



Dentist gets plaque, see below



Postcards from the edge of civilization, see Reflections, Page 3



Firefighter Wovoka Tommie sprays Juanita Billie's house, see below.



The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

\$1.00

www.seminoletribe.com

Volume XXI Number 7

May 26, 2000

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Lake Placid FL
Permit No. 128

Tribune Series On Rosewood Wins Award

DURHAM, N.C. — A series of articles on the impact of the Rosewood Massacre won an award from the Institute for Southern Studies here. The three-part series, written by freelance contributor Charles Flowers for the *Seminole Tribune*, won 2nd place in the investigative category for weekly newspapers.

The Institute for Southern Studies tracks social justice issues in the Southern United States.

Flowers' series dealt with issues arising from the \$2 million settlement by black survivors and descendants with the State of Florida in 1994 that were still unresolved five years later.

In "Return to Rosewood," Flowers found that while a few individuals benefitted from the terms of the Rosewood Bill signed into law by former Gov. Lawton Chiles, no fitting memorial to the 1923 massacre had been built in Rosewood or anywhere else. Meanwhile, in Riviera Beach, one of only four remaining survivors carried on a personal crusade to save a black cemetery where at least a dozen Rosewood survivors were buried.

"The wheels of justice grind slowly, especially in the South," noted Flowers, who was born in Arkansas. "Just this month, the FBI indicted two more white men for murder in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala. — and that happened in 1963. The lesson of Rosewood is that you have to be tenacious, not

See AWARD, page 7

NAJA Convention Opens June 14 - 18

HOLLYWOOD — The Native American Journalists Association (NAJA) Convention 2000, June 14-18, sponsored by The Seminole Tribe of Florida, is beginning to take shape, the Host Committee reports.

The prestigious event — coming to Florida for the first time — brings journalists from tribal newspapers, magazines, and radio and television stations across North and South America together. It begins with the opening ceremony at the Okalee Village on the Hollywood Reservation at 6 p.m., June 14.

Chairman James E. Billie of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Billy Cypress, Chairman of the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida Indians will greet and welcome the guests to Florida.



The opening ceremonies, coordinated by Gloria Wilson of the Host Committee, will also include the famed Seminole Tribe Color Guard, music by Raiford Starke and Sonny Nevaquaya, alligator wrestling demonstrations, a film by Seminole Broadcasting and a barbecue dinner.

"We expect a larger crowd than usual at this year's convention because it is Florida and some people will bring their families along to vacation after the convention," said NAJA interim executive director Michael Burgess. "But even the convention will probably have more attendees. We're expecting between three and five hundred guests."

The actual work of the convention begins June 15 at the host hotel, the Marriott North. Events and workshops, which run from 8 a.m. through 6 p.m., include such diverse subjects as environmental reporting to a writer's workshop presented by Paul Pohlman of the Nelson Poynter Institute.

That evening, the Miccosukee Tribe will host the Student Recognition Banquet at the Miccosukee Resort while convention guests will be able to relax at a 'Swamp Party,' held at the hotel's pool area.

Friday, another full day of events awaits participants, culminating in the NAJA Annual Awards Banquet, which will be hosted by the Miccosukee Tribe at the hotel.

After the close of the award presentations, guests will be bussed to Alligator Alley for a CD release party to promote the latest albums by Chief Jim Billie and Tiger Tiger. Chief Jim

See NAJA, page 7



SAM JONES: Tree Tops Park sculpture honors valiant 19th century Seminole leader. Forts all over Florida were built to capture the unconquered "Abiaka." See Fort Shackleford by Vida Volkert, Page 5.

Juanita and 'Tiny' Saved From Fire

By Colin Kenny

If you were driving down Snake Road through the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation, after high noon, the day before Mother's Day, you would have been directed by Seminole Police Department (SPD) Chief Tom Hernan, and SPD Officers Tony Del Pozzo and Barbara Akin to take a detour to get past the Herman Osceola Gymnasium. That's because firefighters had a hose stretched out across Snake Road, a couple of hundred yards down the unnamed street that flanks the south end of the gymnasium, to the home of Seminole senior citizen Juanita Billie. For obvious reasons, it is illegal to run over a fire hose.

At around 12 noon, two Big Cypress community members — Marissa Baker and Billie Marks

— were passing by Juanita Billie's house, saw some smoke and flames emanating from roof on the south end of the house and found Juanita Billie, who is an invalid, sitting as many elders do, just inside the open front doorway, apparently unaware of the fire in back. Billie, 75, was moved to safety by the passers-by, as was another resident of the domicile — a part chihuahua canine named "Tiny."

Billie was taken by family and friends to Hendry General Hospital in Clewiston for possible smoke inhalation and released back to family members shortly thereafter. She and Tiny are reportedly doing fine.

According to SPD Chief Tom Hernan, the fire was called in by the passers-by at 12:18 p.m., just after Billie was moved to safety. Help arrived at 12:20 p.m.

"The fire was a house structure fire," said Chief Hernan, that "ended up in the roof — once it gets up there it's difficult to stop." Indeed it took the combined efforts of Big Cypress Fire Department volunteers Wovoka Tommie, Mark Billie, Harry Tommie and their fire truck, as well as tankers, pumps and volunteers from the Felda and Montura-Flaghole fire departments toiling for two hours in the 90+ degree heat to finally extinguish the blaze.

Investigation revealed that the fire originated "from the kitchen stove area," according to Chief Hernan. Hernan speculated that the fire could have been burning for about twenty minutes before it was discovered by Baker and Marks.

Seminoles Honor Dr. Tony Lozon

■ IHS Dentist Leaving After 12 Years

By Elrod Bowers

HOLLYWOOD — On May 10, the Seminole Tribe honored Dr. Timothy Lozon for 12 years of service as the Tribal Dentist and Medical Director.

Lozon began working for the Indian Health Service in 1986 after graduating from dental school, the University of Detroit-Mercy. After a stint in

Pawnee, OK, Dr. Lozon was assigned to the Seminole Tribe in 1988.

Dr. Lozon could have left the Tribe at any time, but chose to stay: "Each year you could see progress. And progress keeps people around."

"The Seminole Tribe is not like your typical IHS program, because the Tribal Council supports it very well and the patients, as well as the professionals who work there, benefit."

Dr. Lozon is leaving to work in the IHS Director's Office in Rockville, MD as a Personnel Specialist. "I'm disappointed about leaving but happy that I can make a difference at a much higher level," said Dr. Lozon, "I'm happy that I'm leaving behind an excellent staff."

"I've had opportunities before but never had the right mix of staff."

His time with the Tribe has already started Dr. Lozon thinking retirement. "I have only 6 years until I can retire, maybe I can come back."

Surrounded by members of his staff and well-wishers, Dr. Lozon said, "I've enjoyed my 12 years working for the Tribe, it's been a challenge and I'm gonna miss everybody."



GOODBYE DR. LOZON: Honored at Health luncheon.



Trail Councilman William Osceola goes "online."

Tribal Council

Tribe Takes Over Tampa Gaming

By E. Bowers

HOLLYWOOD — In a historic move, the Seminole Tribal Council completed the takeover of all Tribal gaming management, May 11, by voting not to renew the contract of Pan American & Associates, the management company that has directed operations at the Tampa Seminole Gaming Palace since the facility opened in 1980.

The Pan American contract expired at midnight, May 21. Pan American was also the first management company at the Immokalee casino, which the Seminole Tribe took over in September of 1999. The Tribe also manages its own casinos in Hollywood, Coconut Creek and Brighton.

In a companion move May 17, the Seminole Tribal Gaming Commission appointed John Fontana as Tampa general manager and Carla Gopher of Brighton as Fontana's chief assistant.

"This is really no surprise. At one time, in the beginning, there was a real need for outside management companies to oversee Tribal gaming here at Seminole and other places," said Fontana. "But now there is no reason the Seminole Tribe can't manage its own casinos."

Pan American attorney Buddy Levy gave the *Tribune* the following statement: "On behalf of the partners of Pan American, we have enjoyed greatly our relationship with the Tribe and its leadership. We have made a lot of friends and have the greatest respect for all of those we have worked with. We wish the Tribe well in its future endeavors and we will be available to provide whatever assistance the Tribe may ask for in the future."

The Council had the option of renewing the current agreement, lowering the percentage Pan Am makes for managing the casinos, or ending the relationship. In the end, the unanimous vote was to terminate the contract involving the Tampa hall. The Council's action does not include the tobacco shops.

