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## Banquet Honors Elite Athletes

### Past and Present Annual Seminole Hall of Fame Award Ceremony

**By Lila Osceola-Heard**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — What a beautiful evening for words like dedication, determination, hard work, heart, character, love, sports and inspiration. Sports are a game of life, and all the individuals who stepped onstage understood this and were living life to the fullest through sports.

On Feb. 6 the Hollywood Recreation Department hosted its annual Seminole Hall of Fame awards banquet in the auditorium of the Hollywood Tribal Headquarters.

Tribal officials present were Max Osceola Jr., Hollywood Council Representative, David Cypress, Big Cypress Council Representative, Mitchell Cypress, Chairman and Paul Bowers Sr., Big Cypress Board Representative.

The program opened with a film by the Haskell Indian Nations University (HINU) film department.



**Lila Osceola-Heard Cynthia Perry**

ans Mike Tsoose, Dana D'Zurella and Mark Von Schlemmer.

The goal of this documentary was to preserve Seminole heritage and teach the children and grandchildren about it by preserving images and voices through video presentation. What an inspiration for present and future athletes to always be able to see and hear from those people in the early days. It will help them and other Natives understand why the Seminoles are unconquered.

◆ See BANQUET, page 20



**COME TOGETHER:** Hollywood Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., Brighton Representative Andrew Bowers, Big Cypress Representative David Cypress, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, former President and CEO of Hard Rock International Hamish Dodds and President Moses Osceola pose with a Hank Williams Sr. autographed guitar.

## Seminole Tribe Finalizes Hard Rock International Deal

**By Chris Jenkins**

**HOLLYWOOD** — The talk was over and the deal was done on March 5. After making history in what is the largest purchase ever by a Native American Tribe of an international corporation, the Seminole Tribe of Florida crossed all the T's and dotted the I's, making the purchase of Hard Rock International Inc. a reality.

The Council Oak tree played host to the official

signings as the Tribal Council, Tribal citizens and employees joined in the celebration and mark of a new direction. This blockbuster deal comes on the heels of the overwhelming success of the Tribe's ownership of Hard Rock Hotel & Casinos in Hollywood and Tampa.

Local media provided coverage for a full slate of speakers and performances including: Comanche flutist

◆ See DEAL, page 15

## Audiences Appreciate Shootout History

**By Susan Etzebarria**

**BIG CYPRESS** — The Big Cypress Shootout on the grounds of the Billie Swamp Safari Feb. 23-25 was an extremely intriguing and enjoyable experience of living history. This spectacular event dramatized the second of three bloody and costly wars fought by the U.S. military against the Seminoles in an effort to remove them from Florida and take their lands.

Although many Seminole ancestors were killed or forcibly relocated to present-day Oklahoma, approximately 200 remaining men and women were never defeated. To this day their 3,300 descendants carry the pride of "The Unconquered" Seminole Tribe of Florida.

The legendary and renowned battles of the Second Seminole War were introduced by Moses "Big Shot" Jumper, a descendant of Chief Jumper and the famed Seminole warrior, Wildcat. Fully dressed in 1830s battle dress, he was an imposing figure as he galloped his horse across the field, stopped and then spoke in a powerful voice to the huge crowd of people eagerly waiting for the reenactment to start. He spoke of the courageous will of his people to live in Florida as free men and women.

"You will see here things you don't get to read in the history books," Jumper said, as he rode off to the applause of an appreciative audience. "The victory will be ours today. I can guarantee that!"

The choice this year to stage the battle in a field surrounded by pristine hammocks and woodlands was a realistic setting for the reenactment of the Second Seminole War covering the time period of 1835-1842. The mood and spirit of the time was recreated by period vendors who displayed their

◆ See SHOOTOUT, page 29



**Gordon Oliver Wareham**

**Jimmy Sawgrass points his weapon at the enemy.**

## The Magic of the Brighton Field Days Festival

**By Susan Etzebarria**

**BRIGHTON** — A great festival, magical with its intricate weave of so many complex elements, is a labor of love of many dedicated volunteers. Pre-event planning means months of advance preparation, and few get the recognition they deserve. Being involved with the Brighton Field Days Festival & Rodeo Festival, held Feb. 11-18, meant different things to different people.

One exhibitor, Nancy Dale, has written two loving books about the history of the Okeechobee region. She explained why she returns every year to sell her books.

"The reason I exhibit here at Brighton is because I think it is important to preserve the cultural heritage here and acknowledge the struggles of these Native American people who endured to settle this land. I have learned many lessons from the Seminole people," Dale said. "How to preserve the present habitat and learn how to live off the land, and I write about this in my books."

Days before the exhibitors and the public arrived, Tribal citizens were following some of the customary practices of the Field Days that began 69 years ago. On Feb. 11 the Field Days kicked off with a bowling tournament, and it was held again on Feb. 12 for the Tribal seniors.

Some of the favorite sports represented in the Field Days are golf and EIRA rodeo which took place on Feb. 14.

On Feb. 15, most residents enjoyed each other's company at the annual community supper and Brighton Princess Contest. On Feb. 16, there were contests on the softball field including the pole peeling, archery and skillet throwing. At the same time, the rodeo grounds once again were buzzing with EIRA festivities starting at 5 p.m. with the

◆ See FIELD DAYS, page 29



**Susan Etzebarria**

**Apache dancer**

## Tribal Council Passes Resolutions, Honors Fire Rescue Grads



**Chris Jenkins**

**Fire Rescue Operations Chief Robert Suit gave this plaque to Chairman Cypress and the Tribal Council.**

**By Chris Jenkins**

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Tribal Council approved 14 resolutions at its Feb. 12 meeting.

**Resolution 23:** Ratification of still photo image permission letter granting use of the Seminole Tribe of Florida Seal to McGraw Hill

**Resolution 24:** Approval of a master equipment lease/purchase agreement with

◆ See COUNCIL, page 6



**Gordon Oliver Wareham Elrod Bowers**

## Elrod Bowers Named COO

**Submitted by Human Resources**

The Tribal Council announced that Seminole Tribal citizen Elrod D. Bowers has agreed to serve as Chief Operations Officer (COO) for the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Bowers has been employed with the Tribe since 1997. He has worked as a reporter, photographer, editor and proofreader for *The Seminole Tribune*, as well as a preservation specialist for the Genealogy Department. In 2003, he was promoted to the role of director for the Seminole Sports Management program.

Bowers has a bachelor of arts in political science from Wheaton College, as well as a bachelor of arts in business administration/finance from Florida International University. He currently serves as vice chairman of the Seminole Tribal Gaming Commission. His extensive knowledge of business operations will be a great asset in his role as COO.

## Hahn Named Deputy Treasurer of Tribe

**Submitted by Human Resources**

Tribal citizen Peter A. Hahn is the new deputy treasurer for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. He assumed this role March 5.

Hahn has

been employed with the Tribe since 2005. He joined the organization following his graduation from Haskell Indian Nations University with a bachelor's degree in business administration and Tribal management. He has been involved in the Tribe's Management Training Program and has worked alongside several department heads. His knowledge of multiple Tribal businesses prepares him well for his new duties.



**Stephen Galla**

**Peter A. Hahn**

## Photo Quiz



Who am I?

## Editorials

## Dr. Herbert G. Oxendine: Educator and War Hero

By Dr. Dean Chavers

*Editor's Note: Dr. Chavers is director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement organization in Albuquerque, N.M. He welcomes your comments on this column, inquiries about scholarships, and inquiries about Catching the Dream grants. His e-mail address is CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com. The opinions he expresses are his own. © Copyright 2007*

I started looking for Indian heroes a dozen years ago, and thinking about what Indian heroes were all about. What I discovered is that we look for Indian heroes who lived at least 125 years ago. The truth is that we have them among us today. And we need to celebrate them. We almost never do. One of them was a man I grew up with.

Dr. Herbert G. Oxendine was the first Lumbee Indian to earn a doctorate, which he received in 1953. For the next dozen years, he motivated and inspired a generation of Indian youth to do well in school and earn their degrees.

I read about him in the statewide paper, the *Raleigh News and Observer*. The article ran almost half a page. It was one of the few times anything positive about Indians came out in that paper. If someone got shot or convicted in court, the paper would carry a story on it. But Indian people doing positive things had a hard time getting into that paper.

Herbert's accomplishment was so great that the paper couldn't ignore him, however. He came straight home to Pembroke State College where he taught and was the dean for the rest of his life.

Our family went to First Baptist Church in the Indian town of Pembroke with his parents, Mister Arthur and Miss Maud, the whole time I was growing up. Within a few years of coming home, Herbert was elected superintendent of the church, the highest position next to pastor.

People liked him, believed in him and trusted him to do the right things. And he never failed him.

I was a friend of his baby sister Mildred. His brother James was one of our teachers in elementary school. Herbert had married Deborah Dial after he came home from the war. They had three children, Linda, Richard and Miriam. Dr. Linda is the recently retired head of the Indian Studies department at the university.

Both Herbert and his brother James were heroes in World War II. James was a tank driver in Europe and Herbert as an Army major. He was a hero to many Lumbee Indian youth, including the recently retired Chancellor of his alma mater, Dr. Joseph Oxendine.

"He talked me into getting my doctorate," said Dr. Joe at the dedication of the Oxendine Science Building on the campus of what is now the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. "Herbert Oxendine established the academic character of this institution."

Herbert was renowned for his scientific knowledge even before he earned his doctorate in 1953. He came to our third grade classroom in the spring of 1951 and gave us a science demonstration about metals. He had a round piece of metal on the end of a rod that he tried to put through another round opening at the end of another rod. It would not fit. Then he heated the round opening in his Bunsen burner and it would go through. It was magic!

As soon as he earned his degree, he was hired to teach science education at the college. Just under 300 students, almost all of

them Indians, were enrolled. The college he came home to was established by the North Carolina state legislature in 1887. They did not appropriate any money. The local Indian leaders had to raise it.

The state only gave \$500 for salaries for the school. My great grandfather, William Henry Godwin, and other Indian leaders raised the money for the first building.

Before the school was chartered in 1887, the local Indians had no place to be educated. Almost all of them were illiterate.

Dr. Oxendine was promoted to the chairmanship of the education department in only a few years. He was one of the few Indians on the faculty then, and the only one with a doctorate. In another few years he was promoted to be the dean of the faculty, the job he held until his untimely death in 1966. He was only 53 when he died.

During his tenure he was responsible for recruiting hundreds of young Indians into the college and helping them to earn degrees. He went to their high schools all over the region, gave lectures, conducted science demonstrations and interviewed potential teacher candidates by the dozens each year. Gradually he helped build the total enrollment on the campus to over 400.

Since teacher education was the big major on the campus, he oversaw the education of several hundred new young Indian teachers. Fifty or 75 of them would graduate each year.

No one knows how much of his own money Dr. Oxendine gave to students, but I know he gave some to me. He didn't have that much, but he shared it, quietly. He had been hired at a salary more than twice as high as the starting teacher salary, so he was relatively well off. But I doubt that Deborah knew how much of their money Herbert gave away.

At the end of the eighth grade, I had won honors as one of the top students in the two classes. My teacher, Mr. John L. Carter, and the other eighth grade teacher, Mr. Wayne Maynor, proposed to take their top students on a weeklong trip to Ridgecrest, the famous Baptist retreat in the hills of North Carolina. It would cost each student \$10 for the week for food and lodging.

My problem was that I didn't have \$10, and neither did Momma. Daddy was in the VA hospital for an extended stay, and he had no money. So one day Mr. John L. told me Dr. Oxendine wanted to see me at the college. He didn't tell me what it was about. After school I stopped by Dr. Oxendine's office in Old Main, the college's main administration building.

He took me into the office and closed the door. He knew me from church and from his family's visits to ours on Sunday afternoons. "Dean," he said, "I understand you have won a trip to the mountains."

"Yes, sir," I said. "But I can't go."

"Why not?" he asked.

"Because we don't have the money," I responded.

He reached in his back pocket and pulled out his wallet. He found a \$10 bill and handed it to me, saying, "Here's the money. You don't have to pay it back. But don't tell anyone where you got it."

I gave that \$10 to Mr. John L. the next day and went on one of the most memorable trips of my life, to the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. In August 2004 the university dedicated the Oxendine Science Building in Dr. Herbert's honor. He deserved it.

## Letters &amp; E-mail

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

Dear Editor,

The Pow-wow and Tribal Fair this year was really great! It was very spread out over the Hard Rock grounds, but there was something going on at all times. It was very educational and entertaining, and the marketplace had a great number of vendors from many Tribes. This was a job well done.

Congratulations to all those who worked so hard to pull this event together. I am again looking forward to the next year's Tribal Fair and Pow-wow.

Sincerely,  
John Higgins

Dear Editor,

I recently received a copy of the annual calendar that is produced by your department, and the theme this year is very inspiring. I would like to say to the entire staff that they have absolutely outdone themselves with the layout and design. I would also like to say to anyone who has not picked up a copy of this calendar, you are missing out.

Thank you for the copy and I look forward to the next.

Sincerely,  
Holly Tiger  
Tribal Citizen

Dear Editor,

A brief history of myself: I am 60 years young and am a native of New York who once had a mental image of an Indian as a man in a loincloth riding a horse. When I moved to Florida back in 1972, I lived at Sherman Street and 64th Avenue, just one block from where the Hollywood reservation starts.

Shortly after moving there, I met a man named Steven Bowers who now works in the Liaison/Governor's Council on Indian Affairs office. Throughout the years Steven has educated me on the Seminole Tribe. I now realize that Seminoles are fathers, mothers, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters and most of all very warm people just like the rest of American people.

Steven told me that he was on the Pow-wow committee, that the event was being held at the Hard Rock over the Feb. 8-11 weekend and that the rodeo was free. My wife and I went and had a wonderful time. I could not believe how you converted the Hard Rock Live stadium into a rodeo area. The horse of dirt laid on the floor truly impressed me. I guess if you put your mind to it, you can do anything.

I just want you to know that Steven is very proud of his heritage and is very vocal about all your functions and affairs. Thank you for a great weekend.

Sincerely,  
Dominic Modafferi

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to say rock on! I'm a Cherokee from Oklahoma and heard about you guys buying the Hard Rock Cafés and was blown away! I thought: It's about time! I mean, what better way to say "America" than to have an icon Tribe own an icon. Now that's the American way!

Cameron Smith  
Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on your acquisition of the Hard Rock properties. It's good to see American properties staying in the possession of real Americans.

God bless you and good fortune,  
Sebastian Black

Dear Editor,

We will be in Florida next month and would like to visit and take a swamp tour. What are the directions to get to your place? I can't seem to find it on the website. We will need to know what interstate you are off and what exit, etc.

Thank you very much,  
Sandi Smith  
Oshkosh, WI

Dear Ms. Smith,

Thank you for your letter. You can take a swamp tour at Billie Swamp Safari on the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation, located midway between Fort Lauderdale and Naples. Here are directions: Take I-75 (Alligator Alley) to exit 49. Drive north approximately 19 miles to the reservation. There are numerous signs for Billie Swamp Safari that you will see along the way.

Have a great time,  
Cindy Malin  
Florida Seminole Tourism

Dear Editor,

I am a professional Indian War reenactor. I have a company of men, around six or so, who would like to participate in the Big Cypress Shootout. We are all seasoned veterans and supply our own horses, tack, and uniforms. We ask for no money, just some water and hardback.

Please let me know who to contact so I can make arrangements.  
Thank you,  
Corporal Doc Whiplash  
7th Cavalry

Dear Doc Whiplash,

This year's shootout was Feb. 23-25, as you may know. However, we are beginning the planning of the Big Cypress Shootout for 2008, and would love to stay in contact with you regarding this event. I will keep your e-mail address on file.

Next year's event will be held on

Feb. 22-24, with battles taking place on Saturday and Sunday. You can mark your calendar.

Thank you and I look forward to working with you,  
Sherry M. Blanset  
Administrative Assistant  
Billie Swamp Safari

Dear Editor,

I have enjoyed your casino and have visited numerous other Native American casinos. However, why is it that most other states have table games and the Florida sites do not?

Also most states have the same tables as a conventional casino, such as those in Biloxi, Miss and Gulfport, Miss. Is there a form of discrimination that the federal/state government will not allow the Seminole Tribe the same rights as the Calif., Wis., Mich., Minn., N.Y. and other Tribes enjoy?

I thank you in advance for your reply.

Sincerely,  
Norman L. Dault  
Winter Garden, FL

Dear Mr. Dault,

The Seminole casinos run Class II games. The Tribe is unable to offer Class III games such as blackjack, craps and slots until the Department of Interior issues something called "Procedures" or the state of Florida enters into a compact with the Tribe.

Ed Jenkins  
Gaming Compliance Director

## Photo Quiz Answer



See here are: (L-R) John Josh, Charlie Micco and Willie Gopher Sr.

## The Seminole Tribune

If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday wish or poem to *The Seminole Tribune*, please contact the Editor-In-Chief Virginia Mitchell at (800) 683-

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## Construction Plans Expedited on Housing for Immokalee Reservation

By Judy Weeks

**IMMOKALEE** — A community meeting on Feb. 13 brought welcome news to the residents of the Immokalee reservation. Following a catered buffet, the Housing Department made a very impressive presentation.

Assistant Housing Director Tony Moya announced: "It is time to give you a monthly update

Safran held up the architectural rendering for the facility. This was followed by two sets of floor plans that would provide seven 1,600-square-foot townhouses and eight 1,100-square-foot apartments. Safran said there would be sufficient area for 30 parking spaces.

"In order to get the project under way, a full environmental would be necessary because we are using federal funds and the properties indicated have already passed this process," he said. "If this is approved this evening, you are looking at completion in approximately 10 months."

Immokalee Board Liaison Raymond Garza asked if the Native American Housing Initiative for Federal Grant Monies were for rentals only or whether they could be used for apartments to be owned.

Moya answered: "We can look at possible rental with the option of purchase. If the resident qualifies to buy, then perhaps his rent could apply to the down payment. This is a good point to investigate."

Other pertinent questions regarded who would qualify for residency and whether a person living off the reservation because of lack of housing would be considered first. Some wished to have those living in mobile homes given priority.

Benny Motlow asked if a tribal member who owns a construction company would have preference in the bidding process. Moya replied that a true bid analysis would be required, and bonding issues were involved.

"Will the apartments push the homes back that are scheduled for construction, and what kind of time frame exists for these residences?" Amy Yaguirre inquired.

Moya responded: "Utilities hasn't put in their permits yet. It was my understanding that this should already have taken place and the land clearing would have been done. It is out of our control, but we are checking into the problem to find out how fast this can be expedited. In answer to your question, these are two separate projects and should not affect each other."

The discussion was followed by a vote approving the townhouse/apartment complex. Several in attendance voiced hopes that the construction process would begin immediately.

Other topics of discussion were the old HUD homes, senior renovations, hurricane codes, funding for repairs to existing residences, the manner of repayments, and the possibility of a temporary mobile home area for residents while their houses are being remodeled or built.



The Immokalee Community examines the architectural rendering for the proposed apartment/townhouse complex.

on the progress that has been taking place since the last time we met. We had asked if you had any suggestions at the previous meeting and every effort has been made to accommodate you.

Heidi Shafra, Mike Morabito and Jim Oleksak joined Moya in bringing the assembly the most current information.

They began by introducing a new member of the team, Catherine Gavin, who will be working mostly at Brighton, but will lend her expertise to the program in Immokalee as well.

"We want to get you as much housing as we can with the amount of property currently available," Oleksak said. "The project list has now risen to 34 homes and we are trying to move on these as quickly as possible. Three are in the bidding process and will go to council for approval ... and five are going to plans with the remainder under consideration."

"At the last meeting, you had indicated the need for as many immediate residences as possible," Oleksak continued. "We had originally looked at the possibility of three models on Lena Frank Drive replacing the old youth center, education and library facilities. If you wish, this can be changed to 15 units of rental property that would help ease the shortage of home space more rapidly."



After examining the plans, the Immokalee Community approved the construction of a new housing complex.

## Basin 1 Construction Project Update

By Alyssa Jacobs,

Water Resource Management Department

**BIG CYPRESS** — Construction has started on the west end of West Boundary Road on the Basin 1 Construction Project. This construction is part of the Seminole Water Conservation Plan, a Critical Project of Everglades Restoration, funded jointly by the Tribe and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Work started in early January with surveys, followed up by clearing and grubbing operations within the construction footprint. Approximately 60 percent of the clearing has been completed. Wildlife biologists have worked to move protected animals out of the construction's path.

