his temperature.

Make Healthy Choices to Keep Yourself Safe Throughout the Summer Days

BY PATRICK PECK
Environmental Health Program Manager

June is National Safety month and a time to revisit all of the hazards and dangers lurking about. It is the time of year when most Americans spend outdoors. It is also a time when a wide variety of safety hazards are more pronounced. As we come out of hibernation from the cold winter days, so do the insects, rodents, vermin, reptiles, not to mention the poisonous plants. Furthermore, environmental hazards such as the sun, lightning storms, tornadoes, hurricanes, and increase in traffic from motorists and pedestrians are all the more reasons to be cautious. With all these dangers, one might revert to becoming a hermit! But with some foreknowledge, education and basic common sense about the above hazards, one can minimize the possibility of being a victim this summer.

The purpose of this article is to highlight some of the more frequent safety hazards associated with the season of summer. These hazards include, sunburn, heat illness, and insect bites.

Sunburn—is an inflammation of the skin that follows overexposure to ultraviolet light from the sun. The fact is that sun damage is cumulative—meaning that, though a tan or burn will fade, the harm done remains and accumulates with each exposure. Try making sunscreen part of your morning

routine in the summer. Choose a minimum SPF of 15. SPF (sun protection factor) indicates the strength of the sunscreen and the amount of UVB (ultra-violet B) rays that are blocked. Make sure that you are also getting UVA protection—not all products block both. Look for zinc and titanium dioxide, which are particularly good ingredients because they block both UVA and UVB.

Heat stress—is the human body's inability to cool itself

Signs and symptoms

- Red, swollen, painful, and sometimes blistered skin
- Fever
- Nausea, vomiting and delirium with severe burns

- Peeling of skin after recovery
- Prevention of sunburn
- Avoid exposure to sun between 12 and 3 p.m.

- Use sun block with a sun protection factor (SPF) greater than 15; baby oil and cocoa butter do not filter out UV light
- Wear proper clothing; bright colors or white will reflect sun onto your face increasing risk of burns

Treatment

- Cool moist compresses on skin can reduce heat and pain
- Cold cream or baby lotion adds moisture to the skin

- Use a pain reliever for pain and fever
- Keep pressure off of burned skin to

relieve pain

Seek Medical Treatment if You Have:

- A temperature that is greater than 101°F
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Pain and fever that persists for longer than 48 hours

- Delirium
- Factors Leading to Heat Stress
- High temperature and humidity
- Direct sun or heat
- Limited air movement

- Physical exertion
- Poor physical condition
- Some medicines
- Inadequate tolerance for hot Workplaces

- Symptoms Of Heat Exhaustion
- Headaches, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting
- Weakness and moist skin

- Mood changes such as irritability or confusion
- Upset stomach or vomiting

- Symptoms of Heat Stroke
- Dry, hot skin with no sweating
- Mental confusion or losing consciousness

- Seizures or fits
- Preventing Heat Stress
- Advise and Treatment
- Know signs/symptoms of heat-related illnesses

- Block out direct sun or other heat sources
- Use cooling fans/air-conditioning
- Rest regularly

- Drink lots of water if you can; about 1 cup every 15 minutes
- Wear lightweight, light colored, loose-fitting clothes
- Avoid alcohol, caffeinated drinks.

Insect Bites

Each year, there are many incidences of folks being stung or bitten by insects. Most of these are from bees, wasps, red ants or spider bites. Additionally, every summer, there are published reports on cases of West Nile Virus or Lyme disease. People who work outdoors have an increased risk of being infected by either. Both the virus and the disease have been reported in most parts of the United States. We are providing this information for your knowledge and protection but would like to mention that the Tribe has implemented a tribal wide mosquito control program to minimize such incidences on the reservations.

What to do if a person is stung by stinging insect?

1. Have someone stay with the victim to be sure that the victim does not have an allergic reaction.
2. Wash the site with soap and water.
3. The stinger can be removed using a four-by-four gauze wipe over the area. Never use a tweezers or squeeze the stinger as this will cause more venom to be released.

4. Apply ice to reduce swelling.
5. Do not scratch the sting.

Reducing the Risk of Being Stung

parents within the family," Mullins said. "You can be the wall of protection for your children or a broken bridge to abuse."

Sponsored by the Florida Office of Drug Control and the Florida Department of Children and Families, the statewide-funded campaign is aimed to reduce underage drinking, which could thereby reduce the risks of criminal activity and increase academic achievement for the youth in question.

For more information, call Crissie Carter at 863-902-3200 ext. 13418 or visit www.bethewall.org.

Look for monthly updates on the Be The Wall campaign in future editions of The Seminole Tribune.

Big Cypress Brings Out Be The Wall Campaign

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — A "soft" launch for the Be The Wall campaign took place at the Big Cypress Reservation on June 1.

In a strategic effort to promote the prevention of underage drinking in the community, the Big Cypress Development Team — a collaboration of approximately 20 Tribal departments — joined forces to educate Tribal parents about the effects of alcohol and drug use.

Big Cypress/Immokalee Family Services Prevention Specialist Fred Mullins said with the year-long campaign, which runs June 1 and ends on May 30, 2011, parents will be provided a bevy of tools that would help them become consistent and firm with their children regarding underage drinking.

"We know that if our Tribal families are committed to be clear, be first, be consistent and be the wall, then this will provide an abuse-free future for their children," Mullins said.

The kickoff function, primarily held at the reservation's Family Investment Center, featured a host of Be The Wall sidewalk stencils that Tribal citizens, community members and employees were seen drawing at various locations within the facility's exterior.

At different points throughout the campaign, Mullins said there will be more visible signs to further promote the alcohol prevention initiative. In other words, the Big Cypress Development Team plans promote the campaign through online social networking sites.

"The community and cultural factor is most effective when that message is coming from the



Gretchen DeBree

Cypress Development Team members Clea Billie Herrera, left, Fred Mullins, center, and Noella Dyan O'Donnell are carefully etching a Be The Wall stencil on design at the driveway of the Family Investment Center on June 1 — the day of the campaign's "soft launch".

1. Wear light-colored, smooth-finished clothing.
2. Avoid perfumed soaps, shampoos, deodorants. Don't wear cologne or perfumes. Avoid bananas and banana-scented toiletries.
3. Wear clean clothing and bathe daily. Sweat angers bees.

4. Cover the body as much as possible.
5. Avoid flowering plants.
6. During the summer, check for new nests during the warmer hours of the day. Bees are very active during this period.

7. Keep areas clean. Social wasps thrive in places where humans discard food.
8. If a single stinging insect is flying around, remain still or lie face down on the ground.

9. If attacked by several stinging insects at the same time, run to get away from them. Bees

10. release a chemical when they sting. This alerts other bees. More bees often follow.
11. If a bee comes inside your vehicle, stop the car slowly, and open all the windows.

The above information will prove useful in keeping you out of harm's way. Have a safe summer!

For more information, please call the Seminole Tribe Environmental Health office at 954-962-2009, ext. 10325.

Shy's Team Walks for Cystic Fibrosis

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

FORT MYERS — With more than 15 teams participating in the Cystic Fibrosis Walk at Lakes Regional Park on May 15, Shy's Team turned in the most donations for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fundraiser. Participation in this year's walk reached an all time high with support from Collier, Lee, Charlotte and Hendry Counties.

Shy's Team of Immokalee community members, family and friends officially organized five years ago in support of Seminole Tribal descendant Shyanne Marie Escobar, who joins thousands of other patients fighting a daily battle with Cystic Fibrosis. Suffering with chronic respiratory problems since birth, Shyanne was diagnosed in December of 2003.

Following several near-fatal episodes and lengthy trips to the hospital, Shyanne continues the long, hard uphill climb to achieve a lifestyle that most of us take for granted. This strong-willed, determined 8-year-old attends public school and participates in community activities despite a permanent feeding port that delivers nutrients, antibiotics and medications. Her winning personality and generosity are an inspiration to others.

"Shyanne doesn't know how to say 'I can't' and greets every day with a smile," said Immokalee Health and Nutritionist Charlotte Porcario. "She represents one of God's miracles as she leads her team in the fight against Cystic Fibrosis."