Another historic first at this Council meeting was the use of computer screens by Council members to keep track of business. Resolutions, supporting documents and other items were provided Council

See COUNCIL, page 7

Magazine Praises B.C. Phish Concert

By Colin Kenny

Relix, a Brooklyn, N.Y. based psychedelic magazine praised the Phish NYE 2000 concert on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation as "a great experience" and "the second highest grossing millennium event in the U.S." (second only to Barbara Streisand's Las Vegas show).

The magazine's content is heavily laden with the Grateful Dead and the "tye-dye" music scene and boasts a worldwide readership of over 300,000.

The millennium event was featured on the cover of its April, 2000 issue: "Phish, Bring in the Millenium, Phishin' in Florida" with a 12 page story on the "Phish-Phest."

"Phish's New Year's spectacular at the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation in the Florida Everglades was flawlessly executed . . ." gushed *Relix* writer David Vann, "Yes, Big Cypress will long be remembered as a great event by all who were lucky enough to have been there, and Phish will long be heralded as a tremendous band who knows how to celebrate life to the fullest and takes its fans along for the ride!"

A limited number of *Seminole Tribune Phish Special Editions* are still available at the Tribal marketplace. Visit www.seminoletribe.com.



Editorial

Enforce Tribal Sovereignty

***Dr. Dean Chavers**

Indians are the most regulated people in the world. The BIA and IHS tell Indians when to eat, when to sleep, when to lease their land, when to leave their coal, when to register their children, where to send their children to school, where they can live, and what training they can have.

All these federal powers are in violation of sovereignty. Sovereignty is the right, the power, and the duty of a people to govern themselves. Any supposed legal authority that takes away this right is a violation of sovereignty.

But most Indian people do not understand sovereignty. If they understand what it is, they are quick to compromise it in favor of some other aim, such as making money. Other Indian people do not understand what it is, what the powers of tribes are, and how these powers can be exercised.

A dozen years ago, I was at a meeting in Minneapolis to discuss whether tribes should support what shortly afterward became the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA). The Act was an attempt by Las Vegas, Reno, and Atlantic City gaming owners to muzzle, hamstring, and handicap the emerging Indian gaming industry.

The meeting was at one of the tribes in the upper mid-west/Great Lakes part of the nation. I happened to be at the meeting because I met my mentor and friend Roger Jourdain there.

After two days of discussions, the vote was taken on whether to support IGRA, and only four opposed. The four opposed were Roger Jourdain, the Chairman of the Red Lake Band of Chippewas, Elmer Savilla, the former Executive Director of the National Tribal Chairman's Association, the late Art Gahbow, Chairman of the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians, and myself.

Our rationale was simple: Why have the Congress authorize tribes to do something they already have the inherent right to do? That's like adding fire to fire to put it out. It's like adding water to water to make it wetter. It's unnecessary.

But the casino people from Nevada and New Jersey ultimately had their way. IGRA passed. The whole point is that it was not needed. Tribes supported it because it was expedient. They were convinced by people on the staffs of the Senators and Representatives in Congress that it was necessary. What it represents is further intrusion into the internal affairs of tribes.

Chairman Jourdain, who is a strong advocate of tribal sovereignty, did not want any more intrusion into tribal affairs. His position was, and is, that the U.S. government has already done enough damage to Indian tribes.

Instead of passing more legislation to regulate Indians, Congress should take some of these laws off the books. There is no longer a need for the BIA to decide which lawyer an individual Indian or a tribe should have. But the BIA has this right, since this law is still on the books.

Anyone else in the U.S. except an Indian can hire an attorney. That attorney can not be fired by anyone except the individual paying the attorney. This power does not hold for Indians or for tribes.

Only the BIA can approve or disapprove of an attorney to represent Indians. When they don't want an attorney, no matter how good that attorney is, the BIA can forbid this person to represent Indians. Melvin Belli was forbidden by the BIA to represent the Indians of California in their land claim for the state of California. Mr. Belli is a world famous attorney, one of the best ever.

But when he showed up in court, the BIA lawyer simply told the judge that he was not approved, and showed the judge their legal authority to bar him. The judge threw him out of court.

The BIA obviously did not want a high-powered, fully competent, top-of-the-line attorney to represent the Indians of

California. As a result, they were paid only 47 cents an acre for the 100 million extremely valuable acres that were taken away from them.

A few years ago, I was having dinner with the chairman of a large tribe, one of his council members, and the editor of the tribal newspaper. As we got into topics they wanted to talk about, the topic of tribal sovereignty came up.

"You know, we have businesses on our reservation," the chairman said. "If we were a state we could pass a law and collect taxes from them. That would give us some more revenue."

"Mister Chairman, you are a state," I told him. "You have the same sovereign powers that states do. If you want to pass a law to levy a sales tax, you can do that. You have the same powers to pass a tax a state does."

"If that is so, then why haven't tribes passed tax laws?" he asked.

"I can't answer that question," I told him. "But I do know tribes have the right to pass any law that a state, a city, and a county can pass."

"Well, we have to look into that," he said.

That tribe is now pulling in hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in tax revenues.

I wish other tribes, especially large ones, would exercise their sovereign powers. This includes not only taxation, but law enforcement, municipal services, fire protection, court systems, transportation, public health, child protection, social services, and a host of other services that are normally provided by some other government outside the tribe.

Sovereignty for tribes has always been there. It is clearly in conflict with the assumed right of the federal government to play BIA – Boss Indians Around. I maintain that all those laws that take power always from tribal governments are illegal.

Those laws were passed in the late 1700s and the 1800s. They let the federal government take away the right of tribes to make payments to members, to pass on inheritance rights, to educate their children, to adjudicate legal matters and on and on. Over 5,000 such laws were passed. Do you see why I say Indians are the most regulated people in the world?

The objective of these laws was negative, of course. They were meant to break the backs of tribes, to destroy their morale, to "civilize" their children, to forbid Indian children to speak their own Native languages, to interrupt the passing of Indian cultures and languages, and to break up the tribal "mass."

These laws were wrong when they were passed, and they are still wrong. Every one of them needs to be taken off the books. The BIA needs to be neutered. Tribes need to run their own businesses and government, not the outsiders in the BIA.

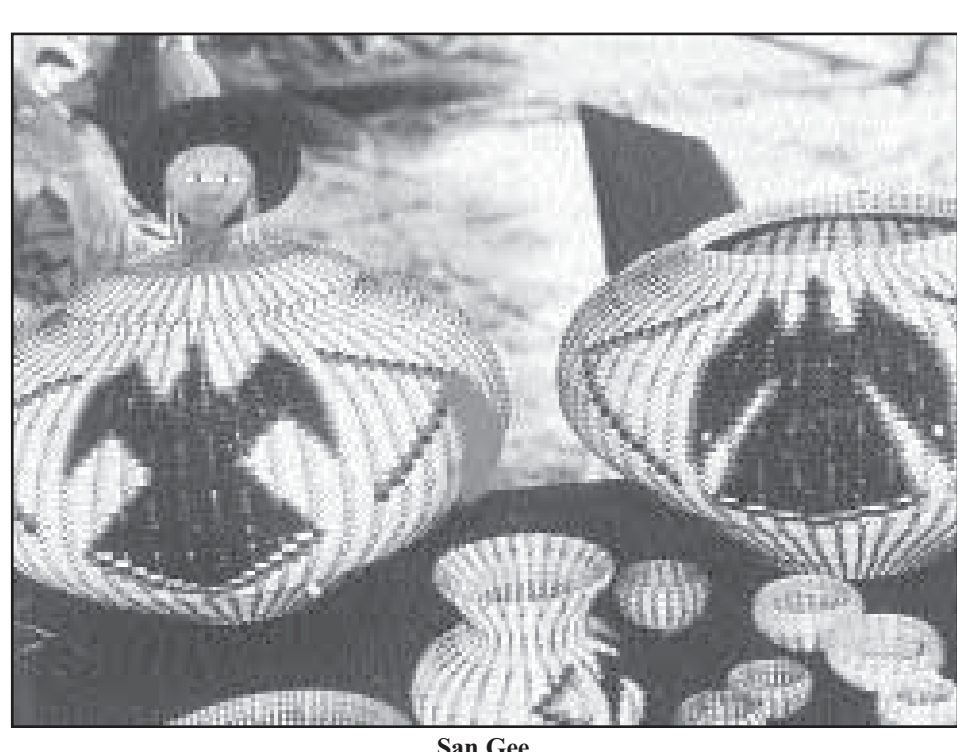
Roger Jourdain told me 20 years ago that when he and the late great Wendell Chino and a handful of other tribal chairman started talking about tribal sovereignty in the late 1950s and the early 1960s they were misunderstood.