Construction employees have received training to watch out for endangered and threatened animals, such as the Florida panther, eastern indigo snakes, Audubon's crested caracaras and gopher tortoises.

As land is cleared, the trees and brush are hauled to designated burn areas. Fires are tended using hydraulic excavators and front-end loaders. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Forestry Management, Seminole Division, controls burning on a daily basis by issuing burn permits to the contractor. Weather problems such as high winds, dry conditions or other forestry issues can cause burning to be canceled until conditions improve. A water truck is always available to keep fires under control.

Work is slated to start on the construction of a siphon—a large culvert—that will be placed underneath the West Feeder Canal. During this work, portions of the canal will be dammed up so water can be pumped out for the culvert to be laid into place. The entire West Feeder Canal will never be blocked for water passage.

Construction will continue throughout 2007.

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Felix Dobosz

The store has an assortment of custom-made arts and crafts as well as patchwork clothing.

## New Gift Store Opens at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

By Chris Jenkins

**HOLLYWOOD** —There is now one more reason to visit the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village in Seminole Paradise.

Beyond its presence in giving a voice to Seminole history and legacy, the latest addition is

small in size but big on content and future plans. The new museum gift store is the second location to open its doors, with the other flagship store in Big Cypress.

The new shop features high-quality custom arts and crafts, all in compliance with the American Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, and has been open for business since December last year. The focus of the store is to sell and represent all Native American art, not only Seminole, according to museum and store Executive Director Tina Osceola.

It has all been a great success so far, she said, adding, "I'm excited and love watching programs and projects like this come to life."

With store profits already exceeding expectations thus far, she says there are plans to expand and diversify supplies and products beginning in August, going through October of this year. She explained that featured items now include books, currently their best sellers, as well as patchwork clothing, dolls, CDs and other gift items.

As part of diversifying their customer base, Osceola says future plans will include signature jewelry and T-shirts as well as more bead supplies and Native Foods products. Dolls and patchwork items will be on consignment to ease and eliminate competition with other specialized Tribal businesses.

"We plan to start capturing more of the people that walk through those [Hard Rock Hotel & Casino] doors," she said.

The store and museum are open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



Felix Dobosz

Peggy Osceola assists a customer with jewelry.

## Seminole Family Arts and Crafts Stores Celebrate Tradition, Showcase Culture

By Susan Etchebarria

**BRIGHTON** — The Seminole Tribe's entrepreneurs have sold traditional Seminole arts and crafts to collectors and admirers since the early 1920s. Today there are three such entrepreneurs on the rural reservations of Brighton and Big Cypress who own and operate gift shops. They provide tourists the opportunity to learn about and appreciate Seminole culture.

Located at Big Cypress, the Seminole Country Store on Snake Road has recently been remodeled and upgraded. Owned by Ronnie Billie and his wife, Almira, the shop is chock full of wonderful and valuable gifts to buy. Their guest book is signed by tourists from Australia, Poland and Canada as well as Americans.

Ronnie Billie said his shop has been around a long time, but he has had to close when he could not find someone to run it. One of the premier chickee builders in Florida, he owns Ronnie's Seminole Chickees. He has modernized the crafts store and now its manager, Bess Bowlegs, greets customers with a warm smile and a warm heart.

Billie has designed the shop in the chickee tradition, but the inside is walled in and air-condi-



Susan Etchebarria

Ronnie Billie's store is chock full of variety.

er arts and crafts store operated and owned by Lottie Huff has been around a long time. Huff said she first opened the Arts & Crafts Store in 1980. It was a chickee. She tore down the old shop and rebuilt a new chickee in 2000 but Hurricane Wilma destroyed it in 2005. Now she Huff rebuilt and she reopened last summer, but it is no longer a chickee.

A special feature of her modest shop is the exquisite saw palmetto dolls crafted by Minnie Doctor of Hollywood. She has clothes, beaded jewelry, moccasins, table runners and wall hangings. She does not operate on set hours but has a very visible "Open" sign when she is there. She lives next door and when someone pulls into the driveway, she comes out to the store, which she operates by herself. She also said people can call her and she is available by appointment. Her number is (863) 634-5558.

The arts and crafts shop is a labor of love. Keeping alive the arts and crafts traditions is important to Huff and she encourages others to work

at their crafts. Her shop is there to help further the traditions. She said people stop and ask lots of questions about the Tribe — sometimes silly ones.

On Highway 721 there is another shop called The Gift Shed. It is owned by the Jeff Johns family. Wendy Johns is home during the days and she and her



Susan Etchebarria

Ronnie Billie and Bess Bowlegs at the Seminole Country Store

tioned. He said the idea of the gift shop came to him 20 years ago when former Chairman James Billie was modernizing the Swamp Safari and laying ground for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum. The then-chairman told Tribal citizens there would be many tourists coming out to the reservation and arts and crafts shops would be a lucrative business.

Ronnie Billie's gift shop is truly amazing. Just to go inside is to learn much about the Seminole traditions and history. Almira, busy with their eight children, has several beautifully woven sweetgrass baskets she made by hand for sale in the store. Corn sifting baskets are reminders of a very time-consuming craft only a few artisans still do. The jewelry includes beadwork, silver and turquoise. The original design dream catchers are very popular items as well, and the clothing is beautiful.

The Seminole Country Store displays about half Seminole art and half Navajo art. Some of the crafts are made by members of the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida. Ronnie

Billie said he has always enjoyed crafts and learned how to carve from his late grandfather, Joseph Jumper. He added he hopes there will always be Seminole artisans in the Tribe keeping the traditions alive. The store is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. or later, and 1 p.m.-6 p.m. on Sundays.

At the Brighton Seminole reservation, another



Susan Etchebarria

Lottie Huff and her dog "Little Joe" at her Brighton Arts & Crafts Store

son, Jacoby, usually greet the customers. The Gift Shed is about three years old. Originally it was a spare room off the main house with a separate door.

Last summer, a bigger shed holding twice the amount of arts and crafts was located on the main road. Inside is an eclectic mix of gifts and Native American arts and crafts as well as traditional

Seminole work. "It's a little bit of everything," Johns said.

The Gift Shed features the paintings of local artists. There are T-shirts with Seminole designs embroidered on them. There are candles, smudge fans, flutes, and a lot of what she calls collegiate stuff, like pillows and blankets with Indian design work; cradle boards made by an Oglala Lakota artisan, sand art and Navajo pottery, silver and turquoise jewelry from the Hopi and Zuni Tribes as well as beautiful beaded purses.

The Gift Shed is open every day but Sunday from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Johns said they also do home and office interior decorating with Indian motifs. She can be reached at (863) 634-1581.



Susan Etchebarria

Brighton Gift Shed owners Wendy Johns, Jeff Johns and their son Jacoby

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**1. Sam Jones** - A Very Important Figure in Seminole History - White Chocolate & Raspberry

**2. Billy Bowlegs** - Lead the Seminoles in the 3rd Seminole War - Dark Chocolate & Caramel

**3. Remember the Chief** - All 9 Chiefs: Oso Bear, Snake, Panther, Big Tiger, Wolf, Deer, Wind and the second Alligator and Lasso

**4. Josie Billie** - One of the Strongest Mothers Men of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Honey

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**15. David DeHass** - Hollywood Representative - Bunt - Dark Chocolate & Coconut

**16. Moses Osceola** - President of the Seminole Tribe - Josh Crown & Dark Chocolate

**17. Roger Smith** - Brgman Representative - Coconut - Dark Chocolate & Vanilla

**18. Paul Bowlers** - Big Cypress Representative - Hazelnut - Caramel & Hazelnut

**19. Johnny Jones** - Brgman Representative - Bunt - Dark Chocolate & Peanut

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

**21. Mike Tyler** - Former Director of Indian Health Services & current Treasurer - Half and Half, Sugar and whipped cream

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

# Statesman Stresses Importance of Voting Rights, Political Action

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — Voting rights and active participation in public life are the weapons today's Native American warriors need most.

That was the message Ben Nighthorse Campbell brought to Tribal citizens and others who

program, which was preceded by an informal reception at the nearby Okalee Museum.

"It's a pleasure to be here tonight with such important gentlemen, former Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell and also Mr. West," Mitchell said. "Sounds like a TV series," he quipped, referring to the 1960s TV hit "Wild Wild West."

Then he continued in a more serious vein, "It's good to have these two gentlemen here tonight to speak about Indian country."

Oscola noted, "We are here to learn, and that's what is going to provoke discussion and ... I hope that it would provoke action in all the departments. It's about being active in our communities ... It's about leaving an imprint of your own."

"I always encourage people to be active in every level of public life," said Campbell, a proud member of the Council of 44 Northern Cheyenne Tribe.

"You can't win with a football team by abandoning the field. You win by hanging in there, sticking it out, refusing to give up, staying at the meeting,

staying with your demands and making sure they're heard. That's how we get things changed.

Our weapons now are our

voting rights and participating. That's what the weapons are now to make sure the future for our kids is better than our past, and our grandfathers' past, too."

West shared his vision of the national museum, housed in a new building along the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as a cultural center and forum "where discussion can occur, debate is encouraged and controversy is not unwelcome — a secure and civil space, where unsafe ideas are safe."

Tribal Chairman Mitchell Cypress joined Tina M. Oscola, executive director of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, in welcoming everyone to the



Felix DoBosz

**Ben Nighthorse Campbell makes a point during his Distinguished Lecture Series presentation.**

gathered to hear him Feb. 22 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.

Campbell, a former U.S. senator from Colorado, and W. Richard West Jr., founding director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, were featured speakers in the second program of the 2007 Distinguished Lecture Series presented by the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.

West shared his vision of the national museum, housed in a new building along the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as a cultural center and forum "where discussion can occur, debate is encouraged and controversy is not unwelcome — a secure and civil space, where unsafe ideas are safe."

Tribal Chairman Mitchell Cypress joined Tina M. Oscola, executive director of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, in welcoming everyone to the



Gordon Oliver Warcham

**Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell with Trail Liaison William Oscola**



Felix DoBosz

**Ben Nighthorse Campbell and W. Richard West Jr. receive handmade Seminole baskets from Chairman Mitchell Cypress as Tina M. Oscola, executive director of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum looks on.**

Campbell went on to explain how easily precious rights can be lost and how hard they are to regain:

"You know that there are over a hundred Tribes in America right now who are trying to be re-instituted, that is recognized by the federal government as a tribal community. Thirty-two in California alone. How did that happen? Well, it happened because we had no voice in Washington when all these terrible acts were passed. ... The federal government, when they signed treaties with Tribes, they didn't sign treaties with individual Indian people — they signed with Tribes as a government."

"Ding! Somebody got the bright idea in Washington: 'I'll tell ya what, if we want to get out of our trusted responsibility to Indian people, disband the Tribe, because we don't have a responsibility to Indians, we have responsibility to the Tribe.' So we ended up with termination acts, 12 different termination acts in fact during the Fifties, and relocation acts too. That's how a lot of them lost their federal recognition and so many are still trying to get reinstated as federally recognized Tribes."

Campbell also touched on the adverse economic, health, educational and social issues Native Americans have had to overcome, and still face in many Tribal communities.

On a more positive note, Campbell related how the Native American vote helped to tip the balance of power in the U.S. Senate last November. He attributed this to changes in the way Native Americans participate, especially in Montana, where a Democrat's election ensured that party a majority in the Senate.

Campbell, who won his first Congressional election in 1982 as a Democrat, switched his affiliation to Republican in 1995. He served three terms in the House and two in the Senate, then declined to run for re-election in 2004.

Earlier in his long and colorful life, Campbell served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and was captain of the U.S. judo team in the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan. He is also an award winning jewelry designer and has worked as a truck driver, classroom teacher, deputy sheriff, prison

counselor and trainer of champion quarter horses.

W. Richard West Jr. is an attorney, a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma and a Peace Chief of the Southern Cheyenne. He described the many aspects, plans, relationships and political views of Native peoples and their importance in our national history.

"I think that the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) is far more akin to a cultural center that happens to sit squarely at the head of the National Mall," West said. He continued, "And why is this distinction so important to me? The difference is critical, because it allows this native place ... to be so much more in the use of objects ... to become a gathering place, a civic space, a forum in the truest sense," embracing themes as diverse as native cosmology, casino operations, health issues, urban Indian life, and hunting and fishing rights.

Chairman Cypress presented the speakers with gifts of handmade Seminole baskets, and Tina M. Oscola thanked them for helping to make the lecture series a success.



Gordon Oliver Warcham

**Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and W. Richard West Jr.**

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# Seminole Fire Rescue Honors Graduating Class 07-01

By Chris Jenkins

**HOLLYWOOD** — With five hard weeks out of the way, it was time to celebrate. On Feb. 9, 16 new trainees from the Department of Emergency Services took a breather and enjoyed graduation ceremonies honoring them as

and certification presentations and closing comments followed.

The already certified combination of firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics were taking that next career step in working for the Tribe. Graduate EMT Tim

Instructor Frank Ransdell, there are usually one to two training sessions per year with this year's class starting with 22. The best of the best remained in the end, he said.

"I did everything I could to get rid of them," Ransdell said. "Every time we do [the training program], we up the standards."

Their daily routine consisted of one to three hours of hard physical training including hose pulling, ladder climbing and calisthenics. Other activities included attending a culture class and certification classes in skin diving, where divers learn to stay under water for extended periods of time without the use of a breathing apparatus.

Ransdell says one of the main skills he wanted to instill in the trainees is the ability to assume any role with engines, rescue units or tankers as well as multitasking and flexibility, which are very important.

According to Administrative Services Manager Eva Cain, their intensive process also involved several areas of training with diving and rescue, fire suppression, rescue practices, air rescue and vehicle extraction as some of its major points of emphasis.

Trainees recognized were: Julio Buenano, Medic, Jason Camarrese, EMT, George Carbonell, EMT, Tim Gritter, EMT, Michael Holiday, EMT, Jason King, Medic, Rafael Lacayo, Medic, Merel Ledbetter, EMT, Hassen Missett, Medic, Dennis Morel, EMT, Jorge Napoles, EMT, Keith Rohan, Medic, Michael Setticase, Medic, Terry Smith, EMT, Danny Soriano, Medic, Franco Stefani, EMT and Evan Weiner, Medic. "The whole program has been really good," Ransdell said.

He explained that most of the graduates will be assigned to Station 7 in Brighton and Station 2 in Big Cypress as well as other locations including Immokalee, Fort Pierce and Hollywood.

"I'm proud to call them my brothers," he said.



Chris Jenkins

New Emergency Services graduates pose for friends and family.

the first class of the new year. The event took place in the Tribal Headquarters auditorium, and friends and family came in support.

The festivities began with Fire Marshal Chief David Logan leading in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation by Tribal citizen Ayze Henry. A video presentation on the graduating class, administration and instructor acknowledgements, an affirmation of oath, badge

Gritter says he is looking forward to coming aboard.

"This is a great opportunity for me," he said. "I know a couple of guys that are on with the department already, and they are very happy, and it seems like a really tight-knit bond that they have. It seems like a really nice place to work."

According to Battalion Chief and Lead

**Resolution 27:** Department of Housing request for the purchase of a home in Glades County, Florida

**Resolution 28:** Tribal courts assistance program grant for funding from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance

**Resolution 29:** Approval of the Assignment of the Amended and Restated Agreement of Lease (Ca8) by and between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Hard Rock Café International (USA), Inc.

**Resolution 30:** Approval of the Assignment of the Amended and Restated Agreement of Lease (Retail store) by and between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Hard

Rock Café International (USA), Inc.

**Resolution 31:** Appointment of Tina Marie Osceola as Executive Director of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki museum and Anne McCudden as the director

**Resolution 32:** Issuance of a revocable permit to Beautiful Touch Seminole Car Wash and Professional Detailing (B.T.S.) – Hollywood Seminole Indian Reservation

**Resolution 33:** Acquisition of 287+/- acres of vacant land in Glades County, Florida (S.T.O.F. Holdings, Ltd. as buyer)

Fire Rescue Operations Chief Robert Suit also presented a plaque to the Tribal Council in recognition of 16 new trainees' graduation and employment with the Tribe.

## ❖ Council

Continued from page 1

Wachovia Bank, National Association, Limited waiver of sovereign immunity

**Resolution 25:** VFS Leasing Co. master lease agreement (Nolvo A40D): waiver of sovereign immunity, Big Cypress Rock Mining

**Resolution 26:** Standard form of payment between owner and contractor where the basis of payment is a stipulated sum between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Southeastern General Construction Inc. for the construction of four single-family homes on the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation

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By Ramona Kiyoshik

## A Fire Under the Chickee

The latest project of the enterprising Seminole Tribe of Florida is a collection of short stories by its members, who share highlights of their individual healing journeys. Some essays are poignant examples of how the contributors turned adversity into personal victory. Others are blood memories that are awakened by an incident in the present.

The coffee table-style hardcover book is titled *A Fire Under the Chickee and Other Short Stories* by the Seminoles of Florida and their Descendants. It is published by the Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Department and the focus is holistic wellness. The project received funding from the Special Diabetes Program, a program of the Indian Health Services Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention.

The format of incorporating many voices is based on the Healing Circle concept of First Nations peoples across North America. In the Circle, personal stories are shared around a fire with the objective of healing through trust-building and disclosure. That the Seminole Tribe put their stories into print is a testament to their determination to build a strong community and create a benchmark of where they are today. It is also a gift to all members of their community and to the world at large.

The Seminoles call themselves "The Unconquered" and they live like champions, taking charge of their present and future, and reaching into the past for the wisdom of the ancestors whose legacy of independence and pride they strive to uphold. They may be few in number, about 3,300 citizens comprising five communities in the state of Florida, but their visions are huge, their ambitions immense and their sense of reality rock solid.

Just a few decades ago, they endured crippling poverty, moving from place to place wherever shelter and work were offered. Some lived as fixtures in amusement parks and others slept in the barns of solicitous farmers. Still their spirits never faltered.

Under a spreading oak tree off State Road 7 in Hollywood, Fla., the straggling tribal members would gather to plan their survival. Since those hungry days, the Seminoles have become an economic force, their youth excelling in scholarship and sports, their elders tenaciously nurturing the traditional teachings, and their community a showcase of 21st century affluence. The Council Oak still stands, symbolic in its endurance, strength and beauty.

Yet there is much work to be done, and the Seminoles are up for it. Their success is built on what is best for the community, and this amazing new book is an example of their commitment to that core value. Wellness, in their vision, is based on the well-being of intellect, body, emotions and spirit. The stories in this collection endorse that philosophy. They are also a reflection of First Nations' innate ties to the Earth and respect for all her gifts. The book could also be called *Native American Life Skills 101*.

The title entry, *A Fire Under the Chickee*, is a story about a young wife's dream of having a home with a traditional chickee in her backyard. She waits a long time for this dream to come true and when it finally happens, she is thankful for a place to gather with her children, family and neighbors. Diane S. Smith tells her story with humor and grace.

In *Moving Water*, Herbert Jim writes about his Seminole name and how the name reflects his philosophy, adapting to each situation that arises, be it challenge or reward. He likens his life journey to water flowing to the ocean and always arriving there, no matter what obstacles get in the way.

Lee Zepeda talks about a high school teacher who advised him to abandon a dream of

going to law school because becoming an attorney was very difficult. In *Words of Motivation*, he talks about going to university and majoring in social services and history. Later, at the urging of Tribal members, he got a law degree. Although he does not practice law, he says the training is applicable to many situations. He advises young people to follow their dreams and know they can make them come true.

Josephine Motlow North's *Dad's Advice* is a tribute to communication and voice. Sometimes words are essential, but at other times, things can be communicated without language.

Charles Billie Hiers, Sr. has an encounter with a herd of buffalo and is transported briefly to another time in *Imagining Buffalo*. The earth trembles under the hooves of the herd and Hiers is humbled for a brief moment by the power of an imaginary stampede.

In *The Fried Egg Sandwich*, Jim Osceola talks about how his son's diabetes motivated him to give up a lucrative position as a chef, fulfilling his lifelong dream, to become an educator in healthful eating for the people in the community.

Willie Johns writes about his bout with childhood polio and how the lack of support services on the reservation forced him to use his withered legs to take care of himself. In his contribution, *Luck*, he expresses thanks for the opportunity to become strong and to play sports, while a pampered patient he knew in the Florida Hospital for Crippled Children grew up weak and disabled. Willie Johns knows he could easily have become that other guy.