Charlotte Porcario

Foreground, Shyanne Escobar inspires members of Shy's Team, Noemi Escobar, Becky Martinez, Charlotte Porcario and Jennifer Gamez to walk in support of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fundraiser.

Anxiety Disorders, More Than Just Nerves

BY ERIC BRICKER
FSD Prevention Administrator

Anxiety is a normal part of the human experience, and in fact is viewed as healthy by some health care professionals.

In his book, "The Meaning of Anxiety," famed existential writer Rollo May points out that a small amount of anxiety is actually essential to healthy human functioning because it motivates people to get things done. An individual might be more inclined to complete his taxes on time just for the sake of relieving the sense of worry that comes with uncompleted important tasks. However, there exists an unclear line where a healthy sense of anxiety gives way to a crippling obsessive worry that turns the anxiety sufferer's world into a wilderness of horrors.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, anxiety disorder sufferers may experience the following:

- Chronic, exaggerated worry, tension, and irritability that appear to have no cause or are more intense than the situation warrants.
- Physical signs, such as restlessness, trouble falling or staying asleep, headaches, trembling, twitching, muscle tension, or sweating, often accompany these psychological symptoms.

Some individuals experience anxiety with panic attacks which are described as "a white-knuckled, heart-pounding terror that strikes suddenly and without warning." The panic experience may include variations of the following symptoms: pounding heart, chest pains, lightheadedness or dizziness, nausea, shortness of breath, shaking or trembling, choking, fear of

dying, sweating, feelings of unreality, numbness or tingling, hot flashes or chills, and a feeling of going out of control or going crazy.

Other individuals experience phobias, which are generally described as anxiety attacks that are triggered by certain conditions in their environment. Examples of more common phobias include claustrophobia, or the fear of closed in spaces, or arachnophobia which is the fear of spiders. What often happens to the sufferers of these types of anxiety disorders is that they will obsess about their own anxiety which causes them to live in constant fear even when the thing that are afraid of is not present.

The good news about anxiety is that it is a very treatable condition. Treatment includes either psychotherapy (counseling) or psychotropic medications.

In many cases, both psychotherapy and medication are thought to be more effective than either treatment by itself. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, proper treatment helps 70 to 90 percent of people with panic disorder, usually within six to eight weeks. So, the point is that we do not need to continue suffering if we are willing to take the first step and accept help.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Family Services Department offers treatment or referrals for the treatment of anxiety.

Please contact us at the following numbers:
Hollywood 954-964-6338
Immokalee 239-867-3480
Fort Pierce 772-461-7363
Brighton 863-763-7700
Tampa 813-246-3100
Big Cypress 863-902-3206.

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Announcements

GRADUATES

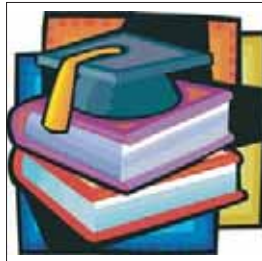


Cassandra,

You will always be my beautiful baby girl. No mother could ever be prouder of their child than I have always been of you. As I watched you graduate from high school, your life passed before my eyes. I have enjoyed your laughter, picked you up when you have fallen, wiped your tears, supported you in athletics, shared your successes and am honored to call you my daughter.

As your family, we all love you and will carry you in our hearts as you venture down the road to a bright new future.

Mom, Mark, Alexis, Destinee, Jon, Jaylee and Alice.



Jesse Adan Sanchez, 6. Advances to 1st Grade at Grace Community School. Jesse's proud parents are Tony and Paula Sanchez. Grandma Mildred says she's very proud of her "baby Jesse!" Congratulations Jesse!!!!!! We love you soooooo much!!!!!! You are our life, our soul, our hearts!!!!

Love, Mommy and Daddy.



Ja'Kailee's Graduation



On Tuesday, June 1, at Hollywood Christian School my granddaughter graduated from Kindergarten. She will be starting 1st grade next year and she is very happy about it.

The ceremony started at 7 p.m. with all of the kindergarten class singing some beautiful songs.

Then came the big moment when they were all called one by one to receive their diplomas. I was so proud, as was her mother, LaToya Stewart. All of Ja'Kailee's family were there to be part of her special evening.

Love you always, Grandma Nettie



BIRTHDAYS



Happy first birthday to our beautiful granddaughter, Chace Ollie Micco.

Love, Grandma Mary Jo, Grandpa Billie and big cousin Wade



Chace Ollie Micco
Happy birthday to our little girl June 14, 2010.

Your first year went by so fast with us. We love you very much and you have brought nothing but joy into our lives.

Love, Mom, Dad, and big sister Baylee



Kaley,

I cannot believe you are 4 years old already. It seems like yesterday when I first held you in my arms at 1:47 p.m. June 1, 2006. You have graduated from the Big Cypress Preschool and will now be moving on to Pre-Kindergarten. I will always be here to support and love you. Happy Birthday Kaley! I Love You.

Love, Daddy



ANNOUNCEMENT

The Big Cypress Reservation will be having its Summer Enrichment Program from June 21-July 16. The sessions will be held from Mondays through Thursdays, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

The Summer Program is sponsored by the Big Cypress Learning Resource, Culture and Library Departments

Schedule of notable events

July 1 – Field trip to the Clewiston Library; Book character Horrid Henry, the star of the children's book "Horrid Henry and Me" will accompany the Tribal and community youth on the Clewiston trip.

July 4-8: Fossil Week

July 6: Fossilist/Author Mark Renz will visit the Big Cypress Library at 2 p.m. for a talk on fossils.

July 16: Sponsored by the Big Cypress Library and Recreation Departments, the Summer Enrichment Program will conclude with a trip to the Lion Country Safari in Loxahatchee.

For more information, contact Big Cypress Library Director Barbara Oeffner at 863-902-3200 ext. 13124.

NEW BABY

Daliyah Kay Nunez

Daniel and Peggy Nunez of Okeechobee (Brighton) are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Daliyah Kay Nunez.

She was born on April 12, 2010 at Jupiter Medical Center in Palm Beach County.

She weighed 8 pounds and 9 ounces and was 20 inches long at birth.

Daliyah was welcomed home by siblings Courtney, Cheyenne, Daniel Jr. and Joleyne.



Maternal grandparents are Judy and Elbert Snow of Okeechobee, Junior and Darlene Killens of Philadelphia, MS. Paternal grandparents are Alice and James Sweat of Okeechobee. Great grandparent is Lorene Fortenberry of Philadelphia, Miss.

Passport Outreach - A Success

BY NERY MEJICANO
Administrative Projects Officer

On Monday, May 3, the Miami Passport Agency came to the Hollywood office as part of their outreach program. This is the second time that this valuable service has been offered on site to Tribal members and their families.

Since June 1, 2009, all U.S. citizens are required to have either a passport book or a passport card in order to travel out of the United States. Prior to that date, travelers to Mexico, Canada and the Caribbean could travel using a Voters Registration Card or their Birth Certificate.

In the last two years, about 225 Tribal members have obtained their passports through the Miami Passport Agency, whose staff has made extraordinary efforts to understand the particular needs of Tribal members and their families. In the past, Tribal elders and others, who lacked a state birth certificate or could not prove their citizenship through the "normal" documents, were denied the privilege and the right extended to Americans to obtain a U.S. Passport. Through the efforts of the staff of the Big Cypress Tribal Council, the U.S. Department of State was contacted regarding the issues being faced by the Seminole Tribal members. An appointment was made with the Miami Passport Agency staff to explain the specific needs of the Tribe.

The staff of the Miami Passport agency arranged for their staff to come to the Hollywood office August, 2008. At that time, and after satisfying the requisites of the State Department, 75 passports were issued to Tribal members. Since then, we have been able to assist many of the elders whose documentation was not accepted during their application for a U.S. passport.

Tribal members and their immediate family wishing to obtain or renew their passports can do it on their own with proper documentation. Many U.S. Offices do take applications. The forms can be obtained at the Post Office or in the internet by going to: http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html it takes between three to five weeks to get a passport through this process (a little longer during the summer months).

In case of immediate travel needs (travel within two weeks), Tribal members can obtain an appointment with the Miami Passport Agency by calling 1-877-487-2778. To be able to obtain the appointment, an itinerary and a plane ticket have to be shown to the Miami Passport Agency staff, without a ticket, a passport application will not be processed.