"Tribal leaders had never heard that term," he said. "They thought they had to go through the BIA for everything, that BIA had to approve of everything they did. We told them that was baloney. All they had to do was to be accountable to their own people. That was a radical idea at the time. But it was the truth."

It is hard to enforce tribal sovereignty. The occupation of Wounded Knee in 1973 was about tribal sovereignty. Wendell Chino tried to end the practice of leasing Mescalero land to white ranchers. He tried to end missionaries, government bureaucrats, school teachers, and social workers telling Indian people what to do.

This is a lot easier said than done, I realize. But instead of wrestling with the same old problems over and over again, why not fix the structure? Let's enforce tribal sovereignty.

— Dr. Dean Chavers writes about Indian issues.



San Gee

The Beautiful People

Recently, one of our freelance writers did a two-part series on Seminoles in Law Enforcement. I found the articles very interesting – and somewhat enlightening – not just as to the careers of the two individuals profiled, but certain similarities in the lives of these two Tribal members.

The first, and of course most obvious similarity was that they are both half-breed Seminoles; they both grew up in Naples, and they both chose Law Enforcement as their career. Now these circumstances are just purely coincidental, but what really stood out (that got my attention) was the fact that they were both born to beautiful blonde women of Norwegian descent. Another coincidence? Not really.

I won't get into the technical logistics and statistics of this matter (which I prefer to leave to Dr. Patricia Wickman and Geneva Shore, who are the experts in historical rhetoric). However, perhaps some of you (more than likely – a good number of you) have listened to James Billie's tapes.

One in particular entitled, *Old Ways*, contains a song called "High Tide at Chokoloskee," where he sings of the beauty of the area, the serenity of nature, and of the Smallwood Store "just ahead."

He sings of how, in the old days, and in our old ways, we would pole our dugouts through the shallow bay and of how the manatees would play alongside their mothers. He also sings of "Viking ships anchored in the early morning breeze and tall blonde men of ancient seed..."

These were the beautiful people – people who settled in the paradise we know as Chokoloskee and thrived among our people. Many migrated into the Naples area and married into our Tribes,

producing children of both cultures. I have been told that my own father – who I never knew – was of Norwegian descent, as possibly may be the case of many of our people who are half-breeds.

Do you know your genealogy? Have you ever researched your own family tree, or searched for your true roots? I know many people are interested, but may not be aware that they can go to the Tribal office and see Geneva Shore or possibly Dr. Wickman for assistance.

Maybe they can fill in those blanks for those of you who want to know about your extended family.

In reality though, the Seminole people are the

unspeakable beautiful people, and I am very proud to be part of this group. It's a beauty we can all continue to educate into our future Tribal members. We should make them feel proud of who we are and where they came from. We should do this daily to each other.

I hope everyone will take time to share precious moments with your mothers and fathers during the upcoming holidays. Did you know Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to Ancient Greece? And that it was President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914 that officially proclaimed as a national holiday?

On a more personal note, I feel we should all recognize your mother. Take time to sit and listen to their valuable stories of when their testimonies of how things use to be and of how they are at the present.

You can absorb so much that you should go back for more and more. As a mother, you have very special feelings and aches, but we continue to strive.

Peace!
— Virginia Mitchell is Editor of the Seminole Tribune.



e-mail

tribune@semtribe.com

Chief Billie:

My name is Ted Underwood and I am the project director for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Office. I'm writing this in hopes of acquiring some information on Fort King. I know that your newspaper frequently has articles on significant historic events. I have recently seen an article by Vida Volkert on Fort Christmas and was wondering if there has been anything published on Fort King.

Ted Underwood
bcre@renet.com

Ted, you're referring to an exclusive Tribune series on forts built in Florida during the Seminole Wars. Fort Shackleford is featured in this issue on page 5. Vida's Aug. 20, 1999 treatise on Fort King is in your mailbox.

Betty Mae Jumper:

I just finished reading every page about you on the net and I couldn't be more proud. My background is Seminole from my father's side and my sister and I have been searching forever the origin of our native last name.

Back in the early 1970s my husband and I drove from Wisconsin to Florida to search and came up again empty handed. It had been a futile search all over the country until the early 90s when he found out about a little museum in Wewoka, Ok., that housed Seminole history. So we drove there and lo and behold, there was my family name. I was elated and cried with joy.

Now for the past ten years I have been reading as much as I can and finding you today on the "What Happened Today

In History" web page was exhilarating for me. Thank you for all your efforts and accomplishments on behalf of the Seminole Tribe. You are also a source of great pride for womanhood. I will be getting your book this week. Thank you for your strength and courage in pursuing your goals. You are indeed a wonderful role model.

Cheyvette T. Fields
cheyvette@aol.com

Chief Billie:

I would like to compliment you on your hunting facilities. I have hunted other "hunting preserves" in the Southeast, but yours is by far the best. I had a very enjoyable day while hunting there April 6, and I am impressed with the way your packinghouse processes the meat. When I received my hog via UPS, it was in nice, small vacuum-sealed packages. When I have had meat done at other places, it has just been wrapped in white paper.

Fritz Jacobs
Winchester, KY
jacobsf@bgad-exch1.army.mil

Chief Billie:

My name is John G. 'Jay' Lotz. I served over 20 years in the United States Army — 10 of them as a Special Forces Green Beret in South America 1965 to 1969. We had an American Indian assigned to our A Team.

Although I am not allowed to divulge exactly where, I can tell you that we did see combat and the missions were top secret. To my knowledge they have not been declassified as of this time.

My reason for trying to locate

him is I am writing a book about those missions and he was a very important part of their success. However my problem is, I now have a condition known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. (PTSD). This blocks out many facts that are very painful and doesn't allow me to remember every detail of the missions.

His name was Robert Blablaba — I believe this is the correct spelling. Back then we all had nicknames; his, of course, was Chief. Mine was Crazy. After one of our missions he gave me another nickname: *Chaw Taw* (spelling may be wrong). This was also the tribe he came from. I believe he was from Oklahoma. Can you help me get back together with him, if in fact he is still alive?

Jay Lotz
jlotz1@netzero.net.

Chief Billie:

I have a book called *Osceola* published in 1941, and written by Marion Campbell, Ph. D. This book is in good condition and I am possibly looking to sell it. There is in the front of the book an autograph, which was written to Chief Thunderwater, signed by Marion Campbell.

I was wondering if you knew of anyone or any information as to where to start to sell my book? My Mother, years back, was offered money for this book by some place in Florida. I was young and can not remember the place.

Rachelle Bade
Rluvsc@prodigy.net

e-mail

tribune@semtribe.com

Editor:

I would like to send thanks to (Business Manager) Dan McDonald. I want to let you know that my order has arrived safe and sound, and everything looks fabulous. I am very pleased with all the pieces. (Woman's vest and skirt, boy's shirt and men's jacket.)

The First Nations' textile and weaving traditions show I have curated is now up and open to the public. I am going to have this Seminole work worn to the opening on May 19th here in Saskatoon; it will be an appropriate place to show the pieces. After that, the show will be touring the province (to approximately 10 communities) for a year, and whenever possible, I will have people wearing the Seminole work to the openings.

It is Nehiyewak (Cree) tradition to give gifts to people, and we take great pride and care in choosing the gifts that we give. Please tell the artists that when this show is complete, I will feel very honored to give this work to people who I know will appreciate your skill and tradition of patchwork sewing.

Please pass on my thanks to the artists, and let them know that I will do my best to promote the work you are all doing. And thank you once again for all your great assistance.