In *Day by Day, Minute by Minute*, Janice Billie courageously talks about living with addiction. She draws strength from her career, community and family. Like many of the writers in this collection, Janice talks candidly about straddling two worlds. The feelings of not measuring up are forgotten in the embrace of a loving family and a supportive community.

In other entries, women and men write about their fitness goals, their families, their heartbreaks and their victories. Elders talk about the wisdom from their ancestors and how the tribe's history must be remembered and

honored. A little girl talks about her first mutton-busting ride and how the experience made her more determined to ride again and stay on the next time. Every entry is powerful and a testament to personal courage.

The first half of the book contains the stories of the people, accompanied by a full-page portrait of each writer with a background of a Florida landscape or Everglades scenery. The second half contains biographies of the contributors. The writing is clear, concise and conversational, a tribute to the editorial skills of Tribal members. The graphics and layout, by Seminole artists, photographers and writers, are unique and captivating.

One story that sums up the spirit of this project is *Beautiful Wrinkles*. Jeannette Cypress writes about her grandmother, a traditional healer, who has to go to the hospital for gallstone surgery. The grandmother refuses the hospital's medicine and asks her nervous granddaughter to help her with a traditional ceremony. Jeannette lovingly remembers her aged grandmother with her beautiful wrinkles and white hair, but mostly she recalls her words:

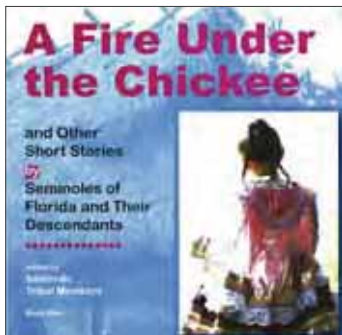
*There is a lot of life to live.*

*Choose not to grow old and life will not pass you by.*

*Value every moment of life. It can be gone in an instant.*

*Remember the hardships of our ancestors.*

*If they had given up, where would we be today?*



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## Education ♦ Emahaayeeke ♦ Kerretv

## Alumni Share Vivid Memories of Pioneer Days Brighton Indian Day School Reunion

By Susan Etchebarria

**BRIGHTON** — The Brighton Indian Day School Reunion on Feb. 16 brought together for the first time many alumni with vivid recollections of earlier days. Former classmates shared memories of their childhood at Brighton growing up together in a one-room schoolhouse. They were the courageous children who pioneered for this community its first experience in public school education.

In the 1930s, there was a certain amount of understandable fear and hesitance about going to the white man's schools. Many Seminole parents did not allow their children to go to the new school. Many children didn't want to go. Some were forced to go by parents who understood how important the opportunity would be for their children's future.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) established the Brighton Indian Day School in 1938. Mr. and Mrs. William Boehmer, the teachers who came and remained for nearly 30 years, were kind and dedicated. They were beloved by all. William Boehmer was also the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) superintendent. The school closed in the 1960s and since then the Brighton children have attended public schools off-reservation.

It seems fitting this casual reunion was held for the first time on the opening day of this year's 69th annual Brighton Field Days because it was the Boehmers who suggested and organized the first Field Days.

"We didn't get together with those living at Big Cypress and Hollywood very often because of the distance, and this was a way to get us together,"



Photo from archives submitted by Geneva Shore

The Brighton Indian Day School

of the alumni who came for this special event. The alumni watched the slide show intently trying to place the faces of childhood friends. Many have passed on, but others were sitting in the room beside them.

"We want to remember those old times and think back how it was," Pastor Wonder Johns said. "We are grateful we are still around to remember."

Stanlo Johns said the schoolhouse was one of the first buildings constructed on the reservation and he was not to see it torn down a few years ago. He added he wishes a replica of the building could be built and turned into a museum for its significance to the Tribe.

He recalled that in those days of barefoot innocence, living in a chickee at Brighton reservation was normal. Attending school was not. "There used to be a taboo against education," he said. Other graduates remembered how the teacher would scrub their faces with lye soap and make them sit down to eat breakfast, lunch and dinner. That wasn't normal either. In Seminole tradition the food was always cooking and ready to eat in the pots and pans over the fire pit. People didn't eat at special times of the day. They ate when they were hungry.

President Moses Osceola attended the reunion as a guest, but not as an alumnus.

"You were the ones who started the school process for the Seminole people," he told the alumni. "You took the first big step because historically education was not the way of our people. You all took that ultimate step forward and I want to thank you and commend you for that."

"We have always been an adaptable people who took what we could to help us and you have made education an important key



Photo courtesy of Seminole Broadcasting

Geneva Shore, Mabel Haught and Elsie Bowers

to our growth."

Alumni took time to share their childhood memories. Mabel Haught recalled that fry-bread and sofkee were always on the menu at school. Ahmie Osceola remembered that Mr. Boehmer started a horse club, and children used to ride horses three miles from the school to Red Barn Road. Stanlo Johns recalled the dark green school bus, which was driven at one time by Jack Micco.

Everyone present seemed to agree that it would be good to start a tradition and have a reunion every year. Micco suggested Indian Day as a good time for the get-together. Someone suggested that the students at the new charter school should learn about this first school and how the elders struggled so they could have a better life.

Most of the individuals who attended the reunion went on to succeed as educators, businessmen and -women or social workers. Many went from that tiny one-room schoolhouse to attend college. Most of these graduates have held vital leadership roles in their churches and in Tribal governance.

"It is good to remember our roots," Stanlo Johns said. "This opens our eyes and we can see what we have done; what we have accomplished. We can still do more."



Photo courtesy of Seminole Broadcasting  
Stanlo Johns speaks of the past.



Reunion organizers (L-R) Elsie Bowers, Edna McDuffie, Geneva Shore and Dorothy Tommie

## NNAYI Seeks Applications For Summer Youth Program

Submitted by Lucinda Myers,  
Program Director

**WASHINGTON, DC** — The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) is now accepting applications for the 10th Annual National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) Program to be held in Washington, D.C. June 23-July 1, 2007.

American Indian/Alaskan Native (AI/AN) high school students 16-18 who have an interest in health careers and/or biomedical research are encouraged to apply.

NNAYI's curriculum is designed to prepare students to remain in the academic pipeline and pursue a career in health services and/or biomedical research.

In addition, students learn about mentoring and shadowing opportunities with AAIP member physicians.

AAIP is also accepting applications for counselors 21 and older to accompany the students and serve as role models during the nine-day program. AI/AN college students and health professionals are encouraged to apply.

Applications must be postmarked by April 20. For more information, contact Lucinda Myers, NNAYI program director, at lmyers@aaip.org or (405) 946-7072. Eligibility and application requirements are available at [www.aaip.org/programs/nnayi/nnayi.htm](http://www.aaip.org/programs/nnayi/nnayi.htm).

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Come learn how they do it. Call, fax, write, or e-mail for more information. Dr. Dean Chavers, Coordinator, The Exemplary Institute, 8200 Mountain Road, NE, Suite 203, Albuquerque NM 87110, (505) 262-2151, fax 262-0534, e-mail [CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com](mailto:CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com).

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## Education ♦ Emahaayeeke ♦ Kerretv

## Hollywood Kids and Teens Enjoy a Magical Night Youth Center Valentine's Ball

By Gina Allardyce

**HOLLYWOOD**—Approximately 50 young people from 6 to 16 gathered on Feb. 12 at the Seminole

Gym on the Hollywood reservation.

The gym was decorated with red and white balloons with a heart-shaped entryway. Miss Blueberry Muffin painted little faces while Rich Tiegner amused his audience with balloon animals, hats, people, wrist pieces and

other examples of his balloon artistry. Magician Jack Maxwell mesmerized everyone for a full hour with his cool tricks. It was a splendid night for the kids. They all seemed to have a great time, and received

Valentine's Day gifts as they departed. Pat Henderson, director of the Youth Center, and her staff put on a great Valentine's Ball.



SPD Officers Michelle Clay and L.T. Faherty are surrounded by smiling preschoolers in Immokalee.

## Immokalee Preschoolers Learn About Stranger Danger

By Judy Weeks

**IMMOKALEE**—The Stranger Danger Program is probably one of the most important ones that can be introduced at the preschool level. Seminole Police Department (SPD) Officers L.T. Faherty, Michelle Clay and Laura Herran visited the Immokalee Preschool on March 1 to enlighten the students.

The youngsters sat mesmerized by the video which taught the do's and don'ts of safety when visiting public places. The film is designed as a teaching aid for elementary and preschool. Its characters delivered their messages in a manner easily understood by the younger set. The kids particularly liked the lady with the little dog, which made them laugh.

Interacting with the children, the officers stressed the importance of staying close to parents or supervising adults when in stores, streets and public places. Never run on ahead or lag behind because this is an invitation to very serious danger, they advised.

These six rules are very easily taught to small children, who should receive reminders at regular intervals:

- 1: Never take rides from strangers;
- 2: Never take gifts from strangers;
- 3: Always go straight home after school;
- 4: Always let your parents know where you are;
- 5: Always get help if there is trouble;
- 6: Never open the door to strangers.

SPD has a very good relationship with the entire Immokalee community and the little children feel very comfortable in the officers' presence. They were quick to respond to the officers' questions and seemed to benefit immensely from the teaching session.

Now that the class is over, it is time for parents to reinforce the rules above. It is very important to talk to your children and grandchildren about safety and remind them about which adults they can run to in time of need and which ones to avoid.

## Youngsters Attend Valentine Sweethearts Party



Judy Weeks

Immokalee Preschoolers and staff enjoyed a Happy Valentine's Day.

By Judy Weeks

**IMMOKALEE**—The staff of the Immokalee Preschool prepared a Valentine's Day Party for their little sweethearts on Feb. 14.

First thing in the morning they passed out Valentine's cards. Like all children, these preschoolers love getting mail and were very happy opening the envelopes and showing each other the cards.

Then it was off to the dining room where they were given an opportunity to decorate cookies and cupcakes. They enjoyed themselves immensely as they spread frosting on each item and then covered it with little decorations. Before long

the room was filled with little frosted hands and faces as the children turned the baked goods into works of art.

Following a short break and major cleanup, the youngsters created a Valentine's Sweetheart paper plate. As they did with all the arts and crafts, they dove into the project with lots of enthusiasm.

Before long the room was filled with laughter and giggles as they each expressed themselves artistically.

After sharing a wholesome lunch, Valentine treats were distributed. The Immokalee Preschool Staff would like to thank the parents who donated for the party and who came to be with their children on their special day.



2007 Close Up Program attendees

Emma Brown

## Seminole Students Attend Close Up Program

By Emma Brown

**WASHINGTON**—High school students from the Immokalee, Fort Pierce, Hollywood and Brighton reservations traveled to the nation's capital to attend the Close Up Program held Feb. 11-17.

Every year the Seminole Tribe sends students to participate in this program, an exciting and invigorating weeklong study visit to Washington, D.C. They have the opportunity to experience their government and the political process firsthand, and get an inside look at the people and places that make Washington unique.

Students from the United Southern and Eastern Tribes, or USET, attend the Close Up Program during impact week, which is the week of the National USET Convention. This allows the students to have meetings with their leading officials and directors and share with them their ideas and thoughts about their communities. Students engage in a learning adventure like no other, filled with active participation, peer interaction and fun.

The Close Up Program is designed to help students become active citizens and learn how to influence their community, state and nation. Students in the program are taken to explore the corridors of Capitol Hill, visit monuments and museums, and attend daily sessions in which they exchange viewpoints on current issues affecting their nation and community. The program offers a rare glimpse of government in action, both at the Tribal and national levels.

This year the students put together a few community action plans that were endorsed by many Tribal USET members all along the Eastern seaboard. The Seminole students focused on the importance of preserving their culture and language.

Close Up is not all work though. The students enjoyed



Emma Brown

Christian Osceola and Damen Bert with their community action project

nights out to attend a play and celebrate with a final banquet and dance. The Seminole students gained the friendship of many other Native Americans from USET tribes, and these new friends could someday become valuable contacts for conducting positive Tribal business.

Any high school student wishing to attend next year's Close Up Program should contact the education adviser at his or her reservation.



Emma Brown

(L-R) Damen Bert, Emily Cortez, Summer Billie and Jasper Thomas



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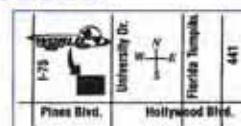
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# Health Corner ♦ Chah-nee-ken chàò-ke ♦ Cvfeknetv onakv



After a brisk parking lot workout, employees show no signs of fatigue.

Lila Osceola-Heard

## Employees Step Up For Better Health

By Lila Osceola-Heard

**HOLLYWOOD** — On Feb. 15 the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Allied Health department program invited all Hollywood employees to participate in a walk around the workplace. Thousands of people around Broward County took 15 minutes to show their commitment to better health.

Brenda Bordogna and Tina Mennella work hard trying to find health-conscious programs to encourage Tribal citizens as well as employees to focus on their health. So Hollywood Tribal employees walked around the parking lot in their work attire along with their best walking shoes.

Step Up Florida is a program

affiliated with the Broward County Health Department. The employees of the Seminole Tribe of Florida stepped up to the challenge.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Employees zoom around the parking lot at full speed.

### The Healthy Senior

By Fred Cicetti

[Editor's Note: Fred Cicetti is a syndicated columnist who writes about issues concerning senior citizens' health. The opinions he expresses are his own. If you would like to ask a question, please write fredcicetti@gmail.com. All Rights Reserved © 2007 by Fred Cicetti.]

**Q:** I have to have cataract surgery and I'm a little frightened. Should I be?

**A:** I don't know anyone who isn't a little frightened by surgery of any kind, but cataract removal is one of the safest and most effective types of surgery. It's also one of the most common operations performed in the United States. About 9 out of 10 people who have the surgery have improved vision.

A cataract is a clouding of the lens, the clear part of the eye that helps focus images like the lens in a camera. Cataracts can blur images and discolor them.

Most cataracts are related to aging. By age 80, more than half of all Americans either have a cataract or have had cataract surgery. There are other causes of cataracts such as diabetes, eye injury, radiation and surgery for other eye problems.

Cataracts tend to worsen gradually. The clear lens slowly changes to a yellowish/brownish color, adding a brownish tint to vision. If you have advanced lens discoloration, you may not be able to identify blues and purples.

The most common symptoms of a cataract are: blurred images, faded colors, glare, poor night vision, double vision and frequent prescription changes in your eyeglasses or contact lenses. If you have any of these symptoms, see your doctor, because they can be signs of other eye problems.

The symptoms of early cataract may be improved with new eyeglasses, brighter lighting, anti-glare sunglasses or magnifying lenses. If these measures do not help, surgery is the only effective treatment. The surgeon removes the cloudy lens and replaces it with a plastic lens.

Like every other kind of surgery, there are risks to cataract surgery such as infection and bleeding. Serious infection can diminish vision. Cataract surgery slightly increases your risk of retinal detachment, a serious condition that demands emergency treatment to prevent permanent impairment or even blindness. The retina is a light-sensitive membrane lining the inner eyeball; it is connected to the brain by the optic nerve.

The operation usually lasts less than one hour and is almost painless. After the operation, a patch may be placed over the eye. Most people who have cataract surgery can go home the same day. In most cases, healing will be complete within eight weeks.

What can you do about cataracts? Wearing sunglasses and a hat with a brim to block ultraviolet sunlight may help delay cataract. If you smoke, stop. Researchers also believe good nutrition can help reduce the risk of age-related cataract. They recommend eating green leafy vegetables, fruit, and other foods with antioxidants.

If you are 60 or older, you should have a comprehensive dilated eye exam at least once every two years. In addition to cataract, your eye care professional can check for signs of age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, and other vision disorders. Early treatment for many eye diseases may save your sight.

### Ask The Counselor

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Dear Counselor,

My name is Clara. I don't really have a problem. My question is about a word — I have no idea what it means. Every time I hear the word it confuses me. The word is wisdom. Does it mean smart, common sense, intelligent, bright, street savvy, or something else?

The other day my mom told me I need more wisdom; at age 18 I thought I had wisdom. Please explain.

Signed,  
Perplexed

Dear Perplexed,

Today we live in a society where we hear about being street savvy, or having good common sense. But we really hear about wisdom. Wisdom involves going against that which is conventional.

A classic definition of wisdom is the right use of knowledge. Not all knowledgeable people are wise.

Perplexed, your mom is on the right track. She is sharing with you that wisdom is supreme and extraordinary. Wisdom rises above the conventional. It is something to be attained. Wisdom is a spiritual concept.

Wisdom is developing a solid relationship with a higher power — meaning your decisions are guided by a standard of ethics. Today as you ponder the use of good behavior in your life, your home and your relationships, you must understand that you will not be able to live an honorable life without understanding the meaning of wisdom.

Perplexed, wisdom comes more from living than from studying. Your mom is a wise mom. She is telling you that wisdom is the peace of knowing yourself, respecting the past and remembering the struggles of your ancestors.

Signed,  
The Counselor

## What are Carbohydrates?

Submitted by the Allied Health Department

Over the last couple of years carbohydrates, often called "carbs," have been getting a lot of bad publicity. The truth is carbohydrates are necessary for overall good health. A quick review of which foods contain carbohydrates and how they are used by the body will help in understanding that all carbs are not created equal.

Carbohydrates are one of the three macronutrients. Along with protein and fat, carbohydrates contain carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen atoms. There are two types of carbohydrates in foods: simple and complex.

In general, simple carbs are so named because they are made up of monosaccharides and disaccharides. These include sugars such as fruit sugar (fructose), corn or grape sugar (dextrose or glucose), and table sugar (sucrose). Complex carbs are made up of polysaccharides, which are much bigger, more "complex" molecules.

Simple sugars were considered bad and complex carbohydrates were considered good. But that isn't the whole picture.

Carbohydrates provide us with energy for daily living. Energy needed for normal body functions such as heartbeat, breathing and digestion and for physical activity and exercise. Foods that contain carbohydrates — fruits, vegetables, beans, grains, dairy products and sugars — provide the body with essential nutrients. These include vitamins C and E, most of the B vitamins, potassium, carotenoids and other beneficial phytochemicals and fiber.

The body breaks down all carbohydrates in much the same way. All carbohydrates are broken down into simple sugars and absorbed into the bloodstream. As the sugar level rises in the blood, the pancreas releases the hormone insulin. Insulin moves

sugar from the blood into the cells, where it can be used for energy. Fiber is an exception. It isn't broken down into sugar molecules, so it actually passes through the body undigested.

Not all carbs are equal. Despite the recent craze for low-carb diets, not all foods containing carbohydrates are bad. When trying to lose weight, try to eat more of the "skinny" carbs that don't have many calories, such as fresh fruits and non-starchy vegetables like lettuce, tomatoes, carrots and broccoli. Also try to eat more whole grains such as oatmeal, barley, brown rice, whole wheat pasta and beans.

Eat fewer of the high-calorie carbs such as ice cream, french fries, cakes, cookies, donuts, sweetened cereals, potato chips, crackers, cheesecake and candy bars.

What about people who are diabetic? People with diabetes should eat a balanced diet including smaller servings of carbohydrates. The amount of carbohydrates in meals has a great impact on blood glucose levels. These foods — rice, breads, tortillas, crackers, cereal, fruit, juice, milk, yogurt, potatoes, corn, peas and sweets — are high in carbohydrates and raise blood sugar levels the most.

By eating regular meals and spreading carbohydrate foods evenly throughout the day, it becomes easier to maintain energy levels without causing blood glucose levels to rise. Many people with diabetes also need to take medication to help control their blood sugar.

For more information, contact the nutritionist at your reservation. Brighton: Beth Morlang (863) 763-0271, Ext. 144, Hollywood: Doris Mir (954) 965-1300, Ext. 111, Big Cypress: Sue Fundingsland (863) 983-5798, Ext. 118, Immokalee: Charlotte Porcario (239) 867-3400, Ext. 327.



**Q: Where I live in Connecticut, our highways are "parking lots" many times a day. Isn't this an ideal situation for public transit? Why isn't it happening?**

— John Moulton, Stamford, CT

An increasing number of public transit options are coming online throughout North America, but those of you idling along bumper-to-bumper in your cars might not know it. Indeed, lack of knowledge about public transportation options may be the largest impediment to widespread acceptance of more efficient ways of getting around. Driving your own car back and forth to work every day is not as convenient as it once was, and public transit options are now faster and undoubtedly generate less stress and pollution.