If Tribal members are in need of assistance or have questions in regard to their documentation, they can call Denise Freund at 863-902-3200, ext. 13322 or Nery Mejicano at 954-232-5714.



Submitted photo

From left, Michael Perez, Hilda Gutierrez, Angel Torres, Elizabeth Fernandez and Nery Ceballos - picture of staff of the Passport Agency in Miami that hosted the Passport Outreach Event at the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Hollywood office May 3, 2010.





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Big Cypress: 863-902-3217 | Brighton/ Ft. Pierce: 863-763-6300 | Tampa: 813-246-3100
 Immokalee: 239-858-9256 | Hollywood/South Florida: 954-985-5703

LETTERS

To: Mayra H. Harjo

Remember I told you that there will be some that mean us no good? Now you have an understanding of what I was meaning. Misery loves company, jealous ones will envy and they will test your inner strength. My beautiful lady, continue to turn that negativity into a positive. You are greater than that, you are classier than that, with style supreme to that. Do not let yourself be discouraged by anything. I have your back, your side and your front. We stand together, we walk together, we smile together and we laugh together. You can have complete faith in me. I live, I ride and I will die for you my beautiful lady. You have my dedication and loyalty. United we can, for eternity.

Ah Cha Poo Te Chach Koo Wah, Ah Ha Ya Ke.

Warrior 4 life,



To my Granddaughter
Ja'Kailee

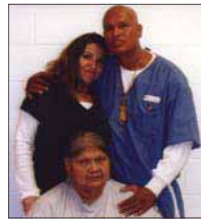
She's the shining star,
That forever will go far.
She's the apple of my eye,
About this I can not lie.
You'll live in my heart,
For we will never part.
So soar like a Bird,
Because you beautiful girl,
Will always have the last word.

Luv,
Your Grandma Nettie



With unconditional love for you my beautiful lady,

Ike T. Harjo
Panther Clan
Sholopahthi Bolchunchaga



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own
business?

Are you
thinking
about
starting
your own
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Fort Pierce Community Seminar Series

Starting a Business Seminar

When: July 14, 2010 @ 11:30am

Where: Hilton Garden Inn at PGA Village

8540 Commerce Centre Drive, Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986

Registration: 11:30am-12:30pm; Lunch: 12:00pm-1:00pm; Seminar 1:00pm-5:00pm

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Or contact:

Stefanie Duda, Fort Pierce Executive Office
Tel.: (772) 467-2454 ext. 17103

Or

Paulette Robinson, Hollywood Executive Office
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Sunday, August 15, 2010

11:00am

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Sports

C

Big Cypress Recreation Holds Grand Opening of Disc Golf Indigo Park

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — Big Cypress Recreation Department Assistant Director Stan Frischman has envisioned a disc golf facility at the Big Cypress Reservation for the past several years. His dream came into full fruition on May 15, with the reservation having its grand opening ceremony for the Disc Golf Indigo Park, located near the Big Cypress Campground area.

According to Frischman, the grand opening event was primarily geared toward the formal introduction of disc golf to the reservation's community and to provide lessons for the function's attendees, courtesy of

professional disc golfer Dale Schwegel.

Schwegel, also the vice president of sports production for Fort Myers-based Blades TV, spoke to the participants almost immediately after the grand opening's ribbon cutting ceremony, prayer and ceremonial first throw.

"If it wasn't for Stan [Frischman], we wouldn't have disc golf here in southwest Florida," Schwegel said. "I thank the Seminole Tribe of Florida for allowing us the opportunity to have the sport here in Big Cypress."

Frischman, who has been involved with the sport for the past 14 years, was instrumental in the erection of southwest Florida's first disc golf course at the Bonita

Springs Recreation Center, when it opened in 1996. A former Lee County parks and recreation department employee, Frischman also played a significant role in the 2000 construction and opening of the Bay Oaks Recreation Center's Disc Golf Park in Fort Myers Beach.

Last summer Frischman introduced the sport to the Tribal youth at the Seminole Youth Camp at Camp Kalaqua in High Springs, Fla., where 100 of the Tribe's youngsters had a chance to play the game.

"It just goes to show the variety of sports and recreation activities we want to introduce and offer to all of our Tribal members," Frischman said. "Disc golf was received very well by the kids."

Big Cypress is now the fourth disc golf course that Frischman has had a hand in launching. According to Frischman, the Disc Golf Indigo Park is the first of its kind on Tribal land in the state.

The new course was primarily designed by Frischman and pro disc golfer Gregg Hosfeld, who was unable to attend the grand opening ceremony. Frischman said it took both he and Hosfeld about a year to complete the park's construction.

The Indigo Disc Golf Course, according to Frischman, consists of nine holes — six par 3s and three par 4s. For the par 3 holes, the average distance is approximately 300 feet. Each of the nine holes begins with a drive from a designated tee area and ends with a putt into an elevated basket, which represents the disc golf hole.

The visionary hopes disc golf enthusiasts will make a stop here in his quest to raise aware-

ness for the sport.

"As an outdoor sport, disc golf provides good exercise, with the participants getting the opportunity to walk, bend and grow," Frischman said. "It's also an opportunity for families to get together and bond with each other. People of all ages can enjoy this activity."

Big Cypress/Immokalee Family Services Prevention Specialist Fred Mullins was awestruck by the amenities the Disc Golf Indigo Park had to offer. With palm trees, oak trees, palmettos, pine flats, cypress sloughs and cypress mulch encompassing much of the park's landscape, Mullins noted that aside from the chirping blue jays, cardinals and hawks there, it's a relatively quiet environment.

"It's like God's backyard," Mullins said. "This is the perfect environment for Tribal family members and youth to connect with each other in a setting of natural beauty. It's just breathtaking."

Big Cypress Recreation employee Ryan Washington, who teed up with Big Cypress Tribal citizens Jay Osceola and Bill Bevenue, along with Osceola Pizza's employee Kimberly Royal and fellow Recreation colleague Chris Hulbutta, said he and his group enjoyed the whole experience.

"Some mosquitoes bit me here and



Naji Tobias

From left, Big Cypress New Testament Baptist Church Pastor Arlen J. Payne, Jay Osceola, and Bill Bevenue, cut the ribbon as they celebrate the grand opening of the Big Cypress Reservation's Indigo Disc Golf Park on May 15.

there, but I didn't let it stop me from playing," Washington said. "I acquired some new ways to throw a Frisbee. For one, I used to just throw it regular. But I found out there's a couple of ways to throw it. Dale [Schwegel] showed me how to put one finger underneath the Frisbee three fingers on top of it and my thumb down to throw it better."

Osceola weighed in on the vibe that transpired throughout the sunny, hot and humid day at the disc golf park.

"It was just fun overall," Osceola said. "We had so much laughter on those holes. All of the guys out here showed they enjoyed the sport. We all just had a great time on the disc golf course."

The Big Cypress Reservation's Indigo Disc Golf Park is listed in the directory of the Professional Disc Golf Association. For more information, call Stan Frischman at 863-983-9659 or visit www.pdga.com.



Naji Tobias

Bill Bevenue flings a Frisbee on his second shot of the Indigo Disc Golf Park's third hole.



Naji Tobias

Big Cypress Recreation employee Brenda Castro enjoys the game of disc golf at the May 15 grand opening.

Double 'J' Ranch Wins Rodeo Competition

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

IMMOKALEE — Six working ranch teams competed at the Immokalee Seminole Ranch Rodeo on the evening of June 5 with stiff competition in all events.

Top honors went to the winning team of Big Cypress' Double "J" Ranch comprised of Josh Jumper, Ahnie Jumper, Joe Hipp, Dustin Lowman, Biscuit Hipp and Ponch Castro. Their competition included Immokalee Seminole Ranch, Need More Ranch, Doc Shewmaker Team, Bronson and Murphy Ranches. Scores moved Need More Ranch into second place.

"Ranch rodeos are a great way to preserve our native Florida history," said local announcer Al Curry. "Since cattle were first introduced to North America by way of the Florida peninsula nearly 500 years ago, they have played an important role in its history. The

team events in ranch rodeo competition evolved from the daily chores of the working cowboy."