Audrey Dreaver
adreaver@innovationplace.com

Chief Billie:

When we were in the Big Cypress Swamp, we had Indian fried

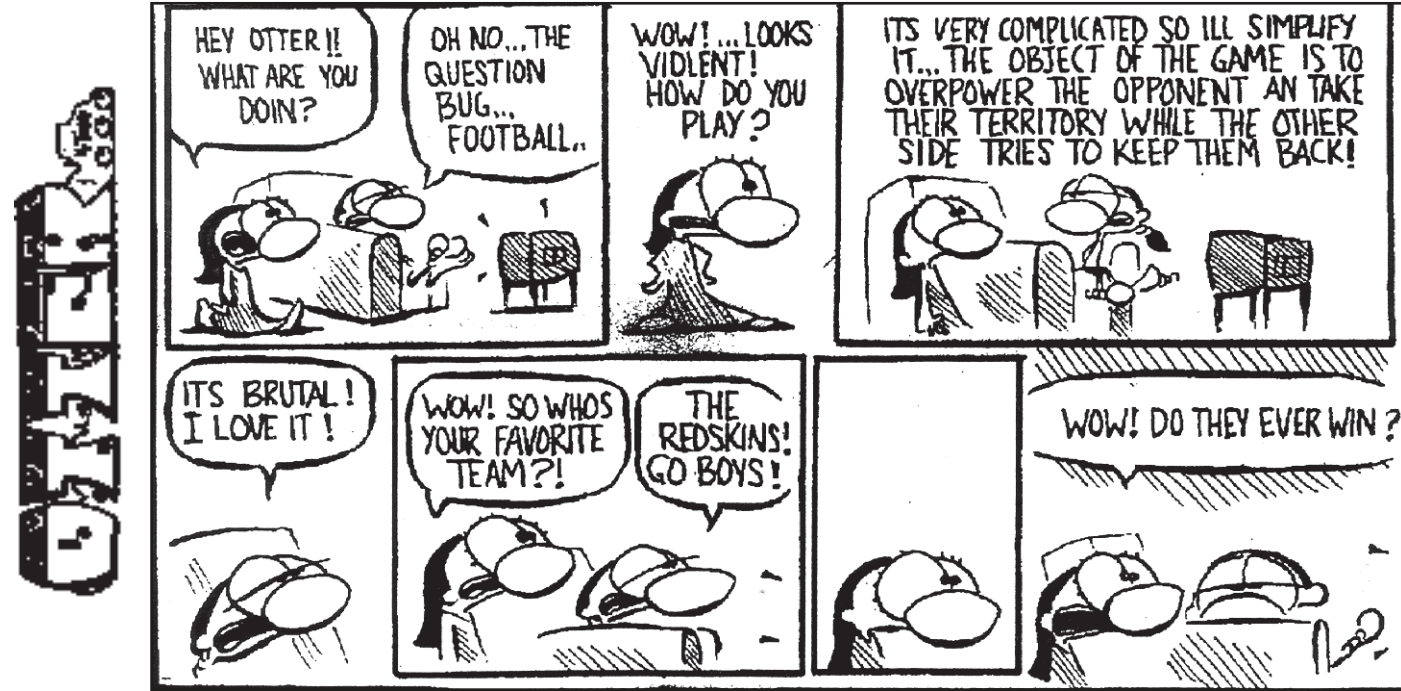
bread. Wondered if you have the recipe for same. Thank you.

Janet Conerly
Jan2937@Aol.com

Erica Miner of Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum answers:

The recipe for Fry Bread is very simple. All you need is self-raising flour, water, and oil. Put flour in large bowl, use one hand to mix the flour while slowly adding water with other hand. You don't need to measure anything. Add the water till the mixture is slightly sticky (you don't want it really wet) If you added too much water just add some more flour. Once you have your dough you need to heat up your oil. This is important! Your oil has to be very hot. Put the oil in a large deep pan. You need enough oil (like 2 1/2 inches deep) the bread should be able to float. Once you have heated your oil up, flour your hands and tear off some of your dough (you can make them as big or as small as you like) Knead the dough in your hands so its like a pancake. Keep adding flour to your hands so it's not sticking. Carefully add the dough to the oil. Remember the oil is hot so don't drop it in. It should only take like 5 seconds on each side. Use a fork to pick it up and turn it over. It should be golden brown color. Place on a paper towel to drain excess oil.

Making fry bread takes a lot of practice. You probably won't make the best fry bread the first time. Just keep trying. If there is anything else I can help you with please ask. Thank you.



Seminole Tribune

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The Seminole Tribune

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

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JOHN POOL COMING FOR HIS BAIFE, PRINCESS COMELLA
OSCEOLA INDIAN VILLAGE MIAMI



SEMINOLE INDIANS MUSA ISLE INDIAN VILLAGE
(DOUBLEDAY)

Reflections By Patsy West

Postcards Captured Seminole Scenes

In the last issue of the Seminole Tribune, we ran a 1930s photo that was mailed to us seeking information about the Seminole Indian subjects in the picture and the photographer R.R. Doubleday. Patsy West supplies this explanation:

No overview of the Seminole experience in the 1930s would be complete without the photographic contribution of R.R. Doubleday. Doubleday's studio was located in his most well known works here in South Florida. His work exists in the popular form of postal cards. The postcards reflect his interest in the popular topic of that day

— cowboys and Indians. Seminoles had begun to be employed in tourist attraction villages in Miami around 1917. The Tamiami Trail had been opened in 1928. In the late 1920s through the 1930s, Doubleday was in southern Florida. Many of the

MUSEUM NOTES

By Patsy West

Seminoles had made their move "out to the road" from the isolated Big Cypress camps to take advantage of the tourist traffic along the Tamiami Trail. Most of the families who set up

these earliest Seminole-owned and operated tourist attraction businesses were first and second generation employees of the popular Miami tourist attractions Coppinger's Tropical Garden and Musa Isle (and subsequent name changes). The tourist business was good on the Trail and hardly a tourist family left without paying an admission to the camp, Coke Cola for all, and a Seminole doll or toy canoe. The 1930s were a peak time of Seminole tourist activity. Doubleday was kept busy, conducting photo shoots at the popular Pirate's Cove Indian Village, Musa Isle Indian Village, and Osceola's Indian Village in Miami. He appears to have been diligent in recording all major public events held at the attractions such as the popular Seminole weddings or large scale Miami events such as the Shriner's Parade that featured Seminoles.

These photos illustrate the large numbers of Seminoles who participated in tourism income at this time. Doubleday also toured along the Trail setting up significant photo sessions at all of the Seminole tourist attraction camps including Royal Palm Hammock. R.R. Doubleday's collection has created a valuable, unparalleled historical record of this significant period of Seminole endeavor. — *Reflections, Number 176 in a series.*



WM. MCKINLEY / OSCEOLA SEMINOLE INDIAN VILLAGE



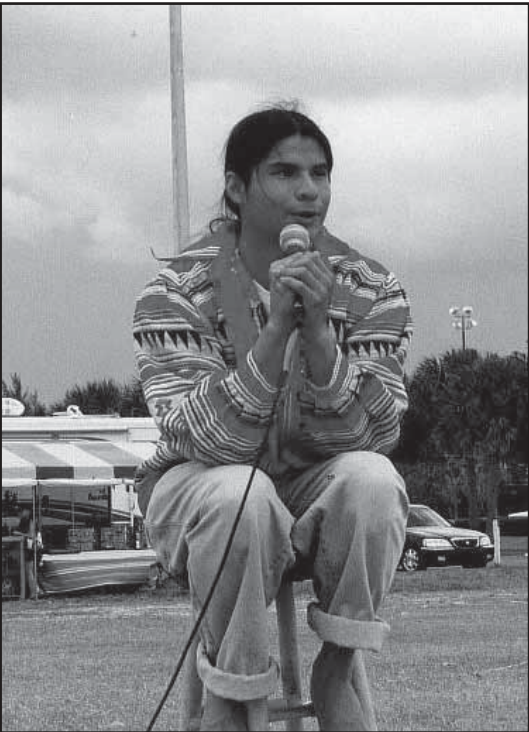
DINNER READY
INDIAN VILLAGE
PIRATE'S COVE
MIAMI



COWBOY A SEMINOLE INDIAN WRESTLING ALLIGATOR
MIAMI, FLA.