In Connecticut, the state-owned CTTRANSIT moves 27 million people a year on well-appointed local and express buses serving all metro areas. And two full-service commuter rail lines, Metro-North and Shore Line East, routinely take riders longer distances. Similar services are available in many urban and suburban areas across the United States. Municipal Web sites are the best place to find transit options, routes and schedules.

The best thing to happen to encourage public transit usage has been high gas prices. Over the last year, the average price of regular unleaded gas rose in the U.S. by 76 cents, with prices now \$3 or more almost everywhere. And transit agencies report a correlation between high gas prices and increased ridership. The Utah Transit Authority says ridership is up 50 percent from last year on a 19-mile light-rail system in Salt Lake City. And Washington, D.C.'s Metrorail has seen some of its busiest days ever during the last few months. In Canada, ridership has risen as much as 10 percent in cities like Vancouver and Winnipeg in step with rising gas prices, though cars remain the travel option of choice in the country's eastern cities.

According to the American Public

Transportation Association, 14 million Americans use one or another form of public transportation every weekday, while about 17 million people drive their cars instead. The organization estimates that public transit ridership has grown by as much as 22 percent — faster than highway or air travel — since 1995. And a recently conducted Harris Poll concluded that the American public would like to see rail-based public transit "have an increasing share of passenger transportation."

Meanwhile, Canadians have embraced public transit even more than their neighbors to the south. An estimated 12 million Canadians, including more than a fifth of all commuters in Toronto, use some form of public transit. Transportation analyst Paul Schmekel found that public transit use is almost twice as high per capita in Canada as in the U.S. Also, car use in Canada is almost 20 percent lower per capita. Schmekel attributes the differences to traditionally higher gas prices as well as more compact urban development than in the U.S.

Analysts point to the strength of the American "highway lobby" as the reason Americans have been slow to embrace public transit. Lobbyists have worked directly with lawmakers over the years to encourage road building and private automobile use to achieve, in the words of a General Motors ad of days gone by, the "American dream of freedom on wheels." In Connecticut, some urban planners have been pushing the idea of turning crowded Interstate 95 into a double-deck highway in places to ease congestion.

**CONTACTS:** American Public Transportation Association, [www.apta.com](http://www.apta.com); Canadian Urban Transit Association, [www.cutac-tu.ca](http://www.cutac-tu.ca).

Got an environmental question? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; submit it: [www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/](mailto:www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/thisweek/), or e-mail: [earthtalk@emagazine.com](mailto:earthtalk@emagazine.com). Read past columns at: [www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php](http://www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php).

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

# My Father, Alan Jumper: An Essay

By Elgin Jumper

*"Say it loud, say it clear ..."*  
—*"The Living Years" by Mike and the Mechanics,*  
1988

I've been working on this portrait of my father, Alan Jumper, ever since the closing months of 2006, working from a photo taken at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, where my father had arranged a book launch party for me to celebrate the publication of "Nightfall," my chapbook of poetry. I must say I do cherish it because the painting shows him smiling. The photo was taken several days before a severe car accident left him extremely weakened.

And I can still recall this man, my father, laboring vigorously in the hot South Florida sun. I can still recall him wrestling alligators before fascinated crowds. But I couldn't begin to tell you all the places he built his huts, or won his alligator wrestling contests. No one else back then dared to open the gator's jaws, let alone let them bite his neck. I can still have a quick glance at two like he did that time Moore Haven when I was 5 or 6 years old. Indeed, I remember well watching my dad as he did those impressive endeavors. But just as I had battles with alcohol in the past, my father had his own battles with the drink, that is until that weary time when it all had to cease, at long last, so that new, more meaningful chapters of life could be inaugu-

Seminole Gaming commenced in 1980 and with it a job for my father, calling out numbers for Bingo players. I remember him coming home from work late at night. He'd tell my mom, Eva Billie, when they were still married, about winners and losers, and although he doesn't smoke cigarettes, there was always that pungent scent of cigarette smoke about him.

He told me once about his father, my grandfather, a wealthy man for a time, working in pelts and arts and crafts, and recently he showed me a rather large photograph of the man, which was hanging in a restricted corridor of the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Up to that time I hadn't known what he looked like, and though I hadn't known him, still I had respect for him. He had been a man of means, and ever since I was a child and before you showed me grandfather's image that day, he had been a distant mystery intricately wrapped in the faintest veil of remoteness.

We were loved from Big Cypress to the Hollywood reservation when I was 5 years old, and it seems my dad even drove our school bus for a while. And that's an experience in itself, let me tell you, for you can never say I didn't have a ride to class — no, you can't use that one — and you'd have to find another way to get to school. It's that kind of thing that truly mattered and yet were wasted, spiraling in a fiery descent, when others utilized the time to their advantage. I was listening to Zeppelin and the Stones in the warm reservation air, and my father "in a general honest-but" attempted to guide me in the right direction, but I was stubborn and would not heed, would not heed. No, the words of wisdom could've saved me back then and the dear loss precious time was never grasped.

My dad did "extra work" for the movies and

commercials and I even went with him on several occasions. I remember sitting on a plane in '86, while actors and actresses uttered their lines near an old hangar at the Fort Lauderdale International Airport. I smile admiringly when I think back on those days. He seems to have always been doing something like that, and I'm acquainting myself today with that same exact energy and vigor and enthusiasm.

My dad has experienced his own highs and lows, and I'm trying to infuse that feeling into the painting, perhaps in the dark brown eyes, in the weakness of expression, which must have come out of a crucial sense of happiness and sorrow simultaneously, and around the beloved man's portrait shall be the correlation of a father and son's love. There's feeling, I pray, and yet, too, is a deep sense of thought as well. He is a shaper of sons and daughters and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And in our youth, my father even gave me and my brother the gift of the rare opportunity of experiencing bicycle motocross, BMX.

We were 8 or 9 at the time, and the man who held us in check gave a nod of his head. "Riders ready!" he shouted, holding up the racers on the starting line. "Pressure on the board!" and the riders adjusting, some standing, balancing themselves on the



Elgin Jumper with his father, Alan, at the Hard Rock

board, and then finally the man would yell, "Go!" We were at an old go-cart track they had back in the day, on Stirling Road next to I-95 called South Florida Cartway

And so the race was on, 10 or so BMXers in colorful Bell helmets, full-faced Scott goggles, colorful padded racing shirts, padded pants, and a plethora of other racing gear provided by kind sponsors — my dad had managed to get the Seminole Okalee Indian Village to sponsor us for a while there — all these boys vying for that oh-so-illustrious and colossal-size first place trophy, sometimes on two columns, with that little gold-plated BMX rider viewing the scene from the marble level of the top.

So it was down the starting hill we went, as if we were lightning streaks in a blinding rainstorm! We'd hit the first jump there like nobody's business, up and over, and just as smoothly as if we were out on practice runs, avoiding the ancient tires lining the

track, and making sure to stay down low to the mud and muck and mire, all the time factoring in our heads the cold intricacies of the track before us. I could hear my dad above the din of the race, somewhere up on the clamorous margins of excitement. "Go, go, go!" he'd urge us. "Bring it on home!" and you know what? That actually made us race that much faster. Oh, to hear those lovely, lovely shouts.

So then we're on the straightaways, working out our places among ourselves like gentlemen, and yet all the while passing groups of novices in the rival wolds. And never once did we look back. Not once. By now, we can see the first berm up ahead, a turn with a high slope, where you turned more or less at an angle, and sorting too. BAM! BAM! BAM! It's the turn. I started close to the inside and hugged tight the turn, as did my brother, Joey, so as to make it through faster. I could see other riders, quite unaware of the expediency, high up on the rim of the berm, and knew we had them beat. People were shouting. It was constant pandemonium all around us. We could smell mud and dust and victory all the time. And, and I smiled. I sensed other racers, their hesitations

their helmets. I caught the whiff of dirt and sweat on the plastic of the goggles. It smelled like grimy competition. We flew past the turn, moving over the small “whoop-de-dos,” as we called the stretch of minor bumps on the track. A lot of times, we stayed close to the edges so they didn’t slow us down that much. The aim being to save precious time out there, you see. We could hear the crowd going wild. And hear the other riders, their gear, their bikes, the clank of metal on metal and the vicious grunts. I heard the announcer call a rider’s own score, heard him yell, “Keep the momentum, you never let up. We were with a few lead riders, three or so, real experts. They’re the kind who’d mess with your head before a race so as to throw you off. You know, good folks,

"Eat my dust, Injun!" one of them screamed, and so politely too, this one. They'd do anything to win, the dears, but they were all right. And kindly expressing such eloquence to us, too.

Up ahead there was a large table-top jump, more than 5 feet high with a broad, flat surface that gave the obstacle its designation. We'd hit it, riding it like a Ford and throwing out cross-ups of our own, our bikes horizontal and the front wheels and handlebars aimed upward, we were in the air and glancing back at our back wheels, like we saw those California boys do in those BMX magazines. And then we'd straighten it out and land just as good as new and hit the next berm, again on the inside close to the inner tires, as we had learned it.



Elgin's portrait of his dad

Riders were still battling for top positions and we were among them. Two racers were ahead of us as competitive cries filled the air. Streetlamps spilled streams of light on us. The exertion was phenomenal! The crowd was cheering and I was really getting into it. I was shouting and jumping and feeling like I was animated by the sheer suspense about this act. All whose night is it? Who'll take the coveted trophies this time? And suddenly it happened there was a power play of sorts, the other two riders were straining for advantage, they were both reaching for the prize, a tangle of pedals, bodies and mud, and the announcer shouting something I couldn't make out. We could clearly see the riders falling by the wayside, and knew we had ample time to avoid the pile-up, as the crowd roared in approval, I had a moment to breathe and took those first and second place trophies!

My father, Alan Jumper, had made it possible for us to race against some of the country's finest riders at the time — riders with names such as Jeff Botema and Stu Thompson (both from California), Tim Judge, the Essers, Greg and Brian; the Powells, Ty and Todd; and Kim Wyatt, a girl who routinely raced and beat the guys, and Carl Nagoniaci (all from Florida). And we even raced in the Miami Baseball Stadium and the Orange Bowl, as well as numerous other scenic locations throughout Florida.

We love you so much for that, Dad, we truly do, and we just want you to know that we always will. So don't go away from us so soon, and please, get well soon. You mean the world to us.

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Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Gordan Oliver Wareham



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Gordan Oliver Wareham



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Gordan Oliver Wareham



Stephen Galla



Gordan Oliver Wareham

## ◆ Deal

Continued from page 1

Sonny Nevaquaya, Seminole Gaming Chief Executive Officer James Allen and the Seminole Color Guard's presentation.

The Hollywood preschool 3- and 4-year-olds recited the Pledge of Allegiance in English and Miccosukee. Tribal citizen Wonder Johns offered blessings and prayers, and Tribal citizen Moses "Big Shot" Jumper Jr. recited a poem. Chairman Mitchell Cypress and other members of the Tribal Council, Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas and former Hard Rock International President and CEO Harnish Dodds were all also on hand.

Dodds presented the Tribal Council with a custom autographed guitar from country music legend Hank Williams Sr.

Cypress reflected on the perseverance, faith and leadership of the Tribe on its new path.

"I thank the Seminoles that are still here," he said. "I remember back in the day when there was a \$25 dividend and Brighton and Big Cypress probably understand how hard it was when we traveled to get here on [U.S. Highway] 27 at Stirling Road, where it once was a two-way road."

"I think people at my age have to remember the times that we went through and the things that have happened, and without God's grace nothing would happen. You've got to have that in everything that you do, in order to get things done. This is what has happened and without that strength, knowledge and power that he gives us, this would have never happened."

"The Seminole Tribe has paved the way for other Native Americans to get into other big business industries, so we were always a leader."

Seminole Gaming CEO James Allen then spoke about the daring move and the hard work involved.

"A lot of people don't understand what actually was accomplished here in the last six months, and I think it is a great trib-

ute to Mitchell and the rest of the Tribal Council to really have the vision to look forward, because this was actually a very difficult transaction," he explained. "This gives the Tribe the ability to obviously move forward not just in casinos [as the chairman said], but in all different types of businesses."

Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. echoed Allen's thoughts.

"Today we're here celebrating because it's a great day, not just for Seminoles, but for other Native Tribes, and now the mainstream business world knows that you can do business with Native Tribes and make a profit," Osceola said.

Dodds described the purchase in its significance and impact on a grand scale.

"This is a very historic moment, it's a historic moment for you the Tribe, but it's also a historic moment for U.S. commerce in general," he

explained. "The Hard Rock brand has great American roots, and now the Hard Rock brand is moving from European ownership to American ownership, but importantly it's moving to an American ownership with even deeper roots, the deepest roots of American ownership you can think of, which is the Seminole Tribe."

The purchase of the 35-year-old themed restaurant chain came with more than 50 other financial institutions involved in the bidding war. A breakdown composed of a bond offering and equity contribution placed the deal at around \$965 million in all.

There are 125 signature Hard Rock Cafés in 46 countries along with nine hotels, four casinos, and the world's largest collection of authentic one-of-a-kind music memorabilia. The original is located in London - it was not included in the purchase - and was the idea of Peter Morton and Isaac Tigrett. The memorabilia collection began with the donation of a custom guitar from rock legend Eric Clapton and numbers around 70,000 items.



Gordan Oliver Wareham



Stephen Galla



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## Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv



Field captain, Houston Osceola and team are ready and waiting for the game to start.

## He's a Paintball Wizard in the Making

### Tribal Citizen Houston Osceola Soars to the Top

By Lila Osceola-Heard

**HOLLYWOOD** — Paintball is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and has become Tribal citizen Houston Osceola's passion. Houston is an avid hunter, fisher and all-around sportsman who has committed to being one of the best at paintball.

At the early age of 13, Tribal citizen Houston recently named to the Division 3 SemiPro Miami Rage Paintball Team. His leadership was apparent to his coaches, and he was appointed field captain.

"To be named as a field captain on a semi-pro traveling team is quite an accomplishment," said Houston's mom, Robin Osceola.

Houston credits his coach, Cheno Carbahal, for his rapid improvement in the sport.

For the last year, Houston has dedicated most of his spare time to playing paintball. He said when he is not at school or asleep, he is practicing.

The online encyclopedia Wikipedia describes paintball as "a sport in which participants eliminate opponents from play by hitting them with paintballs. The balls are spherical gelatin capsules containing primarily polyethylene, glycol, other non-toxic and water soluble substances and dye, shot from a compressed gas-powered gun, commonly called a marker."

Paintball began as an official sport in 1980. However, ideas that spurred the evolution of the sport date from the 1950s, when farmer boys used paintball handguns to mark trees that needed to be cut down.

As of 2007, there are 40 countries with millions of paintball players, both male and female. Professional, semiprofessional, and divisional leagues regularly hold high-class, well-organized tournaments involving a large number of professional teams, crowds of spectators, and large cash prizes.

Paintball, like many other games, revolves more around teamwork than equipment or even the skill of individual players. A well-organized team working together can defeat a team whose players are in disarray, even if individual members of the confused team have better skills and gear.

Insurance statistics show that paintball is one of the safest sports in existence, even safer than tennis.

Houston's family sees the positive impact paintball has had on his life. He has lost 15 pounds and is happy to be involved in such a fun sport. Parents Robin and Tate Osceola said they are pleased to see their son so faithfully involved in his pastime.

"As long as Houston has a firearm in his hand, then he is happy," she said.



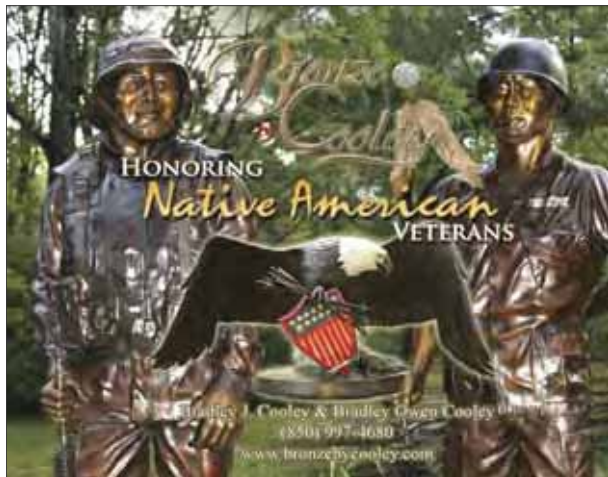
Lila Osceola-Heard

Houston is up next, getting ready for battle.



Lila Osceola-Heard

One down and four to go!



## GO DRAGON CORNER



Mika Lopez and teammate Salen Ellis enjoy sparring during class.

**Lil Warriors I**  
ages 3,4,5  
3:30



Team Dragon's teammaster Salen Ellis and Mika Lopez have fun while learning self defense techniques.

**Little Warriors II**  
ages 6-7  
4:00



Team Dragon's ability drills are a fun way to get fit while improving coordination, balance, speed, and agility.



Team Dragon's ability drills are a fun way to get fit while improving coordination, balance, speed, and agility.



Little Warriors just great team working skills to use as they prepare for the challenge.



Little Warrior Kylee Jangue practices front kicks.



Five year old Lillian Gopher does a side kick with accuracy.

**Team Dragon**  
ages 8-13  
4:45  
**Adults 14+**  
5:30

**Big Cypress**

## Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv



## 36th Annual Tribal Fair Sports Festivities



## Bowling

Submitted by Louise Gopher

## Regular I

1. Elton Shore & Farrah Jones, 443, 2. Philmon Bowers & Dora Tiger, 422, 3. Michael Mico & Cindy Rodriguez, 420, 4. Derrick Thomas & Amanda Smith, 398, 5. Bobby Frank & Terry Frank, 377, 6. Dwayne Billie & Wendi Snow, 364, 7-8. (tie) Rufus Tiger & Linda Tommie, 362, Mitch Osceola & Jackie Thompson, 362, 9. Rocky Jim & Sonya Jim, 357, 10. Kenny Doney & Marilyn Doney, 345, 11. Kevin Tommie & Beverly Tommie, 337, 12. John Madrigal & Mahala Madrigal, 332, 13-15. (tie) Amos Billie & Alfredo Muskett, 331, Lawrence Ballentine & Mary Tigertail, 331, Thomas Cypress & Denise Billie, 331.



Alice Snow competes in the women's 60+ division.

Lila Osceola-Heard

## No Tap

1. Christian Osceola & Trisha Osceola, 508, 2. Thomas Cypress & Rose Jones, 481, 3. Michael Mico & Dora Tiger, 473, 4. Merle Billie & Monica Cypress, 472, 5. Leon Wilcox & Rosetta Bowers, 455, 6. Elbert Snow & Denise Billie, 447, 7. Blake Osceola & Amanda Smith, 444, 8. Rufus Tiger & Rose Jones, 443, 9. John Jumper & Terry Frank, 442, 10. Kenny Doney & Jackie Thompson, 435, 11. John Madrigal & Linda Tommie, 428, 12. Lawrence Ballentine & Sonya Johns, 417, 13. Maxie Tommie & Alfredo Muskett, 414, 14. Dean Stokes & Alfredo Muskett, 400, 15. Andre Jumper & Amanda Smith, 394.

## 3-6-9

1. Merle Billie & Wilma Noah, 471, 2. Derrick Thomas & Farrah Jones, 465, 3. John Madrigal & Wendi Snow, 459, 4. Lawrence Ballentine & Farrah Jones, 435, 5. Cicero Osceola & Alfredo Muskett, 425, 6. Thomas Cypress & Diane Smith, 407, 7. Delwin McGowan & Dora Tiger, 406, 8. Parker Jones & Trisha Osceola, 405, 9. Philmon Bowers & Diane Smith, 402, 10. Raymond Garza & Amanda Smith, 392, 11. Maxie Tommie & Rosetta Bowers, 391, 12. John Jumper & Beulah Gopher, 384, 13-14. (tie) Kenny Doney & Virginia Billie, 379, Amos Billie & Monica Cypress, 379, 15. Rocky Jim & Marilyn Doney, 377.