Representing each team, one to three members competed per event with an opportunity to accrue points for the all around winners. Trophy knives were awarded to the team with the most points in each category: Team Roping and Branding: Double "J" Ranch, Saddle Bronc Riding: Immokalee Seminole Ranch, Yearling Tying: Double "J" Ranch, Barrel Racing: Doc Shewmaker Team, Relay Race: Bronson Team, Buddy Pickup: Need More Ranch. The program was enhanced by a bull riding exhibition for Junior and Senior divisions.

"Rodeo is a great athletic sport, no matter when or where you participate," said Josh Jumper. "However, ranch rodeo ranks among my favorites because it provides an opportunity to do the kind of things that I grew up doing on our ranch and brings out the team spirit in all of us."



Judy Weeks

Riders for the Big Cypress Double "J" Ranch racked up the points for a first place win at the Immokalee Seminole Ranch Rodeo.



Judy Weeks

Josh Jumper of the Double "J" Ranch displays the trophy knives awarded for first place in the Yearling Tying event.



Chris C. Jenkins

The 17-and-under boys champs the Brighton Seminoles.



Chris C. Jenkins

Hollywood Hosts Spring Classic Youth Basketball Tournament

The 17-and-under girls champs Rez Chix with their first place trophy. From left, Darlah Cypress, Charlie Osceola, Alison Herrera, Terri Baker and Annie Osceola. The group won the championship in a three-game series over The Ones as part of the annual "All Indian" Spring Classic Youth Basketball Tournament sponsored by the Hollywood Recreation Department at the Hollywood Recreation Gym June 5. The tournament also crowned champions in three other categories including: 9 and under co-ed (Brighton), 13 and under co-ed (All Miccosukee) and 17 and under boys (Brighton Seminoles).



Naji Tobias

The Seminole Lightning finishes their inaugural season with an undefeated 11-0 record. SEE RESULTS AND MORE PHOTOS ON 2C

Seminole Lightning Softball Team Completes Season Undefeated

BC Squad Ends 13-Game Season with 17-1 Victory

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

CLEWISTON — Unbeaten, unblemished and unconquered.

The Seminole Lightning softball team (11-0) finished its inaugural season in a totally one-sided matchup with Clewiston Elks 1853, as they thoroughly torched their counterparts, 17-1, in just four innings. The game took place June 4 at the Clewiston Ball Field.

The Lightning, who had two games cancelled due to inclement weather, cruised through Clewiston's softball league, defeating the Elks, Wedgeworth's Inc., Roland Martin Marina and D & J Machinery, all by an average of about 12 runs per game.

The Lightning scored more than 10 runs in eight of their 11 games, averaging 13.55 runs per game. On the pitching and defensive end, meanwhile, the softball team allowed more than one run per game just twice throughout the season — a combined 1.64 runs allowed average.

In other words, the Lightning scored 149 in 11 games, while allowing just 18 runs in that span.

Darlah Cypress, the Lightning's starting pitcher, played a major part in the team's success. Pitching her way to a two-inning gem, Darlah Cypress allowed no runs and just one hit, while notching an impressive five strikeouts in the season finale.

Seminole Lightning Head Coach Josh Jumper praised Darlah Cypress's efforts on the mound.

"Darlah is a great player," Josh Jumper said. "She's helped this team out so much. Pitching like the way she [Darlah] has, she's shown a lot of control with her pitch locations. We've been working on her mechanics. She's progressed a lot with her pitching throughout the season."

Darlah Cypress also shined in the batter's box, as she connected on a double and scored a run in the top of the first inning to help ignite a Lightning 4-0 lead over the Elks. The fiery onslaught began with a leadoff walk by Kalgray Johns, who then scored the game's first run off an RBI double by Sydnee Cypress. Shortly after that,

Sydnee Cypress scored off a Clewiston Elks wild pitch, giving the Lightning a 2-0 lead.

Katie Bert followed Darlah Cypress with the scoring barrage, completing the four-run first inning.

The Lightning scored an astounding 13 additional runs in three more innings — seven in the second frame and six in the fourth.

It proved to be a representation of how the Lightning offense performed over the course of the 13-game season.

"Our batting has been great," Josh Jumper said, adding that the Lightning had the highest batting average of all the league teams. "We've come a long way since day one. They [the girls] have done a tremendous job."

Another key to the Lightning's success has been the outpouring of Tribal, community and parental support. "The parents have been awesome," Josh Jumper said. "I thank the parents for their dedication to bringing their children out to each game. Their support has helped the girls finish the season out."

BC First Baptist Church Pastor Bruce Pratt, whose daughter, Ryanne Pratt, played her first organized softball season on this team, offered his take on how the Lightning did so well.

"Well, they started practicing four months ago," Pastor Pratt said. "They've been after it with their practicing and it really paid off for them. They improved in all areas of the game. To see them excel this season is a blessing for us, including the parents that came out and showed their support."

Bill Bevenue and Naha Jumper, Josh Jumper's assistant coaches, played a role in the team's success as well. Josh Jumper said the season ultimately turned out the way it did because "when you put God first, it's going to be great."

"I thank God for giving me the opportunity to coach a team like that," Josh Jumper said. "I thank all the coaches for helping me put together the softball team. Their dedication to sharing their knowledge with the girls helped us out tremendously. Hopefully next year, we can do this all over again."

MORE PHOTOS FEATURING LIGHTNING SOFTBALL TEAM



Darlach Cypress shines as a batter in the season's final game, generating a double and later scoring a run in the first inning.



Ahnjie Jumper pitches the fourth inning in relief for the Seminole Lightning, as she helps preserve their 17-1 win over Clewiston ELKS 1853 on June 4.



Kaitlin Osceola — she scores a run in the second inning.

Results of the Seminole Lightning's Season Schedule

(All games were played in Field 2 of the Clewiston Ball Field Complex in Clewiston)

Monday, April 12 — Defeated Clewiston ELKS 1853, 19-1
Thursday, April 15 — Defeated Wedgeworth's Inc., 14-0
Monday, April 19 — Defeated D & J Machinery, 13-5
Friday, April 23 — Defeated Roland Martin Marina, 21-0
Friday, April 30 — Defeated Clewiston ELKS 1853, 11-2

Tuesday, May 4 — Defeated Wedgeworth's Inc., 8-1
Thursday, May 6 — D & J Machinery game cancelled
Tuesday, May 11 — Defeated Roland Martin Marina, 14-5
Monday, May 17 — Defeated Clewiston ELKS 1853, 23-1
Friday, May 21 — Wedgeworth's Inc. game cancelled
Tuesday, May 25 — Defeated D & J Machinery, 4-1
Thursday, May 27 — Defeated Roland Martin Marina, 5-1
Friday, June 4 — Defeated Clewiston ELKS 1853, 17-1

Tribe Participates in Various Tournaments at 11th Annual Sports Festival

BY NAJI TOBIAS AND CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporters

Tribal citizens came together for the Memorial Day weekend to take part in a series of sporting events from May 28-31 in commemoration of the 11th Annual Sports Festival.

Hosted by Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress and the Big Cypress Recreation Department, the Tribe sponsored a slew of games for the Tribal adults and seniors in billiards, bowling and golf.

From May 28-30, Tribal citizens from all six reservations, in addition to Naples and Trail, took to the Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock's ballroom for a host of competitive matches in the game of billiards. Along with scores of Native Americans from Arizona, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon and Canada, the Tribal pool players put their game faces on in the 8-ball, team 8-ball, 9-ball and scotch doubles matches.

Naples Liaison O.B. Osceola, a Tribal participant in each of the Sports Festival's 11 years, used his 20 years of pool experience to his advantage, playing well in the 8-ball, team 8-ball and 9-ball billiards competitions.



Hollywood senior Mary Kay Osceola gets her bowl on during the Sports Festival's Bowling Tournament at the AMF Bowling Lanes in Pembroke Pines May 29.



Creek Native American Sonny Tiger, from Tulsa, Okla., plays in the men's team 8-Ball Billiards competition.



Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress focuses squarely on the ball in men's team 8-Ball billiards play.

Osceola weighed in on his experience at this year's Sports Festival.

"What I love about pool is that you can play it from all ages," the Naples liaison said, adding that he had a joyous time over the Memorial Day weekend. "What I always continue to enjoy is seeing everyone."