Everett Osceola A Hit As Young Storyteller

HOLLYWOOD — Tribal member Everett Osceola is getting rave reviews off the reservation for his role as Storyteller at The Barcolé Foundation's 2nd Annual Winds of Change American Indian Festival, held March 17-18th in Coral Springs. Taking on a role traditionally reserved for the elders, Osceola, 21, charmed his audience with Seminole culture by sharing *The Tale of the Two Hunters* and *The Corn Lady*. But, modestly he admits he could not have done it without the counsel of his late grandmother, Lottie Shore of Brighton and his mother, Mary Jane Willie in Hollywood. "We've been searching for a



YOUNG STORYTELLER: Everett Osceola

good storyteller for two years, and were just short of flying in our grandfather when Everett volunteered," says event coordinator Tracey McCreary. "What we discovered in our search is that many people claiming to be storytellers lack the passion and skill for the art, as well as the wisdom or counsel of the elders to be classified as a storyteller." The Barcolé Foundation, a non-profit organization for homeless women with children, has reported that they've received several e-mails regarding Osceola's storytelling and could not be more thrilled with their choice. Osceola is currently busy successfully wrapping up his first year of college at Valencia Community College in Orlando.

Alligator Hunting Permits Available

Florida's annual alligator harvest is just around the corner, and anyone interested in taking part can apply beginning May 1. Applications will be available at all Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) regional offices. Persons who applied for a permit last year (even if they were not selected) will have an application mailed to them. However, previous applicants who have changed addresses in the past year and those who have not received an application by May 7, should telephone the FWC. In addition, the application will be available for downloading or an application can be submitted via an online application form at the Commission's Web site, <http://wld.fwc.state.fl.us/gators/> (accessible by May 1). However, applicants should be careful not to submit more than one application, as this will disqualify them from the drawing. Applications must be received at the address on the application or submitted online by June 1. "New rules passed this year will more than double the number of permits available," said Harry Dutton, the leader of the FWC's Alligator Management Section. "Approximately 1,400 permits will be allowed to take two alligators." Dutton said the selection procedure uses a computerized random drawing. "It's the fairest way because everyone has an equal chance of being picked." The drawing will determine where and during which period the trappers can hunt. Applicants must rank their preferences for hunt area and period on the application. "We expect to have the information compiled in the computer and applicants selected by mid-June,"

Dutton said. "Everyone will be notified of their status by June 30." The initial computerized drawing will select more applicants than the number of available permits. Each person chosen in this drawing must submit an application and the appropriate fee for a non-transferable alligator trapping license, as well as a \$20 fee for two CITES tags. The cost of the license is \$250 for Florida residents, \$1,000 for non-residents. If the fees do not arrive at the FWC's Tallahassee Office, via a postal delivery service, by the July 15 deadline, selected applicants will forfeit their eligibility for a permit. There will be a secondary random drawing to award permits. Individuals not selected in the secondary drawing will have their fees refunded. Participants will also be encouraged to attend a three-hour training and orientation program that will take place at several locations throughout the state during July and August. Permittees are allowed to have assistants. Assistants must purchase a non-transferable alligator trapping agent's license (which costs \$50 regardless of state residency), or be a licensed alligator trapper, but assistants can only hunt in the presence of the permittee. To be eligible for a permit, applicants must be at least 18 years old. Anyone convicted of violating wildlife laws relating to alligator trapping within the past five years is ineligible, as are those who have violated laws relating to endangered crocodilians during the past 10 years. For further information contact: Steve Stiegler (850) 488-3831.

Fort Shackleford: Lonely Outpost Was Intended To Harass Abiaka

During the Seminole Wars (1817-1858), the United States Army built forts across the peninsula of Florida. In this ongoing Seminole Tribune exclusive series, correspondent Vida Volkert reports on the role these forts played in the battles that were – in their time – the longest and most costly military campaigns ever fought by the United States.

By Vida Volkert
BIG CYPRESS — Although little has been written about Abiaka's life, his legacy is greater than history itself.

The Indian leader and Medicine Man Abiaka, known by the whites as Sam Jones, is perhaps the most intriguing and remarkable character in the history of the Indian tribes of Florida.

Described as the source of wisdom and strength of the Seminole resistance during the Seminole Wars, Abiaka was the one leader who stood long enough to assure his people a homeland on the peninsula. Many credit him with being the force that allowed the Seminoles to remain in Florida, and the modern Seminole Tribe of Florida can trace its roots back to his refusal to submit to removal.

Billy L. Cypress, Executive Director of the Seminole Tribe's Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at the Big Cypress Reservation, believes it was Abiaka's "stubborn and fierce determination to stay in the Florida peninsula, which steeled the Seminole people to resistance."

"Every Seminole who still lives today in Florida owes this fact to Abiaka," stated Cypress.

Abiaka, who was in his mid 70s at the peak of the Second Seminole War (1835-1842), had led his people into major battles against the white soldiers.

"Every Seminole who still lives today in Florida owes this fact to Abiaka. . ."

However, because of his "fierce determination" and opposition to removal, Abiaka was never left alone, becoming a major military target until the end of his days.

Joe Davis, the Archivist for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, says in the mid-1850s, in an effort to crush Abiaka, the Army continued organizing scouting parties into the Big Cypress area, where Abiaka and his people were thought to be hiding.

"The army knew he [Abiaka] and his people were concentrated in the Big Cypress area," said Davis.

As a result, they started building roads and forts around the Big Cypress, including Sam Jones' territory. Fort Shackleford was one of those forts. "Fort Shackleford was built in Sam Jones' back yard," said Davis.

Located in Hendry County, Fort Shackleford was the principal fort established within the Big Cypress region during the Third Seminole War (1855-58.) Davis says the Big Cypress area became the center of activities during the Third Seminole War.

"The Big Cypress area was the seed ground for the Third War," said Davis.

"Today most of the area [Big Cypress] is very dry. But the vegetation was completely different 100 years ago. Then, the whole area was a wetland. 100 years ago, you would have a wet prairie during the rainy season and a dry land during the dry season."

Bill Steele, consultant for the archeological and historical conservancy fund, said Fort Shackleford was erected in 1855 on the edge of the Big Cypress as far south as the military could advance.

"The fort was a block-house made out of wooden logs. It was built as far south as the military could penetrate in wagon," said Steele, adding Fort Shackleford stood in a pineland which he described as a sandy geological feature elevated just enough to be dry.

"They are high and dry enough," said Steele about pine islands. "But because Fort Shackleford was erected in an island, the road to the fort was inaccessible during the wet seasons."

"Fort Shackleford was the termination point for the road from Fort Myers to the Big Cypress," he said. Steele also says the fort was named after an officer "who might have had the bad luck of being sent over there."

"I don't think anybody knows who the man is," said Steele, who has done extensive research on Seminole War history. "I went through over 900 pages of records of the (U. S. Army's) Department of the South in the National Archives and could not find a single reference that indicated who Shackleford was," said Steele.

"We believe Shackleford was an officer who died in combat or was stationed in Florida at the time the fort was constructed. Most forts were named after officers."

Although Fort Shackleford was used as a supply depot, it is believed the fort was built primarily to put pressure on Sam Jones rather than strictly serve the military's needs. Joe Davis of the Tribal museum said that the site was not very suitable for the construction of a fort.

"If you look at the site today you would have to wonder why they built a fort in the area," Davis said. "Technically, [Fort] Shackleford was used as supply depot, but it really was constructed to put psychological pressure on the Seminoles."

Davis explained that by building Shackleford next to Sam Jones' camp, the Indian leader would have felt the pressure to move even deeper into the Everglades or stand and fight.

According to Davis, if Sam Jones had chosen to go further into in the Everglades, his people would have found survival extremely difficult. Without supplies and access to food, they might have been forced to surrender.

If Sam Jones had chosen to stand and fight, his people would have died anyway because they would have had to confront a much larger force than theirs. By the end of 1855, the major Indian leaders were gone and thousands of Seminoles had been deported from Florida.

The great warrior Osceola was dead. Micanopy, Alligator and Coacoochee, known for his escape from the Fort Marion prison, had already been taken away from their land.

But Sam Jones, The Prophet (Otulka) and Billie Bowlegs were still around, leading the couple of hundred Seminoles who were left scattered in bands throughout the Everglades. Bill Steele says there were about 300 Seminoles left in Florida after the Second Seminole War.

After the Second Seminole War was officially declared over, Col. William Worth reported to the War Department that only 301 Indians still remained in the peninsula.

"There were at least 10 villages in the Big Cypress area, which means a high percentage of the Indian population was there," said Steele.

As the Seminoles were concentrated in the Big Cypress area, Steele said this area became the government's target during the 1850s.