**Regular II**  
1-2. (tie) Danny Jones & Alfredo Muskett, 390, Kevin Tommie & Jackie Thompson, 390, 3. Christian Osceola & Edna Bowers, 386, 4. Dean Stokes & Wendi Snow, 371, 5-6. (tie) Kenny Doney & Wilma Noah, 362, Andre Jumper & Terry Frank, 362, 7. John Madrigal & Marilyn Doney, 355, 8. George Mico & Monica Cypress, 348, 9. Raymond Garza & Terry Frank, 344, 10. Thomas Cypress & Monica Cypress, 343, 11. Delwin McGowan & Farrah Jones, 335, 12. Cicero Tommie & Linda Tommie, 330, 13. Michael Mico & Mahala Madrigal, 327, 14. Derek Thomas & Beulah Gopher, 324, 15. Rocky Jim & Rose Jones, 322.

Some women bowlers have two partners because the tournament drew more men than women. Event organizers allowed each extra man to draw a female partner's name and use her score without actually bowling with her.

Earlier in the day, there was a bowling tournament for the seniors. They played three games, Regular, 3-6-9 and No Tap. Their winnings were based on the total score of the three games.

## Women, 50-59

1. Linda Tommie, 542, 2. Mary Tigertail, 478, 3. Rose Jones, 462, 4. Dora Tiger, 455, 5. Jenny Johns, 412, 6. Sarah Sampson, 406, 7. Mary Bowers, 264.

## Women, 60+

1. Maydell Osceola, 521, 2. Mary G Osceola, 482, 3. Sally Gipson, 451, 4. Addie Osceola, 382, 5. Rosie Billie, 217, 6. Alice Snow, 204.

## Men, 50-59

1. Thomas Cypress, 679, 2. Eugene Bowers, 669, 3. Elbert Snow, 661, 4. Gary Sampson, 489, 5. Moses Osceola, 486, 6. Jack Smith Jr., 348.

## Men, 60+

1. David Jumper, 628, 2. Jimmy H. Osceola, 502, 3. Sammy Nelson, 491, 4. Archie Johns, 486, 5. Wonder Johns, 484, 6. Sammie Gopher, 445, 7. Billie Mico, 425, 8. Dun Bowers, 365, 9. Jimmy Smith, 293.



Father/son duo Blake and Moses Osceola share their love for the game.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Tribal Citizen attempts a spare.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Women 50-59 winners Mary Tigertail, 2nd place, and Rose Jones, 3rd place, stop for a quick picture.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Steve Young, Terry Tartsah, and Moses Jumper watch Mari Osceola's birdie putt drop.

Mitch Osceola



(L-R) Rufus Tiger Jessica Young, Cec Hill and Glen Miller

Mitch Osceola

they were enjoying themselves in the warm South Florida weather.

The event began with a two-person blind draw scramble and the second day also featured a blind draw, but each person played his or her own ball.

The two golfers' best scores for each hole were averaged to determine the winner. Both days began with registration and gifts including golf shirts, golf balls, golf towels and raffle tickets.

After the Hall of Fame tournament on Feb. 6, the winners were announced and the players were asked to meet at the Tribal Headquarters offices in Hollywood for dinner and the Hall of Fame program.



## Golf



By Mitch Osceola

## HOLLYWOOD

This year's Hall of Fame and Tribal Fair golf tournaments were held back-to-back on Feb. 6 and 7, respectively, at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club.

The turnout was huge from both the Seminole Tribal citizens and the many other natives from Tribes throughout the United States and Canada. Both days had approximately 80 golfers, all giving it their best shots. Many said



Mitch Osceola congratulates first place winners Sylvia Thompson and Butch Macintosh.

Mitch Osceola



Tribal Citizen aims at a practice target.

Chris Jenkins



Tribal Citizen aims at a practice target.



Immakalee Board Representative Raymond Garza competes in 1st round competition.

Chris Jenkins



(L-R) Darryl Bird Mabel Doctor, Earnest Riley and Mike Mata

Mitch Osceola



Out-of-town golfer enjoys the beautiful weather.

Jessica Young



Mike Tiger

Mitch Osceola



Participants take last-minute practice shots using their traditional bows and arrows.

Chris Jenkins



## Archery

By Chris Jenkins

**BIG CYPRESS** — Away from the main stage of ceremonies, the second annual archery tournament took place Feb. 9 in Big Cypress in the quietness of Bigg's Pasture.

Hollywood Recreation Coordinator Steve Young helped coordinate this year's competition, again with two ranges, A and B.

There were also two divisions consisting of traditional (using a traditional bow and arrow or string and stick) and compound (the use of more modernized bows and arrows allowing a longer hold and heavier weight).

Those who competed and placed were: Traditional: first place—Abe Rockwell, second place—Matt Rockwell, third place—Moses Jumper, fourth place—Don Osceola, fifth place—Curtis Osceola, sixth place—Janice Osceola Compound: first place—Immakalee board representative Raymond Garza, second place—Parker Jones, third place—Eli Marrero, fourth place—Terry Tartsah, fifth place—Mike Tiger, sixth place—Josh Garza, seventh place—Garrett Tartsah, eighth place—Mannuel Garza, ninth place—Miguel Alvarado.

Only four of last year's 10 competitors returned this time. Young says the higher numbers this year (16) helped, and he was happy with the tournament. "It all went well, but we are ultimately trying to get Tribal members from all over," he said.

Cash prizes were awarded to all winners and participants.



Father and son Josh and Manuel Garza

Chris Jenkins



Steve Young gives participants the instructions and rules.

Chris Jenkins

## Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv



## Basketball



By Tony Heard

**HOLLYWOOD** — Sports enthusiasts should've enjoyed the Tribal Fair lists of sports for participation. Choices included basketball, bowling, golf, pool, pow-wow, rodeo, and food — so much to take in and so little time to enjoy everything.

On February 9-10, the Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament was well under way. The athletes and fans alike are well adjusted to the annual Tribal Fair and how it goes. Hollywood welcomed an assortment of teams for the annual tournament for the men's side of the bracket.

The basketball tournaments held here are known around Indian country as "good tournaments." In order to run a good tournament, it is necessary to have "good" places for the teams to play. Due to the larger number of teams this year, the recreation staff had to hold some games at Hollywood Christian Academy.

The women's championship game came down to Sundown and Quickfire. The game went back and forth before Quickfire pulled ahead. Sundown wouldn't go down without a fight. Late in the game Sundown made a run, down by 7 points but couldn't withstand the final push by Quickfire. Final score 77-70, and Quickfire was named champion of the 2007 Tribal Fair Basketball Tournament.

The men's championship brought Da Ones and Below the Rim to the court for another championship showdown. It was an exciting game of up tempo, fast breaks and three-pointers being launched by all. The decision was made at halftime with Da Ones leading by 7. One of Below the Rim's players was injured, dimming the team's hopes of a come-from-behind win.

Da Ones came out on top for the 2007 championship title for this year's Tribal Fair Tournament.



Talbert Cypress squares up for the shot.

Lila Osceola-Heard



The heat is on in the women's championship game.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Sundown brings home 2nd place.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Lila Osceola-Heard



Jerome Davis jumps up to secure the rebound.

Lila Osceola-Heard



Felix Dolbow

Chairman Mitchell Cypress uses his custom cue in tournament.



Felix Dolbow

Big Cypress Representative David Cypress shows his winning form.



Felix Dolbow

Phalyn Osceola concentrates to win 1st Annual TF Pool Tournament.

## Pool Trick Shot Artist Mike Massey Wows Crowd

*Featured at First Annual Tribal Fair Pool Tournament*

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — Champion artistic pool shooter Mike Massey demonstrated some of his world famous pool trick shots to fascinated Tribal citizens on Feb. 10. Massey was an invited guest at the First Annual Tribal Fair Pool Tournament at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel.

"Some of the shots were amazing. It was good entertainment" said, Steve Frost from BC Recreation who helped emcee the three-day event.

According to Massey's website, [www.insidepool.com](http://www.insidepool.com), he is the 2000, 2002 and 2003 World Artistic Pool champion, the 2000 and 2001 Trick Shot Magic champion and the 2003 WPA World Artistic Pool Jump Shots champion. He began performing trick shots in 1975 and currently resides in Las Vegas, Nev.



Felix DoBosz

Mike Massey demonstrates his famous trick shots.



## Pool



Submitted by Holly Tiger

Seniors

Men: 1. David Cypress, 2. Billy Brown, 3. Grant Dial, 4. Roley Johnson, 5. Russell Osceola;  
Women: 1. Juanita Osceola, 2. Frances Tiger, 3. Mabel Doctor, 4. Diana Onlyacheif, 5. Annie Jumper.

Singles

Men: 1. Roy Snow, 2. Charles Osceola, 3. Raymond Garza, 4. Lee Kicknoway, 5. David Cypress;  
Women: 1. Virginia Billie, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Diana Onlyacheif, 4. Theresa Nunez, 5. Teonna Rock.

Doubles

1. Randy Clay and Diana Onlyacheif, 2. Daniel Gopher and Tianna Rock, 3. Jack Billie and AricaBuck, 4. Raymond Garza and Virginia Billie, 5. Bronson Hill and Crystal Smith.

9 Ball

Men: 1. Charles Osceola, 2. David Cypress, 3. Gary Clay, 4. Jerome Rockwell, 5. Daniel Gopher;  
Women: 1. Virginia Billie, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Latonya Jumper, 4. Theresa Nunez, 5. Teonna Rock.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Greg Carter, 1st place, and Lee Stewart, 2nd place



Felix Dolbow

Pool tables in heavy use during prime time tournament play



Felix Dolbow

Mingo Jones chalks up for the next shot.



Tony Heard

Bronson Hill focuses in on the cue ball and gets ready to take his shot.

## Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvkv

## ♦ Banquet

Continued from page 1

The film was incredible and it would definitely be a hard act to follow. However, Coach Carlos Adamson did a great job of presenting his basketball awards. His explained his philosophy: hard work, wanting to be the best, working to be a good player — since no one will be by just showing up — by always giving 100 percent, and finally the importance of dedication and education. Education provides the opportunity to do anything in the future, Adamson said. He then presented awards and gave out trophies.

Special recognition went to the 2006 Native American Youth Organization (NAYO) girls' and boys' basketball teams, who won the championship for the first time in history.

National gymnast and coach Gina Allardye wanted to reach the younger children of the tribe. Before coming to the Recreation Department years ago, she started her own business called Gina's Gym on Wheels. She now teaches the Tribal preschool's 1-through 5-year-olds.

Florida law allows 5-year-olds to participate in tournaments. Gymnastics is lots of hard work, and not only for the parents. These little ones train for 19-30 hours a week. Dedication plays a major role in a gymnast's life.

Baseball Coordinator Leon Wilcox and Coach Terri Tartasch represented the baseball program. Tartasch spoke on behalf of the Seminole T-ball and baseball teams. He recognized each member of the team and presented each player with a trophy. Congratulations



Lila Osceola-Heard

Shirley Clay stands with son Adam and granddaughter, as they exit stage with her plaque.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Wanda Bowers talks about her son and his accomplishments.

to the 2006 rookie winners, finishing the season 22-1.

The keynote speaker for the evening, Cynthia Pergy, came all the way from Bowlegs, Okla. A member of the Seminole Nation, Wind clan, she is a counselor and a professional arm wrestler. At the young age of 38, she had a dream.

"If you can dream, it can be done," she said.

She said Glen Harjo, her brother and first coach, always told her to get her mind right, to focus and prepare to win, not prepare to lose.

The loss of her mother in July of 1997 made her re-focus and she dedicated that year to her. She traveled to Russia, Finland, England, Sweden and Canada.

"Who would ever think my arm could take me to all these places," she said. "All you got to do is work hard and follow your dreams." She received a round of applause as she left the stage.

Then came the presentation of the Hall of Fame awards.

Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr. presented the first honorary plaque in tribute to the late Vivian Osceola Delgado.

"She wasn't the fastest, she wasn't the strongest, but she had the biggest heart," he said as he greeted Vivian's parents Dan and Leoda Osceola at their seats as a sign of respect.

Max Osceola laughed as he talked about Vivian. He said she was a very big supporter of the Recreation Department's sports programs. Vivian's dad, Dan Osceola, spoke of her love for sports, God, culture, and her family.

"We miss her a lot," he said.

The next inductee was introduced by archery coach Steve Young. He spoke on behalf of the late Casey Dean McCall and family. McCall was a dedicated archery player, setting a state record at the Sunshine State Games. He also loved hunting and football.

"He just lit up any room, he was great, he had a number of friends," Young said.

Young told stories about hunting and fishing with McCall and how much of a character he really was.

Mom Wanda Bowers accepted the plaque from Young on her son's behalf. She talked about how he started for his high school football team at Sheridan Hills Christian School.

"Everybody was supportive of him, because they pushed him to keep his grades up, and they pushed him to go to practice, they pushed him to play ball every day," Bowers said.

Inducting the third honoree, Moses "Big Shot" Jumper opened with praise for his aunt, the late Winifred Tiger. He said she was one of the motivating

forces in his own life for athletics. Jumper also cited Tiger as a mentor, sports hero, and "driving force for us as young boys."

It was a very emotional moment for her son Mike Tiger and family, but all were in attendance to accept this plaque on her behalf. One could feel the love for this woman and the legacy she left behind, along with lots of good memories.

"We miss her as a family," Tiger said after reminiscing about "the good ol' days."

The Tiger family went through two major tragedies this year. They lost not only their mother, but also their brother, Clyde Howard Tiger, the fourth Hall of Fame inductee.

Stephen Bowers said he was honored to speak on behalf of Tiger. He shared memories of Tiger, not only as a sports hero but also as a native veteran.

"He was like an unsung hero," Bowers said. "He was two years older than us. He played football for Hollywood Rotary; he was always the only Indian on his teams. As a vet, he loved to represent the Seminole Tribe of Florida Color Guard and he was proud."

Mike Tiger then stepped to the microphone again and spoke on behalf of his brother. He echoed Bowers' words of admiration.

"He did things that I couldn't do, but he taught the rest of us how to do them, Tiger said. "I think that's what he was a good teacher and a great brother."

The Tiger name has been synonymous with sports since the Recreation Department's earliest days. The present-day department appreciates the family and the knowledge they bestow today.

The next inductee's award was a long time coming, and definitely deserved. Shirley Clay, Big Cypress resident, played basketball and softball. Her son Adam was proud and eager to talk about his fondest memories of his mom taking him from place to place playing basketball and softball.

He said: "Me, myself, I can't even dribble a basketball. How could I not dribble a basketball because I've been around it all my life? I took those same ethics of hard work and discipline to the sport I love, which is rodeo, and my mom is the main reason for that."

Clay was one of the first Tribal women to play organized ball. She has stayed in great shape and still plays to this day.

As he introduced his mom to the stage, telling her to give a speech, the crowd responded. They laughed and shouted "Speech!" as she walked up to the microphone.

"Thank you, and I just love to play ball," she

said upon accepting the award.

The final award went to Paul Bowers Sr., Board Representative and a Brighton resident who played football, basketball, baseball and rodeo. He is also a Native veteran. He accomplished so much and had so many sports awards as well as medals as a Seminole warrior.

A football coach from the past, Coach Karl Ingle, spoke on behalf of Paul Bowers Sr.

"When you support our young people, you are investing in our future, and you can never go wrong when you invest in our future," Ingle said.

Ingle then tried to convey just how much Paul meant to him.

"He was a big part of success in 1963 in Moore Haven," he said. "It was his leadership, loyalty, character and hard work. You could always rely on Paul. He has got a great personality, and his sense of humor just doesn't quit."

"He was the only player to run back kickoffs, every single time! He got knocked down but always came back strong," he added.

In closing, Ingle said: "You made a great choice. He deserves that. He's already been in the hall of fame right here in my heart for years and years, and I can't say enough about Paul Bowers Sr."

Stepping up to the podium, Bowers Sr. showed how humble he still is.

"I didn't know I did all that," he said as the audience laughed. He explained that sports were just what the young men did back then.

As the long and very emotional evening came to a close, Moses "Big Shot" Jumper thanked everyone for his or her hard work.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Coach Karl Ingle delivers a great speech about Paul Bowers Sr.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Vivian's dad, Dan Osceola, speaks from his heart as Max Osceola looks on with much respect.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Judy Tiger, Ernie Tiger and Mike Tiger proudly represent their family.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Wilson Bowers, Linda Tommie and Paul Bowers Sr. show off Paul's plaque.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Stephen Bowers reminisces about the ol' days with the late Clyde Tiger as Tiger's brother Mike listens.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Seminole Girls Basketball players



Lila Osceola-Heard

Seminole T-Ball team hold their trophies and wait for pictures.



Lila Osceola-Heard

Seminole Gymnastics standouts receive their trophies.

# Rodeo ❖ Ko-waa-ye Esh-ham-pa-léesh-ke ❖ Curakko Ohapoketv

## Indian Rodeo Stars Add Excitement to Field Days

By Susan Etxebarria

**BRIGHTON** — Indian rodeo made its presence known in a big way at the Brighton Field Days with the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) Touring Pro event on Feb. 14-16. The competition was extremely challenging, with top cowboys and cowgirls from all across North America participating.

The rodeo entailed long days and nights with a lot of hard work for competitors, rodeo crew and staff. During the event, entrants from the Seminole Tribe of Florida battled Tribal members from all over the United States and Canada.

This event is considered one of the major rodeos in Indian country. It was sanctioned by the EIRA in conjunction with the Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR). It was sponsored by the Brighton Field Day Fund, Brighton's Tribal Council Representative Andrew Bowers and Board Representative Johnny Jones.

This event was the second EIRA tour rodeo of the series, following the season opener at Hard Rock Live in Hollywood a week earlier. The bulls, calves and horses were supplied by three Seminole-owned rodeo stock contractors, Bowers Bucking Bulls, Marki Rodeo and 5-Star Rodeo.

go went to Brighton's Sydney R. Gore at 4.4 seconds, ranking him fourth in the accumulated average in this sanctioned event to date. MacKenzie Johns of Brighton claimed second place in barrel racing in the long go with 16.3 seconds, and then went on to win first place in the short go with 16.6 seconds. She is now ranked No. 1 in the accumulated average to date. Jo Leigh "Boogie" Jumper of Brighton claimed first place in barrel racing in the long go with 16.1 seconds.

Young riders who showed great promise in bull riding were Brighton's Justin Aldridge, who won first place in short go with a score of 81 seconds, and Seth Randolph, who placed fourth in short go at 68. In bull riding, Justin Gopher claimed fourth place in the average with a score of 79.

In addition to outstanding competition, the Brighton, Seminole reservation brought in the best of the best of the world's rodeo entertainers. The featured acts alone made this Indian rodeo just about the best thing happening within a 100-mile radius.

The show opened with Johnny U and Cowboy Country from Idaho. The band crooned cowboy tunes in tight harmony reminiscent of



Susan Etxebarria

Cowboys from all over the country await their turns for slack timed events.

The sheer volume of contestants was so great that the rodeo officially began on the morning of Feb. 14 with a slack performance. This consisted of competitors who could not be featured in the long go performance due to time constraints. The slack included 19 riders qualifying in barrel racing, 18 contestants in steer wrestling and 40 teams in team roping.

The nightlong go performance began at 8 p.m. and lasted until after midnight. The combination of the slack and long go performances resulted in a 14-hour day for many of the cowboys and cowgirls, and an extremely competitive field for all of the participants.

Each rodeo event's top 15 scored riders from the combined slack and long go performances qualified to participate in the championship short go round on the night of Feb. 16. The top ranked competitors for the combined performances on Feb. 14 won prize money awards as well.

The evening performance on Feb. 16 started about 6 p.m. with non-sanctioned events including mutton busting, calf riding and many other children's activities.

The sanctioned performance began at 8 p.m. and began with a touching tribute to Brighton's cowboy and rodeo rider, Rodney Osceola. Rodney was injured last year in the Brighton Field Day 2006 EIRA Tour. After the colorful opening festivities, the top 15 cowboy and cowgirl event qualifiers began their battle for rodeo supremacy.

Seminole cowboys and cowgirls entered and qualified in almost every event, and proved to be very competitive against the world's best Indian cowboys. Paulette Bowers of Big Cypress won first place in the breakaway short go.

First place in steer wrestling in the long



Emma Brown

Shelby Osceola

## High School Rodeo Team Competes in Dixie Challenge

By Emma Brown

**JACKSONVILLE** — The Brighton high school rodeo cowboys and cowgirls traveled to the northern end of Florida recently to compete in the First Annual Dixie Challenge. Competitors came in from Georgia and South Carolina to compete in the rodeo and were determined not to let the cold snap stop them from putting their athletic

skills to work for their team and state.