Darla Gatzman, a billiards participant who visited the Hard Rock from Norman, Okla., was among those who took advantage of her several opportunities in billiards play. As a first-year Sports Festival attendee, Gatzman's 30 years of experience in billiards was on display in the women's open, team and scotch doubles tournaments.

Gatzman, who brought her friend, Debra Fletcher, to the Memorial Day Weekend festival, opened up about her time spent at the Hard Rock in Hollywood and talked about her billiards experience.

"It was all great," Gatzman said. "To win [at billiards] was one of my goals and to meet different people. I knew the competition would be big. There were a lot of good players."

As for Gatzman's overall impressions on the Sports Festival?

"I think it was set up really good," she said. "The hospitality was great and the facility [the Hard Rock] was beautiful."

At the AMF Bowling Lanes in Pembroke Pines, Tribal adults and seniors engaged in a multitude of bowling matches from May 28-30, as they were pitted against each other in competition for cash prizes.

Meanwhile, at the Jacaranda Golf Club in Fort Lauderdale, Tribal golfers teed up on the venue's golf course and played a few competitive rounds from May 30-31 to conclude this year's Sports Festival activities.

Big Cypress Recreation Department Assistant Director Stan Frischman said he was pleased with how the 11th Annual Sports Festival turned out. He offered his take on what to expect for next year's festivities, should it occur.

"At this point in time, we believe we have reached a comfortable plateau," Frischman said of any possible changes or improvements to future Sports Festivals. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."



Mabel Doctor gets set to swing for the green outside the bunker during action on the 10th hole.

Community Honors Memory of Tyler Cypress at 1st Annual Fishing Tournament

BY RACHEL BUXTON
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS — Parents and grandparents spent the day out on the water with their children and grandchildren in memory of the late Tyler Cypress as they participated in the first annual Tyler Cypress Memorial Fishing Tournament held June 11 on the Big Cypress Reservation.

The memorial fishing tournament included 13 teams with a total of 13 adults and 17 children participating.

"I think it's a great testimony of him and how people remembered him," Arlen Payne said, "and they wanted to show some appreciation and remember what he was like."

Teams fished for panfish and bass all vying for the biggest catch of the day.

The tournament was organized by the

Big Cypress Recreation Department along with the Cypress family who lost their son Tyler to a tragic car accident March 20. Tyler was 15 at the time.

Fishing was a love of Tyler's and the family wanted a memorial that would give parents and children a chance to spend time together — something they have learned to cherish every moment of.

"That was the main thing, to get people to spend time with their kids," said Tyler's father, Charlie.

Charlie Cypress said the past few months have been extremely difficult but his family continues to pray and rely on each other and their community for support.

"Tyler had a big heart, he loved people and he got along with just about anybody," Charlie Cypress said. "Just for them to come out that's pretty good, it's pretty special."



Tom Kooness, left, and grandson Dalton Kooness decide which bass to enter in the Big Bass category.



Wyatt Hines, left, and grandfather Amos Tiger show what the Tyler Cypress Tournament is all about, spending time with your family.

Results

Panfish
Place
1. Walter Summeralls - Nicholas Andrews - Wahall Kooness
2. Chris Hulbutta - Dianne Billie - Alfred Billie
3. Fred Phillips - Allison Herrera
4. Charlie Cypress - Caitlin Cypress - Ryan Cypress

Bass
Place
1. Bronson Hill - Terance Hill
2. Tom Kooness - Dalton Kooness
3. Ricky Doctor - Mailani Perez
4. Fred Phillips - Allison Herrera
5. Amos Tiger - Wyatt Amos Hines

11TH ANNUAL SEMINOLE SPORTS FESTIVAL RESULTS

Bowling: May 28-30 at the AMF Bowling Lanes in Pembroke Pines

SINGLES PLAY

Senior Women: 1. Diane Smith (577 points), 2. Linda Tommie (542 points), 3. Jeannette Cypress (521 points), 4. Ruby Osceola (511 points), 5. Mary Gay Osceola (507 points); Senior Men: 1. Kevin Tommie Sr. (589 points), T-2. Eugene Bowers and Parker Jones (574 points each), 4. Roger Smith (572 points), 5. David Jumper (539 points); Women: 1. Crystal Weiman Snell (622 points), 2. Terri Frank (606 points), 3. Wendi Snow (560 points), T-4. Pamela Jumper Snell and Patricia Wilcox (544 points each); Men: 1. Danny Tommie (714 points), 2. Kenneth Doney (698 points), 3. Kyle Doney (681 points), 4. Jerome Davis (674 points), 5. Rufus Tiger (637 points).

DOUBLES PLAY

Senior Women: 1. Rose Jones and Diane Smith (1089 points), 2. Mary Micco and Linda Tommie (1058 points), 3. Diane Smith and Linda Tommie (1053 points), 4. Dora Tiger and Rose Jones (960 points), 5. Maydell Osceola and Mary G. Osceola (946 points); Senior Men: 1. Parker Jones and Kevin Tommie (1237 points), 2. Moses Osceola and Kevin Tommie (1161 points), 3. Parker Jones and Roger Smith (1152 points), 4. Billie Micco and Roger Smith (1147 points), 5. Moses Osceola and Eugene Bowers (1018 points); Women: 1. Leslie Osceola and Ashley Wilcox (1184 points), 2. Michelle Osceola and Monica Cypress (1175 points), 3. Denise Billie and Alfreda Muskett (1090 points), 4. Wendi Snow and Salina Dorgan (1051 points), 5. Ashley Wilcox and Patricia Wilcox (1038 points); Men: 1. Gordon Wareham and Rufus Tiger (1376 points), 2. Robert B. Frank and Dwayne Billie, 3. Marcy Osceola and Philmon Bowers, 4. Dwayne Billie and Merle Billie, 5. Kyle Doney and Kenneth Doney; Senior Mixed: 1. Kevin Tommie and Diane Smith (1305 points), 2. Moses Osceola and Mary J. Micco (1170 points), 3. Kevin Tommie and Linda Tommie (1167 points), 4. David Jumper and Rose Jones, 5. David Jumper and Dora Tiger (1098 points); Mixed: 1. Kyle Doney and Joni Johnson, 2. Jennifer Osceola and Gordon Wareham, 3. Robert Frank III and Terri Frank, 4. Leon Wilcox Sr. and Monica Cypress, 5. Marcy Osceola and Patricia Wilcox.

TEAMS PLAY

Senior Women: 1. Mary J. Micco/Rose Jones/Diane Smith/Linda Tommie (2307 points), 2. Mary J. Micco/Jeanette Cypress/Louise Billie/Linda Tommie (2042 points), 3. Ruby Osceola/Rose Jones/Diane Smith/Jeanette Cypress (2013 points); Senior Men: 1. Billie Micco/Moses Osceola/Parker Jones/Roger Smith (2165 points), 2. Moses Osceola/Parker Jones/Eugene Bowers/Kevin Tommie (2116 points); Women: 1. Michelle Osceola/Jennifer Osceola/Monica Cypress/Patricia Wilcox (2230 points), 2. Marilyn Doney/Joni Johnson/Crystal Weiman Snell/Toni Johnson (2157 points), 3. Marilyn Doney/Toni Johnson/Rebecca Osceola/Michelle Osceola (2084 points); Men: 1. Gordon Wareham/Delvin McCowan/Danny Tommie/Leon Wilcox Sr. (2522 points), 2. Leon Wilcox II/Jerome Davis/Danny Tommie/Leon Wilcox Sr. (2500 points), 3. Rufus Tiger/Philmon Bowers/Gordon Wareham/Danny Jones (2417 points); Senior Mixed: 1. Moses Osceola/Eugene Bowers/Linda Tommie/Mary J. Micco (2305 points), 2. Roger Smith/Parker Jones/Diane Smith/Rose Jones (2150 points), 3. Linda Tommie/Diane Smith/Roger Smith/Kevin Tommie (2143 points); Mixed: 1. Danny Tommie/Jerome Davis/Monica Cypress/Patricia Wilcox (2325 points), 2. Leon Wilcox Sr./Leon Wilcox II/Michelle Osceola/Marilyn Doney (2310 points), 3. Denise Billie/Alfreda Muskett/Amos Billie/Gordon Wareham (2308 points).