"The military were surveying the area in 1854 and 1855. When they started surveying the Big Cypress, the Indians realized the white men wanted to take the land from them and so they abandoned their villages and went deeper in the Everglades to hide the non-combatants," said Steele.

Jefferson Davis, who later became the President of the Confederacy, was the Secretary of War during this period.

"Jefferson Davis' orders to the surveying parties were, 'don't let them [the Indians] interrupt the survey.' His orders were very inflammatory. I think he just wanted an excuse to start another war with the Seminoles," said Steele.

On Dec. 7, 1855, Lt. George L. Hartsuff and a small detachment composed of 11 men from the Second Artillery, left Fort Myers. Hartsuff had been ordered to make a reconnaissance of the Big Cypress Swamp and neighborhood and to take any notes of Indian fields and settlements.

"Hartsuff went to the Big Cypress and happened to notice that the Indian villages were all empty," said Steele.

According to noted retired professor of history James Covington, as Hartsuff scouted the Big Cypress Swamp the men came across abandoned Forts Simon, Drum and Shackleford, which had been burned, apparently by the Indians.

Covington believes the burned forts could have disturbed Hartsuff. "...perhaps the soldiers should have sensed that the Indians might be planning a surprise attack..."

He also stated that the erection of Fort Shackleford early that year would have probably disturbed the Indians as well.

"The Seminoles watched apprehensively the growing number of intrusions into their previously undisturbed reserve," wrote Covington in his *The Billie Bowlegs War*.

"The erection of Fort Shackleford, a block-house situated in a grove of pine trees one-mile from Waxy Hadjo's Landing on the edge of the Everglades, was disturbing."

On Monday, Dec. 17, 1855, Hartsuff's force camped near the Indian chief Billie Bowlegs' town,

adding this was the beginning of the Third Seminole War, which is also known as the Billie Bowlegs War.

Steele says after the attack, Hartsuff retreated to Fort Myers and soon orders were sent to reactivate Fort Shackleford. Big Cypress would become the last stand of fighting and Fort Shackleford would be the furthest point east of Fort Myers that a road could go into the interior of the Big Cypress.

"Fort Shackleford was the terminal . . . Big Cypress is the center of the last stand of the Seminoles," said Steele, adding that after the Third War, the Seminoles who did not surrender established in the Big Cypress.

"They [the ones who did not surrender] were this hard core group of people who managed to make it," said Steele.

Many wonder how the Seminoles survived capture and/or extermination. If a handful of warriors stood and fought the army, which at certain points during the wars comprised over 4,000 recruits, how could they survive? On the other hand, if they were pushed to their limits, how could they survive military encroachment?

Joe Davis believes the Seminoles were no



‘This is the site of Fort Shackleford,’ says bronze plate that marks location of isolated post.

strangers to the wilderness of the Everglades and Sam Jones, who led that "hard core group of people," knew the peninsula better than any settler in the mid-1800s.

"We don't know much about Sam Jones (Abiaka) but he was one of the main forces of Seminole resistance," said Davis. "The Big Cypress Reservation is where it is today because Sam Jones lead the people to that area. We believe he knew the Big Cypress very well, because as a young boy he would come to hunt during the season and then go back to his town up north."

"A lot of people think the Seminoles were pushed south by the whites from Georgia and Alabama in the early 1800, but the reality is that they [Seminoles] were here since as early as 1704."

"The history books tend to be very general and are behind many years. We know today that the Seminoles liked to live in Central Florida because they were hunters and ranchers."

"They would come here, hunt and go back to Alabama or Georgia. They had already known where to go when the Seminole War started. They were no strangers to the Everglades, that's why they knew where to hide."

(The Seminole Tribe disputes Davis' version of the Tribe's own history. According to the Tribe's official history, Florida Seminoles trace their ancestry much further back than 1704, connecting directly with the indigenous natives of Florida.)

"Fort Shackleford was put in the Big Cypress to put pressure on the Seminoles; to surround them, but it did not serve the purpose. You can surround an enemy, but if the enemy is capable of living off the land you can not conquer them. Therefore, they [the Army] needed to invade and divide the land. It was a classic divide and conquer strategy," said Davis.

Although the Seminoles were divided into small groups they were never conquered and Abiaka was never captured.

Billy L. Cypress of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Big Cypress, believes Abiaka was never captured because his identity remained undisclosed.

In an August, 1997 interview, Cypress told reporter Charles Flowers that Abiaka was a wise man who remained in the background for strategic reasons.

"That's why he did not get captured. He sent other people to conferences, delegations, and they got captured," said Cypress. "But Abiaka lived through all the wars, most of the 19th Century, and he was never captured."

"[Abiaka] was a real leader, a medicine man, and he wanted to stay back. When you are fighting the army, you don't want to tell them anything. That's intelligence. I'm pretty sure that happened in the Vietnam War. There were people behind the throne that you never heard anything about, because they didn't want you to hear anything about them."

About Abiaka, on Aug. 26, 1842, Gen. George McCall wrote, "...he is a proud, independent, self-willed man, once having made up his mind, is not likely soon to be diverted from his purpose."

Brevet Capt. John T. Sprague of the Eighth Regiment U.S. Infantry, who served in Florida during the second Seminole War, gave an insight to Abiaka in his book *The Origin, Progress, and Conclusion of the Florida War*.

"He declared himself a prophet and a great medicine man," wrote Sprague. "He planned war parties for the young warriors, and accompanied them to the scene of action, and from a distance witnessed their conduct; giving encouragement by his incantations with roots, barks, skins of animals and snakes, and midnight orgies and songs."

Sprague wrote Sam Jones was believed to be "the most agian Indian in Florida." Because of his age, strength and determination, he won his people's respect and loyalty. At the commencements of the war Sam Jones planned attacks, fired the first gun and then retired to take care of the wounded.

"By certain medicines and the prayers offered to the Great Spirit, he infused into the young warriors a resolute daring," wrote Sprague.

Another view of the famed warrior came from a man called Sampson, a Negro interpreter who for two years during the Second Seminole War remained prisoner of the Seminole Indians. Sampson gave perhaps the most accurate description of the mysterious Indian leader. He described Sam Jones as "a skillful navigator of the Everglades."

"...[Sam Jones] knew all the secret passages, and cultivates fields in the most inaccessible and remote places..."

Before Sam Jones and his people found refuge in the Big Cypress, it is believed he inhabited the Pine Island Ridge in what is today a suburb of Fort Lauderdale.

According to noted historian Brent Weisman, the Pine Island Ridge complex was the "core area of the Seminole settlement in the eastern Everglades, settled in the 1830s and perhaps earlier."

Pine Island at the time was an island surrounded by water. The Pine Island complex was settled by Seminoles in the 1820s. This site was considered an important Seminole ceremonial ground until around 1900. It is believed the Pine Island Ridge complex was Sam Jones' home before he retreated to the Big Cypress after the March 22, 1838 Skirmish.

On that day, Col. James Bankhead, Major William Lauderdale and a force of almost 400 soldiers, proceeded into the Everglades in search of Sam Jones.

"The nature of the country was such, that the soldiers could not even carry their cartridge-boxes. They were compelled to deposit them, with their muskets, in light boats, which they pushed before them through the mud for many miles to an island where they found the Indians," wrote Sprague.

"Lt. Col. Bankhead attempted to communicate with them (Abiaka's forces), but they fired upon his flag. He attacked and dispersed them, but the troops were unable to find or follow them."

Although no casualties were reported, it is apparent that after this skirmish, Sam Jones and about

100 warriors left to the Big Cypress, where he remained opposing removal until his death.

The Big Cypress was the heart of the Indian Territory and a reservation was established there. Covington believes Fort Shackleford was abandoned for the final time in 1858.

"I think it was probably occupied until 1858. There is no evidence that the fort was reoccupied after that date," said Covington.

Bill Steele says by the mid-1870s, Fort Shackleford became a hunters' camp. "By the 1870s, any of the people who wanted to go hunt followed the Fort Shackleford road. Steele says tourism started in the 1870s because people would come to Florida to hunt, and the Fort Shackleford site became a resting point."

Joe Davis said that the foundation of the fort was still visible back in the 1950s.

"No real excavation has been done in the site," said Davis.

The site today is located on a 400-acre cattle pasture owned by Seminole Tribal member Moses Jumper Jr. Jumper says that before the Seminole Tribe's Big Cypress Reservation was established, the area was an open area.