Congratulations to these youngsters who once again made it to the pay window: Shelby Osceola: fifth, breakaway roping, seventh, goat tying, eighth, pole bending; Jacoby Johns: second, bareback riding; Hillard Gopher: sixth, team roping.



Jacoby Johns

Emma Brown



Emma Brown

Hillard Gopher

# Seminole Sports Festival

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### • What?

The 50th Anniversary commemorative issue of the Seminole Tribune

### • Why?

Seminole do more than own casinos. They have businesses and talents of their own. Be recognized by generations to come in the 50th Anniversary Commemorative issue of the Seminole Tribune.

### • Where?

Call or stop by the Seminole Communications Department in Hollywood for a photographer. We would love to feature you. Bring a sample of your work or make arrangements with us to take a picture of you. Space is limited so call now - (954) 967-3416.

### • When?

The Deadline is 5 p.m. April 16.

## WALK TO D'FEET ALS

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Join up under the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The team is already set up. Just go to Florida ALS Walks to Sunrise Walk and sign up.

March 17, 2007

Walk starts at 8:30 AM / The oasis at Sawgrass Mills Mall

Any questions call Tina Mennella (954)962-2009 or

Edna McDuffie, Big Cypress Wellness Center

(863)983-5798



The Education Department is inviting 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders to visit

Florida State University and meet with Coach Bowden on

April 9, 2007

To register, parent/guardian should fill out this form and submit it to the Higher Education Advisor or Reservation Advisor

Deadline : March 16, 2007

For more details, please call Education Department at  
(954) 989-6840, ext. 1311

( ) Yes, I am joining the trip

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Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

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## The Water Resource Management Department Presents Earth Day 2007



### Earth Day in My Backyard

Come learn about water resources, vegetation and wildlife right here on Big Cypress Reservation! Hands on activities, wildlife demonstrations and games for all ages.

Celebrated on the Big Cypress Reservation  
on April 20, 2007 9 am to 5 pm  
At the parking lot across from the  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

## News From Indian Country

### San Manuel Band of Mission Indians Donates \$100,000 To American Indian College Fund California Tribe Supports Sovereign Nations Scholarship Fund Endowment

Submitted by American Indian College Fund

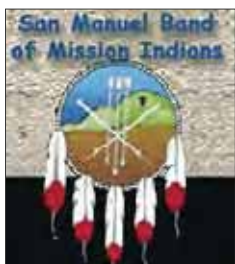
**DENVER, CO** — The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians announced that they have contributed \$100,000 to the American Indian College Fund (AICF). This historic gift will be used to support two scholarship programs at the fund with \$50,000 going toward the Sovereign Nations Scholarship Fund Endowment (SNSFE) and \$50,000 going towards a general scholarship fund for Native students attending the nation's Tribal colleges and universities.

The Sovereign Nations Scholarship Fund Endowment is a permanent endowment supported by Indian Nations, Native-owned businesses, corporations, foundations and individuals. It provides scholarships for the nation's best and brightest Native students in perpetuity.

The SNSFE was launched by the AICF in 2001 with a \$900,000 donation made by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community who challenged other Tribes to match this grant and support American Indian higher education.

Through the endowed Sovereign Nations Scholarship Fund, Indian people will help support education while demonstrating the Tribal value of sharing resources.

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians upholds their long held traditions of sharing with their neighbors and the extended community by donating millions of dollars each year to improve the quality of life for Native people. In particular, the Tribe is committed to education and regularly supports programs that focus on educating American Indian youth.



Richard Williams, AICF president and CEO, thanked the Tribe for their outstanding commitment to Indian education.

"The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians partnership with the American Indian College Fund gives American Indian students an opportunity to realize a college education," Williams said. "We are grateful to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for their support in helping us to increase educational attainment rates among Native people and ultimately, strengthening our Native communities."

"Education is paramount to today's youth," said Henry Duro, San Manuel chairman. "The reality is that many of America's native youth do not have the resources to achieve a higher education. As part of a greater community, it is the responsibility of those who can to assist those who can't. We feel that working with organizations like the American Indian College Fund will help us make an impact in the lives of Native American youths."

The AICF is one of the largest providers of private scholarships for American Indian students. It supports more than 30,000 degree-seeking and community education students attending 32 Tribal colleges in 11 states.

To learn more about the American Indian College Fund, please visit [www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org). For more information about the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, please visit <http://www.sanmanuel-insn.gov>.

### Frontline Defense of Tribal Sovereignty NARF Tribal Supreme Court Project

Submitted by the Native American Rights Fund

**WASHINGTON** — In the past two decades, the Supreme Court has steadily chipped away at the fundamental principles of Tribal sovereignty, both by restricting Tribal jurisdiction and by extending state jurisdiction. These decisions by the Supreme Court have led to a Tribal Sovereignty Protection Initiative in partnership with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Tribes nationwide to restore and defend the traditional principles of inherent Tribal sovereignty.

The Native American Rights Fund (NARF) launched the Tribal Supreme Court Project in conjunction with NCAI in 2001. To achieve the goals of the project, NARF monitors cases which appear to be headed for the Supreme Court and organizes, coordinates and contributes to a nationwide Indian amicus brief writing network. Amicus (Latin for friend) briefs allow those not directly involved in litigation, but potentially impacted by the outcome, to provide information and arguments directly to the court.

By bringing together experienced Indian law practitioners and scholars to discuss and agree upon a coordinated amicus brief writing strategy in each case,

and by assisting the parties, NARF ensures that the most effective and focused arguments are made before the court on behalf of Tribal sovereignty and Indian Country.

NARF's Tribal Supreme Court Project is diligently monitoring numerous cases at various stages of appeal within both state and federal courts. The organization prepares amicus briefs in several Indian law cases before the various U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals. NARF also analyzes new cases working their way through the lower courts that have the potential to be damaging to Tribal sovereignty.

Copies of briefs and other materials for each case are available at <http://www.narf.org/sct/index.html>.

NARF Senior Staff Attorney Richard Guest is available to answer questions at (202) 785-4166.

The Tribal Supreme Court Project is also reliant on the generous support of Tribes and donors to continue its important work on behalf of Indian Country and Tribal sovereignty. To learn more about supporting this work, please contact Guest at the phone number above or NARF at (303) 447-8760.

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The Family Services Department's Adult Education Program presents:

### Computers 401: Excel, Charting, Database

This course is designed for intermediate computer users. The objective of this course is to build upon information learned from previous courses and apply it to the fundamentals of spreadsheet skills. Many techniques and skills will be covered in this class relating to spreadsheet. This is the fourth class offered in this series and will build upon the knowledge gained in Computers 301. This class will be required for future classes that will be offered.

Will be held at the Hollywood Library Computer Lab for two days starting on 03/06/07 and 3/08/07 from 9-12 pm.

Free to all adult Tribal members! Please fill out below for enrollment and return before the start of class on 3/06/07. Space is limited, so please make your reservations as soon as possible. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Please return this information to Jasmine Porter, Adult Vocational Administrator, Family Services Department, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 3006 Josie Billie Ave., Hollywood, FL 33024. Or fax to 954.965.1311.

For further information, please call 954.965.1314.

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# Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkērkēcētv

## New Kids



We are blessed to have a new addition to our family. We welcome with love our beautiful baby boy O.B. Osceola III, born on Feb. 14.  
Love,  
Dad (O.B. Osceola Jr.), Mom (Angela Burger) and Grandparents (O.B. Sr. & Joanne Osceola)



We are pleased to announce the birth of **Josiah Aiden Robbins**, Panther clan. Proud parents are Erika and Seth Robbins. Josiah's brothers are Kyle, Dylan and Kassiah and his sister is Natalia. Grandparents are Bobby and Alicia Tigertail from Trail and Bernard and Mary Robbins from Big Cypress.



Lita Osceola-Heard

Great-grandma (L-R) Maggie Osceola and Minnie Billie Doctor with the new baby



Lita Osceola-Heard

Daddy Douglas Huggins with baby Chloe

Proud parents Symphoni Jumper and Douglas Huggins announce the birth of their daughter **Chloe Noeloni Huggins** on Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Maternal great-grandparents are Maggie Osceola and Minnie Billie Doctor; maternal grandparents are Mabel Doctor and Harley Jumper; paternal grandparents are Alberta and Clifton Huggins and brother Shilin Huggins, 1.

Family and friends gathered at the Hard Rock Hotel on Feb. 21 for Chloe's baby shower.



## Happy Birthday



Happy birthday to **Shilin Huggins**. From your family,

Great-grandparents Maggie Osceola and Minnie Billie Doctor, grandparents Mabel Doctor, Harley Jumper and Alberta and Clifton Huggins, parents Symphoni Jumper and Douglas Huggins and baby sister Chloe.



Wishing you a Happy 34th Birthday! If designers were monkeys, you'd be the leader of the bunch. Thanks for hanging with all the girls without too many complaints. We love you and keep up the GOOD work.

Oooohhh oooohh aaawww awww  
From the rest of the zoo

## Poem

### Magic Formula

To prove to yourself that you are a good person who doesn't need to be punished, choose to do what you know is right. If you want to continue to be unhappy, grab for the fleeting moments of whatever your heart is telling you isn't right for you, so you can continue to see yourself as a bad person. When you are unhappy about something you have done, it's probably not because of what you have done so much as that you did not listen to your heart when it guided you not to do it. Just do what you know is right. You can do it for yourself and as a gift for everyone else. Do good  
And feel good  
And be happier  
And more willing  
And more loving  
And more forgiving  
And more accepting  
And more compassionate  
And the whole world will feel better.

— Willie McKinley Osceola  
Jan. 28, 2007



## The 2007 Tribal Calendars Are Here

Seminole Tribal citizens can pick up their complimentary copies of the 2007 calendar at either the Hollywood Headquarters, Suite #235, the Big Cypress Council Representative's Office or the field offices on the Naples, Brighton, Immokalee, Tampa and Fort Pierce reservations.

Additional copies are available at the Tribune office for \$10. For more information, please contact Darline Buster at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1266.



For my friends and family, I wish you the best this year.

I would like to say this for my two boys, Nathaniel, Blake Jim and Burton Lee Harjo Jr.,

I think about you two every day as I sit here, wishing things would have been different. Even though I can't change the past, I know I can change what the future can be.

I'm trying to get things right with myself this time around because I would like to spend time with you two, rather than spending it behind these

walls and fences.

I don't want to promise anything to you two right now because anything can happen in time.

I know things will work out because I want to be a father to you two.

I would like to spend time with you two, if possible, once I'm through with this situation I'm in.

I love and miss you both. I wish I could say that in person.

In due time, though.  
Love you both,  
Dad  
Burton Lee Harjo Sr.

## Help Wanted

**Position Title:** Network Administrator/Seminole Police Department

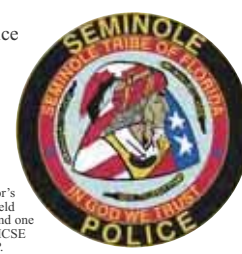
**Department:** Information Technology

**Location:** Seminole Police Department, assigned to the Hollywood Reservation

**Salary:** \$52,000

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in information systems or related field or four to six years of related experience and one of the following certifications preferred: MCSE (2000 or 2003), CCNA, CCIE and/or MCP.

Duties: Plan, design and maintain the police agency's Tribal-wide network systems for the purpose of ensuring integrity and network security. Troubleshoot, evaluate, and suggest/implement new technologies for the network for proper functionality of network resources to provide users with secure access to computerized programs and data. Diagnose problems, deficiencies and abnormal conditions and initiate actions to ensure that they are resolved in a timely manner.



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# Community 'Prayer Warrior' Celebrates 65th Birthday

*Happy Birthday to Tribal Citizen JoAnn Osceola*

By Chris Jenkins



JoAnn Osceola blows out the candles on her birthday cake.

**HOLLYWOOD** — The "Prayer Warrior" has reached another milestone. JoAnn Osceola, Panther clan, is a former Tribal Council representative, an elder leader, mother of seven and very respected in the community. The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino hosted her friends and family in celebrating Osceola's 65th birthday on March 1. The celebration came just one day after Osceola's actual birthday, Feb. 28.

The surprised birthday girl entered the ballroom to cheers and applause. An invocation by friend Bruce Pratt preceded the dinner. Performances from Parker and Carol Jonathan, Oklahoma gospel singer Mary K. Henderson and Tribal citizen Spencer Battiest kept guests entertained during the celebration.

Contests and games were also part of the evening, along with a few words from friends and family including Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. He and others reflected on her life and those she has influenced through her faith and convictions in Christianity. According to daughter Alicia Sanchez-Cabal, this led to her nickname, Prayer Warrior.

Sanchez-Cabal said her mother has seen and experienced a lot in all her years. She said her mom was born on Feb. 28, 1942; a special and unique time in the country's history. Sanchez-Cabal said it was nice to do something special for her mom.

"This was another opportunity to kind of pick her [spirits] up," Sanchez-Cabal said.

Although Osceola has suffered from the effects of diabetes and is now legally blind, her faith remains strong. It was important to show her how much she means to all those she has helped throughout the years, Sanchez-Cabal explained.

"I don't know how long she's going to be around," she said. "So I just wanted to show her that she's appreciated."



Daughter Alicia Sanchez-Cabal hugs mom JoAnn Osceola.



JoAnn and daughter-in-law Loretta Micco



(L-R) JoAnn with Hollywood Council Rep. Max Osceola



JoAnn poses with her daughters: (L-R) Tristina Osceola, Alicia Sanchez-Cabal, Geraldine Osceola and Rita Micco.



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Freedom Edition | Black H2 2007, 25 Passenger



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Mercedes Benz | Silver 2007 CLS 500 2 Passenger



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### Legendary Motown Sensation Diana Ross to Perform

**Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Diana Ross, 40-year music industry veteran and one of the most successful and iconic Motown artists, will perform at Hard Rock Live on April 30 at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$100, \$75, and \$50. Additional fees may apply for reserved seating. Tickets are available at the Hard Rock Live box office, open daily from noon until 7 p.m.

Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or to charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, Palm Beach (561) 966-3309. Doors open one hour before the show starts.

Beginning in the 1960s, as lead singer of The Supremes and also as a solo performer, Ross had an unprecedented 12 No. 1 singles in the United States. The Supremes are rivaled only by The Beatles as the biggest hit group of that decade.

In 1970, Ross branched out to establish a hugely successful solo career. In the following two decades, she became one of the most successful female artists of the rock/pop era, parlaying her success into triumphs in film, on television and on Broadway.

The 1980s saw Ross secure the biggest hit of her career with another movie theme, "Endless Love," a duet with Lionel Richie. Following was the Top 10 hit "Muscles," written and produced by Michael Jackson, and "Missing You."

Outside of her recording career, Ross's achievements are many. In 1993, The Guinness Book

of World Records jointly awarded her its Lifetime Achievement Award and the title of most successful female vocalist of all time. Her citation noted, "There are no direct contenders for Miss Ross's award."

In 1994, the multitalented singer published her autobiography, followed by a dramatic television debut in *Out of Darkness*, for which she also acted as executive producer. Her role as a victim of schizophrenia earned her glowing reviews and a Golden Globe nomination.

She was Oscar-nominated for her first film role, an extraordinary performance as Billie Holiday in "Lady Sings the Blues," and also starred in "The Wiz." Through her own company, Anaid Film Productions Inc., she has executive produced five specials for ABC, CBS, HBO and Showtime.

Last year, Ross was celebrated by MAC Cosmetics as the face of its new ICONS collection. She was recently among the 25 legends, including Tina Turner, Coretta Scott King and Maya Angelou, honored by Oprah Winfrey as her personal heroines.



Submitted by Bitner Goodman PR  
**Diana Ross**

### Seminole Casino Coconut Creek Named North Broward YMCA's 2006 Business of the Year

**Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR**  
**COCONUT CREEK** — The Seminole Casino Coconut Creek was recently recognized as the North Broward YMCA Family Center's 2006 Business of the Year. This award honors the casino's commitment to improving the lives of local children and their families.

"The casino is truly honored to be awarded as Business of the Year," said Seminole Casino Coconut Creek General Manager Steve Bonner. "We're proud to invest in the YMCA because we believe its programs generate measurable outcomes in making the local area an even better place to live."

The casino was a major contributor toward the North Broward YMCA Golf Classic held last May at Eagle Trace in Coral Springs, and also underwrote the cost of the tournament's silent auction and cocktail hour. This enabled the YMCA to raise significant funds to support the 2006 Partners With Youth Annual Scholarship Campaign.

Through the scholarship campaign, the North Broward YMCA is able to provide scholarships for local youngsters and teens to get involved in before-

and after-school programs and numerous sports program activities. In addition, the scholarship program supports youth leadership development and special needs programming.

"We'd like to thank and recognize Seminole Coconut Creek as the Business of the Year for their support, leadership and sponsorship in our North Broward County YMCA," said Sheryl A. Woods, chief operating officer and vice president of operations. "Due to their involvement in 'making our community better,' we will expand our programs and services to our community's children and families — programs including youth sports, teen mentorship and work with special needs children."

Bonner added: "We were very pleased that we could help to have a positive impact on the lives of the children and their families in North Broward."

The Seminole Casino Coconut Creek is located just east of State Road 7 (U.S. 441) and north of Sample Road on 40th St. For more information, call (954) 977-6700, fax (954) 970-7721, write to 5550 NW 40 St., Coconut Creek, FL 33073, or visit [www.seminolecoconutcreekcasinom.com](http://www.seminolecoconutcreekcasinom.com).



### Ray Romano, Brad Garrett Team Up for Stand-up Show *Former Stars of Everybody Loves Raymond*

**Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Comedians Ray Romano and Brad Garrett, former stars of the CBS television sitcom *Everybody Loves Raymond* (1996-2005), are teaming up for a stand-up comedy show performance at Hard Rock Live on April 18 at 8 p.m. Doors open one hour before the show starts.

Special guest Jon Manfrellotti will also perform. Manfrellotti had a recurring role on *Everybody Loves Raymond*, playing Gianni.

Tickets cost \$100, \$75 and \$50 for reserved seating and are available at the Hard Rock Live Box Office, open daily from noon until 7 p.m. Tickets purchased in person at the Hard Rock Live Box Office do not incur additional service fees.

Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets: online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, Palm Beach (561) 966-3309.

After building a career on the stand-up come-

dy stage, Romano began appearing on television, doing his act for Johnny Carson, Jay Leno and David Letterman in the early 1990s. In 1996 Letterman and CBS signed him to develop a sitcom based loosely on his family life, and the show became a ratings success. In 2001 Romano signed a new contract that made him one of the highest-paid actors in television.

Brad Garrett landed an appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" at the age of 23, making him one of the youngest comedians ever to perform on the show. Following his Tonight Show appearance, Garrett's career took off, garnering him headlining gigs at several national venues as well as opening spots for legends including Diana Ross and Liza Minnelli.

Changing gears, he made his way into the world of television. He struck gold with *Everybody Loves Raymond*. He has also done voiceovers and appeared in films.

### The Who to Perform With Special Guests Rose Hill Drive

**Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Who is on tour and scheduled to stop at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hard Rock Live on March 26 at 8 p.m. with special guest Rose Hill Drive. Doors open one hour before the show starts.

Tickets cost \$350, \$250, \$150 and \$75 for reserved seating; additional fees may apply. They can be purchased at the Hard Rock Live Box Office, open daily from noon until 7 p.m.

Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets — online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, Palm Beach (561) 966-3309.

Every ticket sold for the tour will include a free Virtual Ticket membership in The Who Tour Club. Updated throughout the tour, members will be given an exclusive insider's look at all of its aspects, from rehearsals and preparations to coverage via audio and

videos streams, also downloads, set lists, news and much more. For further information, including Tour Club memberships and VIP packages, visit [www.the-who.com](http://www.the-who.com).

The Who, famous for their powerful music and energy onstage, have been performing songs from their new mini rock opera, "Wire & Glass" and material from their newly released studio album, along with their greatest hits and rarities, to the satisfaction of longtime fans. The new album titled "Endless Wire" was released Oct. 31, 2006 to overwhelming critical acclaim.

Pete Townshend and Roger Daltrey reunited for the Live 8 concert in London's Hyde Park as well as the 9/11 Benefit Concert at Madison Square Garden. Joining them onstage for this tour are John "Rabbit" Bundrick on keyboard, Pino Palladino on bass, Zak Starkey on drums and Simon Townshend on guitar and vocals.