Billiards: May 28-30 at the Seminole Hard Rock Ballroom in Hollywood

8-BALL — INDIVIDUAL PLAY

Senior Women: 1. Lee Stokes, 2. Diane Only-A-Chief, 3. Donna Howell, 4. Jane Freeman, 5. Laura Clay; Senior Men: 1. Frank Henry, 2. Sonny Tiger, 3. Charley LaSarge, 4. Les Gourd, 5. Roley Johnson; Open Women: 1. Brittany Colbert, 2. Cheryl Backward, 3. Angela Harjo, 4. Phalyn Osceola, 5. Theresa Williams; Open Men: 1. Stan Tourangeau, 2. David Nunez, 3. Nick Kruger, 4. Phillip Davis, 5. Jeremiah Kruger.

8-BALL — TEAM PLAY

Women: 1. A-Haws, 2. 4 Under Par, 3. Stiletos, 4. Sharp Shooters, 5. Rack w/o Balls; Men: 1. Heavy Hitters, 2. Oklahoma Spoilers, 3. Terminators, 4. Seminole, 5. Boogie Men.

SCOTCH DOUBLES PLAY

Women: 1. A-Haws, 2. Jay Echohawk/Angela Harjo, 3. Ralph Gray/Carlene Echohawk, 4. Roy Snow/The-resa Nunez, 5. Dalzell Littlebear/Michelle McDermott.

9-BALL PLAY

Senior Women: 1. Diane Only-A-Chief, 2. Laura Clay, 3. Donna Howell, 4. Linda Billie, 5. Lee Stokes; Senior Men: 1. Charley LaSarge, 2. Sonny Tiger, 3. Frank Henry, 4. Les Gourd, 5. Tony Billie; Open Women: 1. Naomi Williams, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Michelle McDermott, 4. Cheryl Backwards, 5. Theresa Nunez; Open Men: 1. Stan Tourangeau, 2. Johnny Shawnee, 3. Phillip Davis, 4. Clarence Black, 5. Jimmy Clay.

Golf: May 30-31 at the Jacaranda Golf Club in Fort Lauderdale

Sunday, May 30, 2010

2 MAN BLIND DRAW

1. Rufus Tiger/Ken Campbell/Jeremy Harrison/Lawrence Gishsey, 2. Richard Doctor/Lawrence Osceola/Virginia Billie/Raymond Garza, 3. Kevin Osceola/Joshua Harrison.

LONGEST DRIVE

Senior Women: 1. Mabel Doctor; Senior Men: 1. Ken Campbell; Women: 1. Virginia Billie; Men: 1. Steven Awonohopay.

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Senior Women — Hole #8: 1. Mabel Doctor; Senior Men — Holes #3 and #13: 1. Ken Campbell; Women — Hole #17: 1. Virginia Billie; Men — Holes #3 and #13: 1. Jeremy Harrison; Men — Hole #8: 1. Kyle Doney; Men — Hole #17: 1. Steven Awonohopay.

Monday, May 31, 2010

2 MAN — BRING YOUR OWN PARTNER

1. Charlie Cypress and Jason Tommie, 2. Jimmie Harrison and Jeremy Harrison, 3. Lawrence Osceola and Ken Campbell, 4. Allen Huff and Destiny Whitney, 5. W. Bruce Pratt and Duane Pratt.

LONGEST DRIVE

Senior Women: 1. Mabel Doctor; Senior Men: 1. Mondo Tiger; Women: 1. Destiny Whitney; Men: 1. Kyle Doney.

CLOSEST TO THE PIN

Senior Women — Hole #8: 1. Mabel Doctor; Senior Men — Hole #3: 1. Leroy King; Senior Men — Hole #8: 1. Ken Campbell; Women — Hole #17: 1. Virginia Billie; Men — Holes #3 and #13: 1. Jeremy Harrison; Men — Hole #8: 1. Kyle Doney; Men — Hole #17: 1. Steven Awonohopay.

EIRA/11TH ANNUAL SPORTS FESTIVAL RODEO RESULTS

YOUTH DIVISION

Note: Each first place contestant received 10 points, with the second, third, fourth and fifth place finishers earning nine, eight, seven and six points, respectively for their competing events

Mutton Busting (in seconds): 1. Justin Gopher Jr. – 10.69, 2. Jaytron Baker – 8.85, 3. Creek Gopher – 5.47, 4. Jarrett Beecham – 4.16, 5. Willie Smith – 3.76; Pony Riding (in points): 1. Jobe Johns – 51, 2. Kenny Descheene – 48, 3. Tripp Edgar – 45; Calf Riding (in points): 1. Mark Holmes – 4.8, 2. Justin Mickelson – 3.95, 3. Myron Billie – 1.75, T-4. Nicholas Andrews and Jaylen Baker – DID NOT SCORE; Steer Riding (in points): 1. Jobe Johns – 53, 2. Tripp Edgar – 5.65; Jr. Bull Riding (in points): 1. Kelton Smedley – 72, 2. Andre Jumper – 56, 3. Ernie Courson – 54; Chute Doggin (in seconds): 1. Ernie Courson – 5.4, 2. Chebon Gooden – 11.2; Barrel Racing (4-8 years old – in seconds): 1. Brighton Bauman – 20.574, 2. Budda Jumper – 22.612, 3. Jacee Jumper – 23.132, 4. Savannah Fish – 26.224, 5. Canaan Jumper – 27.001; Barrel Racing (9-12 years old – in seconds): 1. Harley Maggard – 18.078, 2. Ahnie Jumper – 18.170, 3. Kalgary Johns – 22.569; Barrel Racing (13-17 years old – in seconds): 1. Malonie Perez – 18.115, 2. Reagan Tigertail – 18.742, 3. Victoria Maggard – 18.801; Jr. Breakaway Roping (in seconds): 1. Jobe Johns – 2.7, 2. Blevyns Jumper – 5.3, 3. Kelton Smedley – 21.0; Jr. Steer Undecorating (in seconds): 1. Blevyns Jumper – 3.0, 2. Kelton Smedley – 3.4; Sr. Steer Undecorating (in seconds): 1. Chebon Gooden – 2.4; INFR Steer Riding (in points): 1. Andre Jumper – 56, 2. Kelton Smedley – 55, 3. Frank Huff – DID NOT SCORE.



Naji Tobias
Brighton Tribal woman Johanna Gopher is in the barrel racing event at the 11th Annual Sports Festival's Rodeo event on May 22.



Naji Tobias
Leanna Billie and Ivan Bruisedhead are in the steer wrestling challenge at the 11th Annual Sports Festival Rodeo on May 22 at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena in Big Cypress.

EIRA Rodeo Competition Kicks Off Seminole Tribe's Annual Sports Festival

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

BIG CYPRESS – Moses 'Big Shot' Jumper Jr. served as the master of ceremonies for the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association's youth and adult competitions on May 22.

Held at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena, the Tribal emcee spoke on how the rodeo event was used to coincide with the kickoff of the 11th Annual Seminole Tribe's Sports Festival.

"Rodeo goes back many years with the Tribe," Moses 'Big Shot' Jumper said. "It brings all of us here from the Tribe back together as a rodeo family. It's been an exciting time and a good, worthwhile project with the Sports Festival. I hope to be a part of it for years to come."

The EIRA Rodeo festivities began with a series of youth competitions, which featured approximately 100 Tribal and non-Tribal youngsters riding on their horses, ponies and steers in the event.

It was the only time throughout this year's Seminole Tribe Sports Festival that the youth were able to participate.

EIRA Director Melissa Gopher said the youth tournament had to be bumped up from 4 p.m. to 2 p.m., so the event could provide enough time for the kids to compete this year. She offered her take on the youth competition, which featured calf riding, bull riding, steer riding, pony riding and mutton busting, to name just a few.

"We had a lot more Seminole youth that entered the rodeo this year," Gopher said. "Our kids are our future, so I feel it's my turn to help out the younger generation that wants to come participate in rodeo. We start our rodeo ages at 4 years old and go until 17 years, and sometimes the teenagers compete in the adult rodeo. It's a good sight to see because it keeps everyone on their toes."