"The farmers cleared the land," said Jumper. "When my family got it, this was an open area. Contract watermelon farmers who were approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs farmed this area in the early 1950s."

"Those farmers came to the area and plowed and tilled the ground. Any remains of the fort were destroyed at that time."

Today, the site is marked by a bronze commemorative plaque, which reads 'this is the site of Fort Shackleford.' The site, approximately two miles east of Snake Road, is surrounded by hundreds of acres of fenced pastures.

Jumper says that about 25 years ago a group of amateur archeologists received permission to do a survey at the site.

"They came in a big bus and got here and jumped out and dug up everything using metal detectors," Jumper says. "They left the site a real mess, but I don't think they found anything. Today, I wouldn't even let them on the site, but even then it didn't seem to make a difference. I don't even know who they were or what they found."

Although the fort site has been identified, archeologists have never discovered the site of Sam Jones' camp in the Big Cypress area – perhaps because major excavations have not been done.

However, it is believed that the Sam Jones camp was located where Seminole Tribal member Joe Osceola's cattle pasture is today. Joe Osceola's pasture is next to Jumper's property, confirming the theory that Fort Shackleford was built on "Sam Jones' backyard."

Wherever the remains of the camp, the existences of Fort Shackleford failed to bring Abiaka to the bargaining table. He died and was buried in an unknown site that is believed to be just to the north of the Seminole's Big Cypress Reservation boundary. Today his descendants form the bloodline of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

In remembrance of Sam Jones, a memorial sculpture was placed in the Tree Tops Park located in the Pine Island Ridge. This sculpture was requested in 1991 by the school children of Silver Ridge Elementary School, located east of Pine Island Ridge and Tree Tops Park.

About \$60,000 was raised to erect the sculpture which was created by Bradley Cooley and Bradley Cooley Jr. The Sam Jones memorial sculpture was dedicated on Sept. 16, 1995.

For information about the Sam Jones Sculpture contact the Tree Tops Park at (954) 370 – 3750. For information about Fort Shackleford and the Big Cypress Reservation, contact the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at (941) 902-1113.

Next: Tree Top Annals.



Moses Jumper Jr. stands next to marker in middle of his pasture.

and on the next morning Hartsuff and three men entered Bowlegs' village. The village was deserted. According to Covington, "when they left Bowlegs' town, one or more of the artillery men carried along bunches of bananas cut from plants found near the cluster of caneas."

"The evidence is not clear that the soldiers maliciously destroyed plants belonging to Bowlegs," wrote Covington about the generally accepted story that the soldiers trampled and uprooted Bowleg's plants in a malicious attack. "Other villages in the general area were visited on Wednesday, but were also found to be deserted."

That night, as Hartsuff and his men were camping, a small party led by Bowlegs visited Hartsuff's camp. Many agree that Bowlegs demanded to be compensated for his lost plants. The popular story says Hartsuff not only ignored the request, but also pushed the Indian leader to the ground.

The next day, Bowlegs and a war party of 30 warriors returned to the camp and began firing at Hartsuff's party.

"After killing four artillery men and wounding four others including Hartsuff in the brief skirmish, the attackers withdrew," wrote Covington,



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

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

United States
**Census
2000**

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

Award

Continued from page 1

only about justice, but also about the truth.”

Flowers’ series also pointed out that at least two of the nine survivors still alive when the bill was passed – the late Wilson Hall of Hilliard, and Robie Martin of Riviera Beach – were appalled by misrepresentations in the 1997 Warner Brothers movie *Rosewood*. Other survivors have refused to see the film at all.

Flowers, who began reporting about Rosewood in 1992 in a collaboration with Peter B. Gallagher, was also honored in 1998 by the Native American Journalists Association for “Best News Story” for his account of kickbacks allegedly paid by Rosewood survivors.

“The winning entries were outstanding efforts that combined impressive empirical research with poignant anecdotes,” said Keith Ernst, coordinator of the Institute’s awards. Winning entries will be excerpted in the Fall 2000 edition of the quarterly journal *Southern Exposure*.

Other winners from Florida were Gina Edwards of the Naples *Daily News* for a series on a stadium deal that led to a federal ethics investigation of 33 members of a stock brokerage firm, and new state and local ethics laws. Jo Becker, Sydney Freedberg and Adam C. Smith of the St. Petersburg *Times* were honored for their 1999 expose of Florida’s criminal justice system, which launched an investigation of racism in the Department of Corrections. Both newspapers won first-place awards in their categories.

NAJA

Continued from page 1

Billie’s latest release – *Seminole Fire* – is a collection of release – *Southern Exposure* – is the rock-edged music the band – led by Lee and Stephen Tiger, is known for.

Tom Bee, founder of SOAR records, the company that is releasing both CDs, will be on hand to welcome media invited to the release party.

On Saturday, workshops and seminars continue. However, NAJA is also hosting a new event to the conference. Taking advantage of the Florida experience, NAJA is hosting a golf tournament in the afternoon.

That evening, from 5-9 p.m., guests unwind at a Beach Party hosted and coordinated by Albert Tucker of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitor’s Bureau and Rozeta Rad, Director of Tourism for the Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. Together, they will provide food, refreshments, entertainment and transportation for this event. Sunday, the convention ends with a general business meeting.

The host committee is comprised of Dan McDonald and Lee Tiger, co-chairs, and Gloria Wilson, Danny Jumper, Chuck Malkus, Lisa Champagne, Albert Tucker, Michael Angelino, Karen Tommie, Kathy Pellegrino, Gail Bulfin, Kathy Haines, Jeanette Jordan, Rozeta Rad, Fran Jeffries and Betty Mae Jumper.

Sweet Success: Desiree Jumper Named Miss Sugar

By Michael James

CLEWISTON — Desiree Jumper was named Miss Sugar April 29, in the annual pageant that part of the week long Sugar Festival held here each year.

Desiree, daughter of Jeannette Cypress and Danny Tommie of Big Cypress, is a member of the Panther Clan and was 1997-98 Junior Miss Seminole from Big Cypress, the first ever from that reservation.

“I saw the advertisements at school and set up an appointment for pictures,” she says of the contest. “I also had to go to a meeting and workshops for makeup and poise.”

At one of the workshops Desiree, 17, met the former Miss Florida who coached her on poise, dressing, and techniques to survive an interview. For five weeks she attended rehearsals twice a week until the big day came.

The night before the pageant the contestants were interviewed by the judges at the Clewiston Inn. Desiree survived the grueling process, but 30 minutes before the curtains opened at John Boy Auditorium, she discovered a hopelessly wrinkled evening gown.

“It was one of those last minute disasters when my dress got rumpled,” said Desiree. Fortunately, her step-father saved the day by dispensing of the wrinkles with an iron that materialized from no where and the show went on.

When the curtain opened Desiree was wearing a pink leopard shirt with black knee-knockers. During this portion of the pageant the contestants introduced themselves and announced their sponsors. Desiree was sponsored by the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

“I was nervous, but I was fine as long as I didn’t look at or talk to mom,” said Desiree.

The second clothing change of the evening was into casual wear. The final change was into the evening gown that almost didn’t make it. It was during this portion of the pageant that the contestants were presented with an impromptu question by the judges.

“They ask me for the judges to describe myself,” said Desiree who answered with ‘friendly, trustworthy, and dependable.”

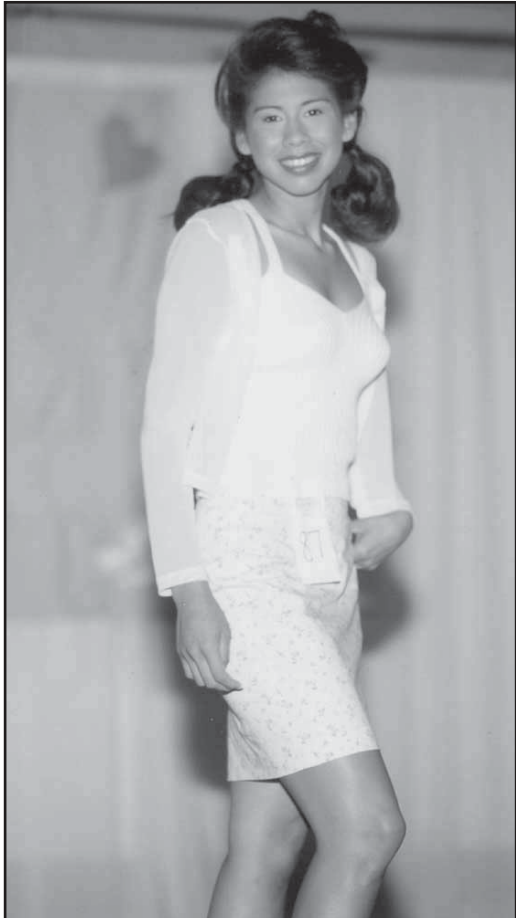
The judges liked her answer because after the runners up had been announced, the Master of Ceremonies directed the audience to meet their new millennium 2000 Miss Sugar – Desiree Jumper.