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# It Started With A Seed

## The 41st Annual Swamp Cabbage Festival

By Judy Weeks

**LABELLE, Fla.** — The 41st Annual Swamp Cabbage Festival chose the theme "It Started With A Seed" for this year's activities. Months have gone into the preparation for this annual fun-filled weekend commemorating the pioneer heritage of LaBelle and its surrounding rural communities.

The Swamp Cabbage Festival Princess and Queen Contest took place at the LaBelle High School Auditorium on Feb. 10. After careful consideration of the resources and talents of the seven young ladies vying for the queen's crown, Esophia Higgins was selected to reign over the festival. Five young ladies aspiring to be this year's princess competed for the honor with Kaleigh Woodard declared the winner.

### Old Timers' Dinner

On Feb. 22, the LaBelle Heritage Museum sponsored the 12th Annual Old Timers' Dinner. Approximately 300 people filled the LaBelle Civic Center on the evening of the event.

This year the group honored the Doubs Pioneer Family. Tracing their roots in the U.S. back to 1773 when John Doub immigrated to Pennsylvania, the family slowly moved southward, eventually settling in LaBelle.

Fletcher Harris Doub and his wife Maria Susanna Motino Doubs raised eight children and started several businesses in this early settlement. At one time they owned and operated the grocery and mercantile store on Bridge Street.

The Doubs children grew to maturity and like all families went their separate ways. In their case, however, the majority remained in and around south central Florida and are still part of the



(L to R) Swamp Cabbage Queen Esophia Higgins, Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas and Swamp Cabbage Princess Kaleigh Woodard

Following the invocation by Hendry County Commissioner W.T. "Bill" Maddox, a fabulous buffet dinner, including many Seminole favorites, was served. Janice and Beverly Osceola worked diligently behind the scenes preparing more than 300 pieces of frybread that melted in diners' mouths. Following the meal, Tommy Parsons, a lifelong resident of Hendry County who has worked in agriculture most of his life, gave a short presentation on growing up in Hendry County and the changes he has seen. Despite those changes, he is proud to say that the people of the community remain untouched in their warm, friendly, down home attitude that makes LaBelle such a unique place.

Various items had been donated to be auctioned off for the benefit of the Heritage Museum. Among these were a beautiful patchwork quilt and two vests contributed by the Seminole Tribe. As bids were taken, Bowers moved about the room offering everyone an opportunity to see and examine the items.

There was high interest and bidding was brisk. The proud recipients of the vests quickly put them on and modeled them around the room. High bidder on the magnificent quilt was Diane Buster.

Proceeds of the auction were for the benefit of the museum and when bidding died



(L to R) Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas, Ida Kirby, Pete Doub and B.C. Board Representative Paul Bowers, Sr. pose for the camera at the presentation of the Seminole jackets.

LaBelle community. Their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren continue to call this area home.

After serving in the Army Air Corps in World War II, their son Pete Doub returned to the family businesses and eventually served as a LaBelle city commissioner. With the passing of time, he moved his store to New Market Road in Immokalee, which he continues to operate at 91.

The Seminole Tribe had donated two beautiful Seminole patchwork jackets to be given to the oldest pioneer man and woman attending the dinner. Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers was on hand to make the presentation.

Laughing, Bowers said: "My family's roots go much deeper into this soil. My grandfather Wilson Cypress knew every inch of this area where he grew up, raised his family and was hired as a hunting guide. He would never have imagined the day would come when I would be standing here before you making this presentation."

Ida Kirby was determined to be the oldest woman present. She was born in Hendry County, graduated from LaBelle High School and continues to live nearby.



Diane Buster and her grandson, Brandon, show off the Seminole quilt she bought at the auction and presented to Lucretia Strickland.

At 89 years of age, she has witnessed numerous changes in her beloved homeland.

Mr. Doub and Mrs. Kirby stepped to the foreground to receive their Seminole jackets and shake hands with Bowers and the reigning Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas. They both expressed their gratitude to the Seminole Tribe.

spectators enjoyed local bands, color guards, floats, Shriner clowns, jeepsters and Flintstones characters.

This year's parade grand marshal was Hendry County Commissioner Bill Maddox. Seminole Tribal Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers Sr. waved to the audience from their motorcade, followed by Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas on a Tribal float.

The Seminole Tribe had several crowd-pleasing entries in the parade which included an appearance by Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Tanna Garcia and a float covered with Seminole dolls attractively displayed on a bed of palm fronds. The people of LaBelle greatly appreciate the sponsorship and friendship of the Seminole Tribe and thanked them with cheers along the entire parade route.

Big Cypress Natural Resource Director Richard Bowers was joined by Micco and Linda Jones in presenting the Seminole flag as they led the mounted riders. As always the horses are a very big attraction to young and old and created a beautiful sight with their riders dressed in traditional Seminole clothing.



The crowd watches as Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas passes.

### Eastern Indian Rodeo Association

No Swamp Cabbage Festival would be complete without the EIRA participation. The Indian Youth Rodeo took place at 6 p.m. on Feb. 23.

Beginning with the ever popular event of mutton busting, Myron Billie and A.J. Tigertail took the lead. Not too far behind them were Sarah Descheene and Rayven King. Everyone enjoys watching the youngsters attempt to get a good grip on their round woolly mounts and try to make their way down the arena before the buzzer sounds. It isn't nearly as easy as it looks. The ground is hard, but at least the riders don't have far to fall.

There was a three-way tie in the pony riding event. Timothy Bearden, Andre Jumper and Rayven Smith braved the unknown on the wild bucking mounts they had drawn for the evening and put on a good show.

The prospective bull riders of tomorrow are the calf riders of today. Each time the EIRA Indian Youth Rodeo competes, these brave little cowboys don their vests and helmets with dreams of someday winning in the big time. It's a very popular event. They don't have to wait for their applause, as the audience cheers them on. Jobe Johns took first place with Dustin Holmes in second and Dalton Koenes in third.

Dressed in their fancy western shirts and hats, the 4-8-year-old barrel riders show a great deal of potential every time they enter the arena.



Pauletta Bowers watches from the sidelines as they prepare the arena.

Results were as follows: 1. Ahnie Jumper, 2. Mila Osceola, 3. Jobe Johns, 4. Cyrus Smedley.

The scores were close in the 9-12-year-old barrel riders with veteran Nauthkee Henry in the lead and Acealyn Youngblood and Ragan Tigertail eating her dust. Courtney Gore suffered a



(L to R) Linda Tommie, Paul Bowers, Sr., Hendry County Supervisor of Elections Lucretia Strickland and Hendry County Commissioner Bill Maddox

close miss when one of her barrels flipped over but she will return to try again. Janae Braswell and Ravenne Osceola took the honors in the 13-18-year-old division.

There was no shortage of contestants in the Junior Breakaway, where the youngsters get an opportunity to prepare for the day when they will take up team roping, calf roping and steer wrestling. Results were as follows: 1. Kelton Smedley, 2. Josh Johns, 3. Andre Jumper, 4. Chebon Gooden.

Going to the far end of the arena, the chutes were loaded and with a nod of their heads the gates opened for some of the most dangerous events in junior rodeo. However, these young contestants don't seem to be able to get enough of these sports.

During the junior bareback Jacoby Johns rode out the buzzer and threw his hat in the air in triumph. Anyone watching that ride knew he earned everyone of his points the hard way. Robert Youngblood had a terrific ride but it ended just before the buzzer sounded. Its times like these when a fraction of a second makes the difference. Results were as follows: Junior Bareback: 1. Jacoby Johns, 2. Dayne Johns, Steer Riding: 1. Dakota Lewis, 2. Kelton Smedley, 3. Andre Jumper, Junior Bull Riding: 1. Billy Foley, 2. William Bearden, 3. Cody Motlow.

With seven entries in the 50 and over



Chairman Mitchell Cypress helps to lead the Swamp Cabbage Festival Parade through the streets of LaBelle.

breakaway event, the steers were wild and reckless. This fresh bunch of livestock gave everyone a run for their money. Richard Bowers slick horned his steer for a first place score and Norman Johns took second position.

The evening's sanctioned events began at 8 p.m. with contestants from several places participating. There were not only EIRA participants, but Indian National Finals Rodeo contestant hopefuls who are gathering their qualifying points for the upcoming season.

Results were as follows: Bareback Riding: 1. Buck Lunak, 2. Jeremy Shed, Steer Wrestling: 1. Greg Louis, 2. Sidney Gore, Calf Roping: 1. Hilliard Gopher, 2. Brent Belkham, 3. Happy Jumper, Women's Breakaway: 1. Lizzie Dixey, 2. Boogie Jumper, Barrel Racing: 1. Boogie Jumper, 2. Holly Johns, 3. Mackenzie Johns, 4. Ayze Henry, 5. Clarissa Bowers, Team Roping Headers: 1. Justin Gopher, 2. Terry Fischer, 3. Josh Jumper, 4. LeAnna Billie, 5. Cicero Osceola, Team Roping Healers: 1. Brent Belkham, 2. Amos Tiger, 3. Steve Roma, 4. Michael Henry, 5. Hilliard Gopher, 6. Pauletta Bowers, Bull Riding: 1. Greg Louis, 2. Justin Gopher, 3. Dusty Robertson.

There were several close calls throughout the evening. Alex Johns Palamino reared in the box and he rode the entire length of the arena with the reins hooked around the horse's foreleg during the calf roping.

The clown, Rudy Burns, kept up a running commentary of jokes and silly remarks throughout the evening. He and his horse Zero entertained the audience with numerous tricks. Zero can sit down, bow, blow kisses and even pushed his trainer slowly out of the arena while the crowd applauded.



Clothing contest adults

Susan Etchebarria

## ◆ Field Days

Continued from page 1

youth rodeo and not ending until much later that night.

On that same day, the festival grounds were also swarming with children and their teachers, who came from various schools in the region for Culture Day. Culture Day is held annually and allows non-Tribal school children to learn more about Native American history and traditions.

Secluded in the trees were the traditional cultural exhibits, and once again Lorene Gopher, dedicated to preserving Seminole culture, was working hard. She showed the visitors how the Tribal women cooked in a chickee over an open fire, and handed out samples of frybread.

A highlight of the festival was the parade with its decorated floats on the morning of Feb. 17. Stanlo Johns performed an excellent job as emcee. He enlightened curious tourists about the history of the Seminoles and how they came to be called "Unconquered." He informed people about how the Tribe created a constitution in 1957 and how it was the first



Diane Smith, winner of clothing contest for women 45-55

Susan Etchebarria



Clothing contest children

Susan Etchebarria

Mountain Apache Crown Dancers performed on the afternoon of Feb. 18.

Other musicians on the grounds included flute maker Mark Barfoot, who creates beautiful flutes and drums. He is a member of the Six Nation Indian Reserve. Some of his flute work is at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. He played his flute at his booth throughout the day and later he reflected on being at Brighton for the first time.

"I like playing at Indian reservations because it is on Indian ground and there are a lot of Indian spirits that have come and gone and their spirits are here and it feels good to be around those kind of spirits," Barfoot said.

"When I set up my booth and set up my flutes and play my flutes I am not only playing for the people who are walking around but I am also playing for the ancestors, and I hope they hear my music, and to me that is special."

There were more booths and more vendors than ever. With so many unique booths it was educational to saunter through each one and find new treasures of arts and crafts. Art dealer and interior decorator Wayne Clay of Okeechobee's Affordable Arts has had a booth every year for several years. He said that Seminole art is doing exceptionally well and commanding higher prices.

"Society is tired of everything being plastic, so commercial," he said. This year his booth featured the beautiful work of artist Mike Moore, who has become very popular in Okeechobee for his paintings of Seminole scenes and people.

Moore's work already has been collected by many Seminoles. "I think people are getting away from that yuppie life we were into for so long," the artist said.

Clay added, "We get a lot of people who appreciate native art being close to nature and to wildlife, and they are pulling away from the plastic, the corporate Wal-Mart®."

This festival has a special place in the hearts of people who they take away the magic of this different world and learn to appreciate cultures of many First Nations that have been here for many thousands of years.



Artist Mike Moore and painting of the Okeechobee Battlefield

Susan Etchebarria



Mark Barfoot's flute and drums booth

Susan Etchebarria



McKenzie Johns of the Seminole Tribe of Florida welcomed the ARC Angels Flag & Rifle Team from Arcadia, Fla. to the Brighton Field Days. This is the fourth consecutive year the Flag Team has performed and entertained in the parade. They are a mentally challenged Flag Team, represented through the Association of Retarded Persons in DeSoto County. They are a division of the 5 Star Youth of America. This is one of their favorite events and they get to spend the entire day in Brighton. (L-R) Pamela Brown, Sandra Shingleton, Wendy Lewey, McKenzie Johns, Aleta Dixon and Kimberly Holder.

Submitted by Jackie Tucker

## ◆ Shootout

Continued from page 1

wares and crafts of this historic age at their own unique encampments. There were authentic exhibits of American soldier camps and much to see at the Seminole camps nestled in the deeper woods, which fascinated the tourists.

The Billie Swamp Safari staff managed a spectacular show that holds great promise for growth and popularity in the years to come. There were approximately 60 vendors. The marketing performed by Florida Seminole Tourism drew more than 3,000 people to the event.

At all times during the day, music, storytelling and alligator and snake shows took place under the entertainment tent where the tourists could sit, eat and relax. The shootout also featured fascinating booths and demonstrations of what frontier life in Florida was like more than 150 years ago. Walking from one exhibit to another, asking questions, learning about the life of the early settlers and the struggle of the Seminole people to remain in their homeland were hours well spent.

The devotion and labor of volunteers who partake in the three-day reenactment deserves mention.



From around the tree, reenactors look for any Seminoles hiding in the swamp.

Gordon Oliver Wareham

came here to do this is because we are descendants of Ted Smallwood of the Chockolokee Store," said Zietler proudly. "He was my great-grandfather and he was the only store owner that the Seminoles trusted in the late 1800s."

At that time, after decades of

also wanted it to be known that Tribal Chairman Mitchell Cypress bought their son's calf at the Collier County 4-H Sale this year.

"We are real proud of that and thankful," he said.

Many of the vendors had great stories to tell of their ancestry.

One such vendor was Ron Kennedy, who excels in flint knapping, an art he learned from his Cree grandfather. He demonstrated how quickly he could make an arrow head but he emphasized it took him many years to be so deft with the carving tools. Bone and rock carving can often lead to bruises and cuts. He has had his share. The tools he uses now are modern ones but he said that Indians used copper tools 12,000 years ago, long before the white man.

In addition to numerous Seminole arts and crafts booths, members of many other Tribes had booths as well. Clewiston-based artist Mario Hernandez, of Aztec ancestry, displayed his dreamy watercolors of panther scenes. He is also known for his beautiful airbrush designs on trucks, and several can be seen on Big Cypress vehicles.

A booth from natives of Ecuador sold ponchos; another booth sold the popular "Homeland Security" T-shirt with a copy of a famous photograph of four warriors: Yanozha, Chappo, Fun and Geronimo. Under it are words of truth: "Fighting terrorism since 1492."

David Motlow of Big Cypress had a booth set up with his popular "Native Rage" T-shirts. There were many Seminole patchwork clothes and beaded jewelry and Seminole foods being sold as well.

Featured singer and guitarist, Paul "Cowbone" Buster sang a new composition, which he called "Baby Alligator." He used the moment as a time to talk about Indian beliefs of respecting all creatures and the land.

"We live in harmony with nature as God meant it to be," he said. Further back in the woods was the hatchet and the Atlatl throw. The Atlatl is named for a wooden tool used to hurl a spear with greater strength and accuracy.

The event offered lots of entertainment for history buffs, and even those not so interested in history. However, one could hardly leave without a better knowledge and admiration of Seminoles and how far they have come in finally winning the war on their own terms, even though white man's dusty history books may differ.



Descendants of Ted Smallwood of Chockolokee are children (front row, L-R) Josiah, Margaret, Colton and Caleb and (back row, L-R) Kurt stands with his wife and Smallwood's granddaughter, Marianne, her nephew Jacob Williams and her sister Michele Williams.

Susan Etchebarria

Many volunteers and reenactors eat, sleep and "live" in these encampments as they share tidbits of history with the hordes of people who attend the festival, day in and day out. In most instances the true history of the American genocide against Native American civilizations becomes a hot topic of discussion, and enlightenment to those who have never studied the subject.

Approximately 25 Seminole reenactors, at their camp deep in the woods, set up their authentic tents, cooking fires, their supplies, furs and skins of that time period. They worked to ready their weapons for the grand finale of the day, the shootout. These reenactors, organized by the Seminole Tribe's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, answered hundreds of questions from curious visitors.

In the Soldier's Camp, organized by members of the Collier County Museum, approximately 30 reenactors portrayed the Federal army. They also answered many questions as they readied themselves for the shootout.

One 1830s encampment that stood out was the Zietler's of Collier County. Marianne Zietler was dressed in the period style along with her five children and husband, her sister and nephew.

"One of the reasons we

wars waged against their fathers and grandfathers, the few remaining Seminoles were still hiding in the Everglades. The impoverished but determined Seminoles traded skins and furs with Smallwood. This trust was no small thing in those days. It was vital to their survival.

Marianne's husband, Kurt,



Swamp Owl and his horse stop for a clear shot.

Gordon Oliver Wareham



Spectators sit back and watch while the Federal Army reenactors unload their weapons.

Gordon Oliver Wareham

## Craig, Snow Win Brighton Princess Contest

*Amber Craig is 2007 Brighton Seminole Princess  
McKayla Snow is 2007 Brighton Jr. Miss Princess*

By Shelley Marmor

**BRIGHTON** — Great-grandma Alice Micco Snow of Brighton had two reasons to celebrate on Feb. 15. Her great-granddaughters Amber Craig, 16, and McKayla Snow, 9, took home the titles of Miss Brighton Seminole and Jr. Miss, respectively.

The 2007 Brighton Princess Pageant took place in the newly renovated Brighton Gym at 7 p.m. It immediately follows the big community dinner, held annually before the big competition.

The selection process was no easy task for the five judges. This year's contest drew one of the highest turnouts to date, according to 26-year veteran pageant coordinator Salina Dorgan. Artist Guy Labree and his wife Pat Labree of Arcadia, Fla., Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas, Miss Florida USA Jenna Edwards and Miss Haskell Indian Nations University Rebecca Jimson took on the difficult mission of selecting the two ladies who would represent the Brighton reservation for the next year.

The 2007 pageant drew a total of 15 contestants. Ten vied for the title of Brighton Jr. Miss Princess and five competed for the honor of being the 2007 Brighton Seminole Princess.

"This year's pageant was one of the best turnouts ever," Dorgan said.

Miss Seminole contestants were: winner Amber Craig, 16, Kasandra Baker, 13, Lois Billie, 13, Alissa Dorgan, 13 and Elizabeth Dehass, 15. Junior Miss contestants were: winner McKayla Snow, 9, Justice Baker, 10, Kiylier Baker, 11, Tyra Baker, 9, Erena Billie, 12, Breanna Billie, 10, Chastity Harmon, 8, Rumor



Juarez, 8, Airianna Nunez, 10 and Lahana Sedatol, 8.

After the votes were tallied and the winners announced, Craig and Snow got right to work. Two days after being crowned, the two rode in the annual Brighton Field Days parade. On Feb. 24, they also rode in the annual Swamp Cabbage Festival parade in LaBelle, Fla. and then the Chalo Nitka parade in Moore Haven, Fla. on March 3.

Dorgan said riding in parades is just one of a number of duties the princesses will perform throughout the year. She said the two will have to "make time available when and where needed for the Brighton community" and also attend community and official Tribal functions.

### About Brighton Seminole Princess Amber Craig

Amber Craig is the daughter of Shannon Holata and Jerome Craig. She is 16 years old and attends Boca Raton Preparatory School, where she is in the 10th grade. Her interests include traveling, playing various sports — she holds a first degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do — talking on the phone, shopping and being with her friends. She plans to finish high school and attend Florida State University.

### About Brighton Jr. Miss Princess McKayla Snow

McKayla Snow is the daughter of the late Dawn Snow Fertitta and John Fertitta. Her grandparents are Elbert and Judy Snow and Laurie Snow. She is 9 years old and attends fourth grade at Okeechobee South Elementary School. Her hobbies are baton twirling, dancing, cheerleading and playing sports.