When night fell on the Rodeo Arena, it was time for the adults to compete with each other. The Tribal and non-Tribal women and men went head-to-head in a variety of categories, which included breakaway roping, team roping, barrel racing, bull riding, steer wrestling, calf roping, bareback and saddle bronc.

The EIRA festivities ended well into the night with the aforementioned challenges in the 50-and-over categories and an open rodeo for all adult participants.

"I feel that rodeo will be here for a long time," Gopher said. "I foresee it getting bigger and better in the future."

The EIRA has been part of the Indian National Finals Rodeo for roughly 14 years, according to Gopher.

The next and final EIRA regular season event for the Tribe this year will be the Josiah Johns Memorial Rodeo on July 3 at the Brighton Reservation. It will precede the EIRA Regional Finals, which will convene from Aug. 27-28 at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena in Big Cypress. The INFR National Championship is slated to occur in Las Vegas from November 9-13.

EASTERN INDIAN RODEO ASSOCIATION POINTS AFTER FIVE (5) EVENTS

YOUTH DIVISION

Mutton Busting: 1. Justin Gopher Jr. – 39, T-2. Creek Gopher – 24, T-2. Jaytron Baker – 24, 4. David Desheene – 18, 5. Dwayne Billie Jr. – 16, 6. Jarrett Beecham – 15, 7. Lazzio Billie – 13, 8. Willie Smith – 12, 9. Carmello Shenandoah – 10, 10. Bryce Baker – 8, 11. Jayko Billie – 7, 12. Timmy Tigertail – 6; Pony Riding: 1. Tripp Edgar – 46, 2. Jobe Johns – 30, 3. Mark Holmes – 16, T-4. Jaron Johns – 9, T-4. Daniel Rodriguez Jr. – 9, T-4. Kenny Descheene – 9; Calf Riding: 1. Mark Holmes – 45.5, 2. Myron Billie – 24, 3. Justin Mickelson – 18, 4. Daniel Rodriguez Jr. – 17, T-5. Kirkin Boney – 16.5, T-5. Jaylen Baker – 16.5, 7. Norman Osceola – 15, 8. Francisco Rodriguez – 10, 9. Nicholas Andrews – 6.5; Steer Riding: 1. Tripp Edgar – 36, 2. Rayven Smith – 26, T-3. Frank Huff – 20, T-3. Jobe Johns – 20, 5. Daniel Rodriguez Jr. – 9, 6. Drayton Billie – 8; Jr. Bull Riding: 1. Kelton Smedley – 28, 2. Andre Jumper – 27.5, 3. Ernie Courson – 27, 4. William Bearden – 25, 5. Josh Johns – 19, 6. Andrew Holmes – 8.5; Chute Doggin: T-1. Josh Johns – 36, T-1. Ernie Courson – 36, 3. Tyler Tigertail – 26, 4. Andrew Holmes – 10, 5. Chebon Gooden – 9, T-6. Andre Jumper, T-6. Jobe Johns; Barrel Racing (4-8 years old): 1. Brighton Bauman – 47, 2. Jacee Jumper – 33, 3. Budda Jumper – 32, 4. Savannah Fish – 24, 5. Canaan Jumper – 19, 6. Alyssa Gonzales – 6; Barrel Racing (9-12 years old): 1. Kalgary Johns – 47, 2. Harlie Maggard – 45, 3. Ahnie Jumper – 35, 4. Courtney Gore – 8, T-5. Mila Osceola – 7, T-5. Jobe Johns – 7, T-5. Rawlinda Ben – 7; Barrel Racing (13-17 years old): 1. Reagan Tigertail – 43, T-2. Nauthkee Henry – 28, T-2. Malonie Perez – 28, 4. Acaelyn Youngblood – 18, 5. Ashley Parks – 10, 6. Victoria Maggard – 8; Jr. Breakaway: 1. Andre Jumper – 29, 2. Tyler Tigertail – 25.5, 3. Dalton Boney – 19, 4. Jobe Johns – 18, 5. Blevyns Jumper – 16, 6. Kirkin Boney – 9, T-7. Kelton Smedley – 8, T-7. Ahnie Jumper – 8, T-9. Kalgary Johns – 7, T-9. Josh Johns – 7; Jr. Bareback: 1. William Bearden – 19, 2. Andrew Holmes – 9; Jr. Steer Undecorated: 1. Kelton Smedley – 39, 2. Blevyns Jumper – 27, 3. Jobe Johns – 18, 4. Kalgary Johns – 10; Sr. Steer Undecorated: 1. Chebon Gooden – 29, 2. Dalton Boney – 10, 3. Andre Jumper – 9.

Bull fighter Justin Holmes, left, of Okeechobee and Dayne Johns are guiding Mark Holmes in the youth calf riding competition at the 11th Annual Sports Festival Rodeo on May 22.



Naji Tobias

INDIAN NATIONAL FINALS RODEO POINTS AFTER FIVE (5) EVENTS

INFR Steer Riding: 1. Andre Jumper – 47.5, 2. Kelton Smedley – 36.5, 3. Frank Huff – 10, 4. Dalton Koenes – 8; INFR Jr. Breakaway: 1. Andre Jumper – 30, 2. Jobe Johns – 24, 3. Blevyns Jumper – 21, 4. Kelton Smedley – 14, 5. Ahnie Jumper – 9, 6. Kalgary Johns – 7; INFR 50-and-Over Breakaway: 1. Paul Bowers Sr. – 20, 2. Norman Johns – 10; INFR 50-and-Over Team Roping – Header: 1. Paul Bowers Sr. – 10; INFR 50-and-Over Team Roping – Heeler: 1. Joe Johns; INFR Lady's Barrels: 1. Anna Bowers – 30, 2. Mary Jean Koenes – 18; INFR 15-and-Under Barrel Racing: 1. Kalgary Johns – 49, 2. Malonie Perez – 46, 3. Budda Jumper – 37, 4. Ahnie Jumper – 36, 5. Acaelyn Youngblood – 33, 6. Ashley Parks – 28, 7. Savannah Fish – 26, 8. Dayra Koenes – 25, 9. Nauthkee Henry – 18.

INFR ALL-AROUND POINTS AFTER FIVE (5) EVENTS

Girls: 1. Kalgary Johns – 64, 2. Ahnie Jumper – 45; Boys: 1. Jobe Johns – 101, 2. Tripp Edgar – 82, 3. Kelton Smedley – 75, 4. Andre Jumper – 73.5, 5. Ernie Courson – 63, 6. Josh Johns – 62, 7. Mark Holmes – 61.5, 8. Tyler Tigertail – 52.5, 9. Blevyns Jumper – 43, 10. Chebon Gooden – 38, 11. William Bearden – 35.5, 12. Kirkin Boney – 16.5; Ladies: 1. Ayze Henry – 127.5, 2. Leanna Billie – 107.5, 3. Shelby Osceola – 92.5, T-4. Trina Harris – 85, T-4. Boogie Jumper, 6. Mindy Fish, 7. Tyler Johns – 30, 8. Shelby Dehass – 20; Men: 1. Preston Williams – 270, 2. Naha Jumper – 265, 3. Quinn Campbell – 227.5, 4. Ivan Bruisedhead – 175, 5. Josh Jumper – 152.5, 6. Freddy WarBonnett – 145, 7. Warren Rubio – 90, 8. Justin Gopher – 50, 9. Hilliard Gopher – 45, 10. Wilse Bruisedhead – 35, 11. Happy Jumper – 30, 12. Robbie Chalfant – 20.



Naji Tobias
The tandem of Al Tigertail and Josh Jumper successfully catches a steer in the team roping event at the Sports Festival's EIRA Rodeo competition on May 22.

Tommie-Wilcox Memorial Celebrates Another Successful Year

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS
Staff Reporter

PORT ST. LUCIE — For the 11th year running, dozens of family and friends came together in the spirit of competition and in the memory of Tribal citizen, mother and avid bowler Hope Tommie-Wilcox in the memorial bowling tournament of her namesake.

The Superplay USA Bowling Center hosted the event once again in a four-game partner tournament format on May 15.

Son Danny Tommie said the day was a great way to remember the former migrant worker and semi-pro bowler.

"Because bowling was enjoyable and entertaining for her, she broadened our [as her children] experiences by putting us into the programs early," Son Danny Tommie said. "We began to enjoy playing coming up and it was a good opportunity to socialize and it was and has been a good experience for all of her kids including the grandkids."