Photos by Stephen Galla



### Talent Winners

Jr. Miss Division:  
Arianna Nunez  
Brighton Miss Division:  
Amber Craig

### Brighton Jr. Miss Princess

Participation Awards:  
Kiyler Baker, Erena Billie,  
Chastity Harmon, Tyra Baker,  
Breanna Billie, Justice Baker  
Third Runner Up:  
Lahna Sedatol  
Second Runner Up:  
Arianna Nunez  
First Runner Up:  
Rumor Juarez  
Jr. Miss Princess 2007:  
McKayla Snow



### Brighton Seminole Princess

Participation Award:  
Kasandra Baker  
Third Runner Up:  
Alissa Dorgan  
Second Runner Up:  
Louise Billie  
First Runner Up:  
Elizabeth DeHass  
Brighton Seminole Princess 2007:  
Amber Craig

## Brighton Seminole Princess & Brighton Jr. Miss Princess Pageant

### On Behalf of the Brighton Princess Committee,

We would like to give a big thanks to: the Brighton Tribal Council Office, the parent of each contestant, Kim Giles of Keith & Schnars, PA for the wonderful decorations and stage set-up, the Brighton community members for their attendance and the support they showed each contestant during the pageant, emcee John Madrigal, co-emcee Roy "Jazz" Grant, outgoing Brighton Princess Jewel Buck for a job well done in representing her community, Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas, Jr. Miss Florida Seminole Tianna Garcia, Steve Galla of *The Seminole Tribune* for photographing, President Moses Osceola for his attendance and support, the Miss Florida USA organization, Haskell Indian Nations University, scorekeepers Terry Hahn and Sherrie Conway, Little Mr. Seminole Kano Puente, Little Miss Seminole Krysta Burton, the Brighton Recreation Department and Brighton Board Representative Johnny Jones.

Sincerely,  
Salina Dorgan, Pageant Coordinator,  
26 years  
Charlotte Burgess, Committee  
Member, 10 years  
Joyce Piz, Committee Member, 8  
years  
Jo Leigh Jumper, Committee  
Member, 4 years  
Terry Hahn, Committee Member, 2  
years  
Camellia Osceola, Committee  
Member, 2 years



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Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla

# 36th Annual Seminole Tribal Fair POWWOW RODEO



Stephen Galla



Gordon Oliver Wareham



Gordon Oliver Wareham

## 2007 Little Miss Seminole Results

6th Runner Up:  
#22 Zoey Puente  
5th Runner Up:  
#14 Leilani J. Gopher  
4th Runner Up:  
#20 Thomalynn Billie  
3rd Runner Up:  
#13 Trinity Bowers  
2nd Runner Up:  
#18 Cartaya Billie  
1st Runner Up:  
#23 Alyssa J. Osceola  
Little Miss Seminole 2007:  
#9 Krysta Burton



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla

## 2007 Little Mr. Seminole Results

6th Runner Up (tie):  
 #30 Alyke Baker  
 6th Runner Up (tie):  
 #53 Santiago E. Billie  
 5th Runner Up:  
 #54 Jack Aguilar  
 4th Runner Up:  
 #47 Jason B. Sampson  
 3rd Runner Up:  
 #38 Ivess Enoch Baker  
 2nd Runner Up:  
 #41 Chandler De Mayo  
 1st Runner Up:  
 #35 Terrance D. Hill  
 Little Mr. Seminole 2007:  
 #51 Kano Puente



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla

# Stylish Seminoles Shine in Rainbow of Fashions

## 36th Annual Tribal Fair Clothing Contest

By Chris Jenkins

**HOLLYWOOD** — Style and clothing fads come and go, but tradition and history always remain. On Feb. 10 the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino hosted the annual Tribal Fair Clothing Contest, displaying the old and new in attire.

Looks from the 18th-21st centuries brought together Tribal citizens from Hollywood, Fort Pierce, Big Cypress, Brighton, Tampa and Immokalee reservations.

The event in the hotel's ballroom featured traditional patchwork and clothing. Groups representing all ages participated.

Judging was based on a 1-to-5

scale of overall presentation, color coordination and additional accessories. There were also two new categories this year: jackets and modern day.

This was the first year for Hollywood Board Representative Office Manager Loretta Micco to help with the contest. She said it was a good day.

"I think everything went well," Micco said. "The turnout was more than we expected."

Six outside judges were chosen, three for male and three for female judging. They were Lisa Stevens, Carlos Miguel, Charles Reynolds, Roz Perlmutter, Wilma Siegel and David Founds.



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Gordon Oliver Warcham



Gordon Oliver Warcham

### Female

**Baby (0-12 months):** 1. Sarafina Billie, 2. Neela Tiger-Jones, 3. Lexi Thomas, 4. Xiya Osceola, 5. Cabriella Diaz.

**Youth (1-4 years):** 1. Elle Denise Thomas, 2. Clarice DeMayo, 3. Jacee Jumper, 4. Charlie Osceola, Jolia Smith.

**Youth (5-8 years):** 1. Alyssa Osceola, 2. Riley Osceola, 3. Allison Cooper, 4. Krysta Osceola-Burton, 5. Brianna Bowers.

**Youth (13-17 years):** 1. Megan A. Osceola, 2. Trisha Walker, 3. Lindsay Byrd Sauls, 4. Renee A. Stivers, 5. Haley Garcia.

**Women (18-25 years) Jacket:** 1. Tasha Osceola, 2. JoJo Osceola, 3. Shannon Cifuentes, 4. Holly Johns, 5. Mercedes Osceola-Hahn.

**Women (18-25 years) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Nina Frias, 2. JoJo Osceola, 3. Mercedes Osceola-Hahn, 4. Ginger Jones, 5. Tasha Osceola.

**Women (18-25 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. JoJo Osceola, 2. Tasha Osceola, 3. Holly Johns, 4. Nina Frias, 5. Shannon Cifuentes.

**Women (18-25 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Tasha Osceola, 2. Audrey Snow, 3. Kurya Kippenberger, 4. Ounie Cypress, 5. Mercedes Osceola-Hahn.

**Women (18-25 years) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. JoJo Osceola, 2. Holly Johns, 3. Ginger Jones, 4. Kurya Kippenberger, 5. Tasha Osceola.

**Women (26-35 years) Jacket:** 1. Alice M. Billie, 2. Shannon Gopher, 3. Jo Jumper, 4. Suraiya Smith, 5. Tara Courson.

**Women (26-35 years) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Laverne Thomas, 2. Tera Hahn, 3. Pernie Whidden, 4. Suraiya Smith, 5. Alice M. Billie.

**Women (26-35 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Jo Jumper, 2. Sara Osceola, 3. Virginia Garcia, 4. Alice M. Billie, 5. Laverne Thomas.

**Women (26-35 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Laverne Thomas, 2. Tara Courson, 3. Emma Brown, 4. Sherri Jumper, 5. Jo Jumper.

**Women (26-35 years) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Jo Jumper, 2. Arlene Tommie, 3. Emma Brown, 4. Laverne Thomas, 5. Danielle Howard.

**Women (36-54 years) Jacket:** 1. Loretta Micco, 2. Joanne Osceola, 3. Rosie Jones, 4. Mary Jo Micco, 5. Ginger Tiger.

**Women (36-54 years) 1800-Old**

**Traditional:** 1. Rosie Jones, 2. Michele Thomas, 3. Donna Turtle, 4. Mary Jo Micco, 5. Melissa Gopher.

**Women (36-54 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Michele Thomas, 2. Cecilia Thomas, 3. Rosie Jones, 4. Beverly Alumbaugh, 5. Ceslie Osceola.

**Women (36-54 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Michele Thomas, 2. Rosie Jones, 3. Terry Hahn, 4. Nancy Billie, 5. Donna Turtle.

**Women (36-54 years) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Loretta Micco, 2. Paula Bowers-Sanchez, 3. Rosie Jones, 4. Michele Thomas, 5. Donna Turtle.

**Senior Women (55-64) Jacket:** 1. Alice Sweat, 2. Nancy Motlow, 3. Connie Whidden.

**Senior Women (55-64) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Louise B. Osceola, 2. Nancy Motlow, 3. Connie Whidden, 4. Alice Johns Sweat, 5. Virginia Pearl Tommie.

**Senior Women (55-64) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Connie Whidden.

**Senior Women (55-64 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Louise B. Osceola, 2. Nancy Motlow, 3. Peggy O. Cubis, 4. Juanita Osceola, 5. Connie Whidden.

**Senior Women (55-64 years) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Jenny Garcia, 2. Alice Sweat, 3. Mabel Doctor, 4. Nancy Motlow, 5. Wanda Bowers.

**Golden Seniors-Women (65 years and up) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Betty Osceola, 2. Maydell Osceola, 3. Mary Moore, 4. Lawanna Osceola-Niles, 5. Frances Osceola.

**Golden Seniors-Women (65 years and up) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Mary Moore, 2. Lawanna Osceola-Niles, 3. Maggie Garcia, 4. Frances Osceola.

**Golden Seniors-Women (65 years and up) Jacket:** 1. Mary Moore, 2. Frances Osceola, 3. Lawanna Osceola-Niles, 4. Mabel Doctor.

**Golden Seniors-Women (65 years and up) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Maggie Garcia, 2. Frances Osceola, 3. Peggy Stivers, 4. Maydell Osceola, 5. Agnes Jumper.

**Golden Seniors-Women (65 years and up) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Frances Osceola, 2. Lawanna Osceola-Niles, 3. Louise Billie, 4. Mary Moore, 5. Rachel Billie.



Gordon Oliver Warcham



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Gordon Oliver Wareham

**Male**

**Baby (0-12 months):** 1. Takota Howard, 2. Quayton Billie, 3. Keenan Jones, 4. Draven Osceola-Hahn, 5. Bryce Baker.

**Youth (1-4 years):** 1. Xavier Hill, 2. Adakai Robbins, 3. Ramone Z. Baker, 4. Kaiden Sampson, 5. Hunter Howard.

**Youth (5-8 years):** 1. Chandler Demayo, 2. Lesley Gopher, 3. Layne Thomas, 4. Aidan Tommie, 5. Lance Howard.

**Youth (9-12 years):** 1. Joshua Boromei, 2. Wade Micco, 3. Brandtley Osceola, 4. Trevor Osceola, 5. Layton Thomas.

**Youth (13-17 years):** 1. Joseph Osceola, 2. Justine Osceola, 3. Cypress Desmond Osceola, 4. Justin Aldridge, 5. Eric Sanders.

**Men (18-25 years) Jacket:** 1. Byron Baker, 2. Dennis Whitaker, 3. Justin Gopher.

**Men (18-25 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Byron Billie, 2. Clinton Holt, 3. Justin Gopher.

**Men (26-35 years) Jacket:** 1. Milo Osceola, 2. Joey Micco, 3. Kassim Stockton Sr., 4. Larry Howard, 5. Naha "Wildcat" Jumper.

**Men (26-35 years) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Larry Howard, 2. Kassim Stockton Sr., 3. Adam Turtle, 4. Naha "Wildcat" Jumper, 5. Wovoka Tommie.

**Men (26-35 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Wovoka Tommie, 2. Sampson Gopher, 3. Naha "Wildcat" Jumper.

**Men (26-35 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Larry Howard, 2. Kassim Stockton Sr., 3. Sampson Gopher, 4. Joey Micco, 5. Naha "Wildcat" Jumper.

**Men (26-35 years) (Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles):** 1. Pittman Sampson, 2. Sampson Gopher, 3. Kassim Stockton Sr., 4. "Wildcat" Naha Jumper, 5. George Micco.

**Men (36-54 years) Jacket:** 1. Tony Sanchez Jr., 2. Parker Jones, 3. Elbert Snow, 4. Paul Buster Jr., 5. Sandy Billie Jr.

**Men (36-54 years) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Vince Ross Motlow, 2. Parker Jones, 3. Elbert Snow.

**Men (36-54 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Parker Jones, 2. Sandy Billie Jr.

**Men (36-54 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Parker Jones, 2. Cicero Osceola, 3. Elbert Snow, 4. Steve Osceola.

**Men (36-54 years) (Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles):** 1. Cicero Osceola, 2. Parker Jones, 3. Sandy Billie Jr.

**Senior Men (55-64 years) Jacket:** 1. Thomas Billie, 2. Moses Jumper Jr., 3. Howard Osceola, 4. Norman Johns, 5. Billy Micco.

**Senior Men (55-64 years) (1800-Old Traditional):** 1. Moses Jumper Jr., 2. Thomas Billie, 3. Norman Johns, 4. Billy Micco.

**Senior Men (55-64 years) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Thomas Billie, 2. Moses Jumper Jr., 3. Billy Micco, 4. Norman Johns.

**Senior Men (55-64 years) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Moses Jumper Jr., 2. Thomas Billie, 3. Billy Micco, 4. Stephen Bowers, 5. Norman Johns.

**Senior Men (55-64 years) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Max Osceola, 2. Moses Jumper Jr., 3. Norman Johns.

**Golden Seniors (65 years and up) Jacket:** 1. Joe Dan Osceola, 2. Jimmie Smith, 3. Joe Osceola Sr., 4. Wonder Johns, 5. Johnny Tucker.

**Golden Seniors-Men (65 years and up) 1800-Old Traditional:** 1. Jimmie Smith, 2. Joe Dan Osceola, 3. Johnny Tucker.

**Golden Seniors-Men (65 years and up) 1900-Traditional:** 1. Frank J. Billie, 2. Joe Dan Osceola.

**Golden Seniors-Men (65 years and up) 2000-Contemporary:** 1. Joe Osceola Sr., 2. Jimmie Smith.

**Golden Seniors-Men (65 years and up) Modern Day Fashion-Today's Styles:** 1. Joe Osceola Sr., 2. Joe Dan Osceola, 3. Jimmie Smith.



Gordon Oliver Wareham



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Chris Jenkins



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz

## An Evening of Dance and Pow-wow Imagery Tribe's Kickoff for the 36th Annual Tribal Fair

By Felix DeBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — On the night of Feb. 7 the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village sponsored an exhibition of talented Native American performers. The featured dancers dressed in handmade regalia with bright patterns and shimmering with reflective colors. They danced to ancient Native American chanting voices and drumbeats.

Performing were Dallin Maybe, champion Northern Traditional dancer; Shea Keek, Jingle Dress Dancer; Anthony Duncan, four-time world champion Hoop Dancer; and Violet John, Miss Indian World 2007 and Fancy Shawl dancer.

These dancers would also perform and compete during the 36th Annual Tribal Fair and Pow-wow that followed.

The evening's guest emcee was none other than the talented Nammy® and Grammy® award winner, Micki Free. Free

did a tremendous job moving the festivities along with his showbiz style and amusing charm.

"I wanted to thank the Tribal Fair committee for having us all out and having that big soiree next door, it's off the chain," he said. "They deserve a big round of applause."

Miss Florida Seminole Brittany Yescas followed and said what an honor it was to welcome everyone to Seminole Country for the Tribal Fair. Junior Miss Florida Seminole Tianna Hali Yesenia Garcia also introduced herself, welcomed everyone and said she hoped all the guests enjoyed themselves.

The museum offered refreshments including frybread and pumpkin bread to Tribal citizens and invited guests. The evening was a teaser for the upcoming events being showcased in the pow-wow competition.



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Felix DeBosz



Stephen Galla



Stephen Galla



Felix DuBois



Felix DuBois



Felix DuBois

## Seminole Stomp Dancers Entertain at Tribal Fair

By Shelley Marmor

**HOLLYWOOD** — Victor Billie led fellow stomp dancers Erica Matta, Jessica Osceola, Mercedes Osceola-Hahn, Lenora Roberts, Brian Zepeda and Pedro Zepeda during their dance and informational exhibition on Feb. 9. The seven dancers entertained the 36th Annual Tribal Fair crowd with two one-hour performances on each day of the four-day fair, which ran Feb. 9-12.

The group took to the Main Stage, located next to Hooters restaurant, with dancer Brian Zepeda emceeing. Zepeda described each dance to the audience and then joined the stomp dancers in performing it.

Zepeda explained that men and women must work together for each dance to materialize. He said the men are responsible for singing, while the women must keep the tempo.

During their noon performance on opening day, Zepeda showed the audience how the women keep tempo using their shakers. He brought fellow dancer Erica Matta forward to show the shakers tied to her calves and demonstrate how she used them.

Each performance began with the

Opening Dance. Zepeda explained that this social dance needed to be performed before all the others. He added that all dances the group exhibited were social dances, rather than sacred or ritual ones.

Although the dances performed were not sacred, they still represented Seminole culture, Zepeda noted.

"There's real meaning in the things we're singing and dancing for you today," he said.

The stomp dancers also performed the Catfish Dance, which Zepeda called "a love song about the most unlikely of characters." He explained that this dance depicted the courtship of the catfish of Northern Florida, which can grow up to 5 feet in length.

Before demonstrating, Zepeda explained that the men and women would form two single-file lines. They would then join hands and make large circles with their free hands to mimic the movement of the large catfish's whiskers. Zepeda said this dance symbolizes the way the catfish come together during mating season.



Stephen Galla



Felix DuBois



Stephen Galla



Stephen Gallia



Felix DoBoz

## Tribal Fair Festivities Another Hit

By Chris Jenkins

**HOLLYWOOD** — One of the most prestigious and largest of Native American events, the 36th Annual Tribal Fair and Pow-wow, took place Feb. 8-11 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. The festival featured dancers, performers and artists.

More than 300 other Native American Tribes from across the country joined in the celebration with the Seminole Tribe.

This year's festivities offered free parking and admission and were open to all ages. Showcases and exhibitions took place on the Hard Rock Live stage, on the Main Stage located next to Hooters, and in the Okalee Village.

Several performances were added to this year's schedule: the

Kehewin Native Dancers, Aztec Fire Dancers, Anikituha Dancers, Seminole Stomp Dancers, flutist Sonny Nevaquaya, the Micki Free Blues Band, Eastern Indian Rodeo Association action, native actress Irene Bedard and native musician Jim Boyd.

Tribal Fair Director Frankie Moore helped organize events and advertising between the Tribal Fair committee and the Hard Rock. As a former committee member, he says his varied experience has increased his understanding of the process.

"The process can allow you to see things from both sides," he said. "I enjoyed bringing in the entertainment and working with the pow-wow but it was definitely a team effort."



Stephen Gallia

## 2007 Fine Arts Contest Winners

### Ages 18 & Over

Acrylic: 1. Mary Gay Osceola, 2. Jimmy Osceola, 3. Elgin Jumper, 4. Louise Billie, 5. Mary Robbins; Ceramics: 1. Rachel Billie, 2. Ruth Osceola, 3. Ruby Osceola, 4. Mary Robbins, 5. Carol Cypress; Mixed Media: 1. Elgin Jumper, 2. JoJo Osceola, 3. Melissa Metcalf, 4. Patty Entry, 5. Jeff Johns; Oil: 1. Jimmy Osceola, 2. Pedro Zepeda, 3. Melissa Metcalf, 4. JoJo Osceola, 5. Tasha Osceola; Pencil, Pen & Ink: 1. Pedro Zepeda, 2. Daniel Nunez, Sr., 3. Jimmy Osceola, 4. Vinson Osceola; Photography: 1. Gordon Wareham, 2. Bre Clay, 3. Jennifer Jones, 4. Selena Billie, 5. Charlie Osceola; Watercolor: 1. Mary Gay Osceola, 2. Elgin Jumper, 3. Jeff Johns, 4. Jessica Buster, 5. Wilson Bowers.

### Ages 10-17

Acrylic: 1. Lorelei Tommie, 2. Kirsten Doney, 3. Cameron Dorgan, 4. Alissa Dorgan, 5. Alisia Billie; Ceramics: No Entries; Mixed Media: 1. P.J. Billie, 2. Samantha Hisler, 3. Jaide Micco, 4. Alisia Billie, 5. Courtney Osceola; Oil: 1. Alisia Billie, 2. Tianna Young, 3. Katelyn Young, 4. Courtney Osceola; Pencil, Pen & Ink: 1. Brittany Smith, 2. Lorelei Tommie, 3. Katelyn Young, 4. Alisia Billie, 5. Courtney Osceola; Photography: 1. Alisia Billie, 2. Kirsten Doney, 3. Korvette Billie, 4. Lorelei Billie; Watercolor: 1. Alisia Billie.



Stephen Gallia



Felix Dobosz



Felix Dobosz



Stephen Galla



Shelley Marmur



Stephen Galla