Among her relatives on hand were Widow Damon Wilcox, daughter Patricia Wilcox and sister Bessie Tommie.

Childhood friend Alice Smith has been supporting the event since its inception.

"I continue to come for the fun of it,"

Smith said. "It is just a good sport to come and enjoy."

Hollywood Tribal Board Rep. Marcellus Osceola Jr. said the spirit of togetherness by the late Bird Clan member can still be felt today.

"Hope is still here working today to bring us all together. That was her main goal and 11 years later she is still working hard at that. It is a great thing," said Rep. Osceola, who participated in his fourth year of the tournament. "I have very fond memories of her and spent time with her at her home in Fort Pierce and I enjoyed it. She taught me a few things about myself as well as herself to pass on to others."



Chris C. Jenkins
Daughter Patricia Wilcox cuts a cake made in celebration of her late mother.

Open House Spotlights Fitness in Immokalee

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

IMMOKALEE — A comprehensive fitness program for Immokalee was initiated a little more than five years ago and has continued to evolve at regular intervals. May 25 marked the most recent introduction of new equipment to the weight room with an open house from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fitness trainers Neil Prager and Joey Garcia kicked off the event by demonstrating the dos and don'ts of equipment use to achieve the most benefit from a workout. Continuing to expand the effectiveness of the program, trainer Liz Pickering joined the staff two months ago. She brings five years of experience in youth, group and personal training to the curriculum.

"In the short time that I have been here, I have enjoyed getting to know the community members and look forward to our class sessions," said Pickering. "In order to inspire participation and produce realistic results, it is important to address

individual needs as well as variety to reduce monotony."

Pickering distributed descriptive information on ten 60-minute classes designed to target parts of the body, muscle groups, cardio vascular workouts, calorie blasting and lifting, toning and flattening of trouble areas.

Class titles like "Butts and Guts," "AB Attack," "Core Pilates" and "Body Sculpt" captured the attention of her audience. Lunch hour and early evening sessions were a special attraction.

"I think it's fabulous to have a state-of-the-art fitness center here on the Rez, complete with personal trainers," said Health and Nutrition Representative Charlotte

Porcaro. "Hopefully, this will encourage more Tribal members to work out and address weight issues which will, of course, benefit numerous medical problems such as diabetic control."

A healthy luncheon followed a short introductory workout and distribution of raffle prizes.



Allison Nunes

Immokalee Tribal citizens and employees gathered in the weight room at the Gym to check out the new equipment and learn about the expanded program.

Youngsters Participate in Big Cypress' Track Day



About 12 Tribal youngsters attended Big Cypress' Track Day on June 10. Track events included the 100 meter dash, the 200 meter dash, the 400 meter dash and the mile. Left photo, from left, Tyler Tigertale, Blevyns Jumper and Andre Jumper. Right photo, from left, Nathaniel Brooks, Abraham (AJ) Tigertail and Ahnie Jumper.



Allison Nunes



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Tribal Men Compete in Big Cypress Skins Golf Tournament

BY NAJI TOBIAS
Staff Reporter

CLEWISTON – In what was the last of four Big Cypress Skins Golf Tournaments in this year's series, Big Cypress Tribal citizen and tournament organizer Charlie Cypress played his way to a victory at the Clewiston Golf Course on June 4.

Cypress and fellow Tribal golfer Ken Campbell posted two skins overall to share the win.

Allen Huff, Jason Tommie and Mondo Tiger each scored a skin in the tournament to tie for third place overall.

Tiger, an avid golfer, offered his take on how the tournament went down.

"We were just here to get together and have some fun to begin the summer," Tiger said. "We came out on this golf course to sharpen our skills and communicate with our fellow Tribal members we haven't seen in a while."

Big Cypress' Keeno King and Rev. Bruce Pratt were surprise entries who made it to the tournament. Though both men did not place overall in the competition, they showed the rest of the field what it's like to relax, have fun with their golf swings and share laughs with their fellow competitors throughout the 18-hole tournament.

Cypress was particularly happy with King, a Tribal employee at the Ahfachkee School, making his appearance in the competition.

"Keeno was out of school [the Ahfachkee School's 2009-2010 academic year ended on June 3], so we de-

cided not to wait any longer to play. We haven't had one since the end of April," Cypress said.

The Big Cypress Skins Golf Tournament Series began with two competitions in March, followed by a match several weeks ago, which preceded the action that occurred in the season finale.

There were a total of 10 golfers, grouped in two pairs of five. Group 1 consisted of Cypress, Pratt, James Tommie, Jason Tommie and Cicero Osceola, while Group 2 comprised of Campbell, King, Tiger, Ricky Doctor and Allen Huff.

"I was glad to see everybody come out to the golf course," Cypress said. "We all enjoyed ourselves in this relaxing environment. We want to come out here again sometime."

The Big Cypress Skins Golf Tournament Series was sponsored by Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress and the Big Cypress Recreation Department.

Big Cypress Skins Golf Tournament Results

(T-1 represents a tie for first place; T-3: tie for third place)

Most Skins

T-1. Charlie Cypress and Ken Campbell – 2 Skins; T-3. Allen Huff, Mondo Tiger and Jason Tommie – 1 Skin.



Naji Tobias

Keeno King, enjoying his first day off from the Ahfachkee School, makes his presence felt on the Clewiston Golf Course with his first shot on the tournament's second hole.

Bruce Pratt, Big Cypress First Baptist Church Pastor, revels in the moment as he goes for his second shot on the Clewiston Golf Course's third hole. Pratt later secures par on the par-4 hole.



Naji Tobias



Naji Tobias

James Tommie places his sheer focus on the ball, as he prepares to hit his first shot on the sixth hole – a par-4.

FNARC Holds a Golf Tournament Fundraiser

BY JUDY WEEKS
Freelance Reporter

NAPLES — The Florida Native American Recovery Convention (FNARC) organized a golf tournament at the Links of Naples as a fundraiser on May 22.

"The FNARC began as a shoot off of the annual Seminole Wellness Conference under a separate forum for Seminoles in Recovery," said Family Services Director Helene Buster. "We are a support group for all Native Americans striving to remain in recovery," continued Buster. "Although we have current sponsorship, it is our goal to become self-sufficient. We will be closer to our goal thanks to the teams and individuals who are facilitating this event."

"FNARC held its first convention with approximately 75 participants and recently assembled more than 200 attendees for his second conference. We provide inspirational and motivational support to empower Native Americans striving to remain in recovery," continued Buster. "Although we have current sponsorship, it is our goal to become self-sufficient. We will be closer to our goal thanks to the teams and individuals who are facilitating this event."

In an effort to achieve their goal, FNARC is organizing fundraisers on each of the reservations and this golf tournament turned out to be an overwhelming success. Employing a new concept, organizers manned the charcoal grills and prepared side dishes to turn out some

awesome box lunches for sale. Traveling around the course, they found ample customers who were eager to sample their cooking skills.

Tournament play included eight teams with Ricky Doctor, Mondo Tiger and Ray Garza, Sr. coming in with 11 under par for first place. Ricky's famous long drives were complimented by Mondo's deadly iron play and Raymond's red hot putter provided the necessary accuracy to beat out the second team by one point. Second place winners, Kevin Osceola, Sharon Rose, Roger Stone and Steven Awonahopay cheerfully shook hands with their opponents.

Mondo Tiger swept the Closest to the Pin competition on the fifth, 15th and 18th holes with Roger Stone laying a ball right next to the cup on number 9.

Tournament results were as follows: 1. Ricky Doctor, Mondo Tiger, Raymond Garza, Sr. 2. Kevin Osceola, Sharon Rose, Roger Stone, Steven Awonahopay, 3. Lawrence Osceola, Charlie Cypress, Keeno King, 4. Travis Allen, James Haywood, Ray Yzaguirre, 5. Miguel Canto, Andrew Junior, Rusty Billie, 6. Jim White, Juan Gardenas, Frankie Gardenas, 7. Mabelle Doctor, Ronnie Doctor, 8. Tim Leverone, Stephanie Leverone, Marilyn Stillwell.



Alliano Nemez

The FNARC Golf Tournament attracted players from all across South Florida to raise funds for their forth while cause.

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