After the crowning Desiree was whisked away in a limousine for a ride through town and then to a meeting with the judges for an official critique of her performance.

In the days since her crowning she has had a full social schedule that has included a breakfast with U.S. Sugar President Nelson Fairbanks in honor of pioneer sugar farmers Moye and Marianne Bishop. She has also been the guest of honor at luncheons, barbecues, and of course the Sugar Festival.

As the reigning Miss Sugar, Desiree has been given an invitation to enter two more pageants: the Miss Florida American Coed Pageant, held at the Hyatt Regency in Tampa and the Miss Florida United States Teen held in Palm Beach. Should she win the title of Miss Florida United States Teen she would win a \$30,000 scholarship, the largest scholarship award of any teen competition.

While she’s not competing in pageants, Desiree is more at home on the softball field or volleyball court. Last year she had a .465 batting average, but let the deadline for the Miss Sugar Pageant nonchalantly pass by. This year was a different story.



Beautiful Miss Sugar Desiree Jumper.

Council

Continued from page 1

members through online technology administered by Director Alan Skavronek and his Information Systems crew.

Also at the May 11 meeting, the Tribal Council agreed to explore a six-part video program deal, proposed by author Patsy West.

The Tribe entered into an agreement with ABI Productions, Inc., filmmakers for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum orientation video “We Seminoles” to begin work on a proposed six-part documentary film series on the Seminole Tribe. The Council committed \$100,000 to begin pre-production for the project, which is estimated to cost \$8 million and take four years to complete. Each film will run 50 minutes at a cost of \$1.386 million per episode.

No market for the commercial viewing of the project has been identified as of yet, according to West. “You will do one program just for us, that nobody else can see, right?” asked Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola Jr., to which West answered in the affirmative.

According to Chairman James Billie, the series will center on the life and exploits of Abiaka, or Sam Jones. Although Abiaka never received the acclaim of Osceola or Micanopy, his legacy of leadership and warrior spirit lives on in the Seminole Tribe.

“He is the reason you can call yourself the Unconquered,” said Billie, referring to the U.S. military’s inability to capture Jones. “He gave you the spirit and the dignity that you have today.” (See story, page 7).

Tribal Communications Director Betty Mae Jumper, who has been ill for the past few months, appeared to accept an award from the University of South Florida College of Nursing. It was presented by Dr. Joan Gregory who addressed the Council: “Betty Mae Jumper is an inspiration to us all.”

Indian Health Service dentist Dr. Lozon, who is leaving the Tribe on June 18, was also presented with a plaque, this one by Tribal Health Director Connie Whidden, who said: “In his quiet way he has made a big difference. Everyone has really liked him. He’s been here 18 years. Usually someone we don’t like is out of here way before that.” (See story page 1)

“The *St. Pete Times* will miss you,” joked Chairman Billie, referring to unsuccessful efforts by *Times* reporters to get Dr. Lozon to provide them with classified documents during an investigation of the Tribe in 1998.

Dr. Sharon Byrd Gaffney of Ahfachkee School announced that the Tribal school in Big Cypress was the only Native School to win a recent prestigious Title One award, another milestone in

the school’s tremendous improvement over the past three years (See story page 8)

Big Cypress Adventures Director Jimmie McDaniel brought in several bags of the tribe’s newest venture: Sem-Pro Mills cattle and range pellet feed manufactured on the Brighton Reservation. The Council applied, with the Florida Department of State, for the registration of Sem-Pro Mills as a Fictitious Name.

Michael Burgess, interim Executive Director for the Native American Journalists Association, took a moment to thank the Tribe for its sponsorship of the organization’s NAJA 2000 Convention, which will be held in Fort Lauderdale at the Marriott North Hotel on June 14-17 (see story page 1).

Burgess invited Council officials to participate in the June 17 golf tournament, which is scheduled to be at the Diplomat Golf Course.

The Council tabled a resolution from Tribal Housing Director Joel Frank for an Indian Community Development Block grant to build a Tribal nursing home on the Brighton Reservation.

The Council also approved a change in the Tribal health claim service agreement for employees that replaces Brown and Brown with Health Claim Services, Inc.

In other action the Council:

- *Approved the wage and title guide for the Seminole Tribe personnel. The guide will set a range and guidelines for salaries and position titles.
- *Changed the budgeting process to a zero-based budgeting approach. Department Directors will not be allowed to merely modify the previous year’s budget, but will have begin from zero, and justify all expenditures during the process.
- *Approved the use of 232 acres on the Brighton Reservation for golf course development.
- *Approved a contract with Gary Bittner Inc. to handle certain public relations duties for the Tribe.


— Colin Kenny and Peter B. Gallagher contributed to this story



Dr. Joan Gregory presents Betty with blanket.

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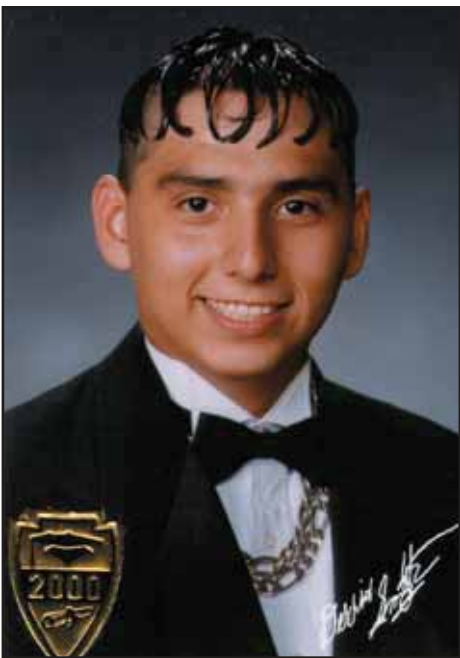
Here are a few of the Upcoming Events

✧ Ringo Starr	✧ Ricky Martin
✧ Chillli Peppers	✧ Jethro Tull
✧ The Supremes	✧ Ozzfest
✧ WWF Smackdown	✧ Moody Blues
✧ Santana	✧ Marc Anthony
✧ Steely Dan	✧ Pearl Jam
✧ Britney Spears	✧ Motley Crue

✧ Dolphins ✧ Panthers ✧ Heat

The Graduating Class of 2000

Over the course of the next few weeks, the *Seminole Tribune* will do its best to honor all the graduating seniors from all reservations. The following are some of the graduating class of 2000:



Derrick Smith

Derrick Smith. Derrick, 17, is graduating from Okeechobee High School. He lives with his mother Tracy Tanner and his brother and sister in Okeechobee. After graduation, he will attend ITT in Hollywood, where he plans to major in electronics. He begins ITT on June 19.

Derrick participated in sports throughout his high school career, starting in 9th grade where he played on the football, basketball and track teams. He continued with football in the tenth grade playing as both receiver and punter.



Lizina Bowers

Lizina Bowers, is graduating from Okeechobee High School. She is the daughter of Kevin and Sandra Osceola and lives on the Brighton Reservation. Lizina would like to continue education in college, where she would like to concentrate on neo-natal nursing.

During high school, English was her favorite subject. Criminal Justice was one of the most fascinating subjects she studied. She currently works at the Cattle Range Office in Brighton, where she has worked for nearly three years.

Lizina has been an active member of the 4-H club for three years, raising and selling two hogs and a steer. She also bowls and is a poet. Her love of poetry won her a Merit Award and medal in Washington D.C. in a national poetry contest. She was one of 15 poets chosen out of an astounding 5,000 contestants for the honor.



John Gore

John Gore, 18, is graduating from Okeechobee High School. He is the son of Beth and James Murphy of Okeechobee. John enjoyed high school and devoted much of his studies to agriculture mechanics. He plans to attend Indian River Community College to advance his knowledge in small engine mechanics and diesel repair. Ultimately he has hopes to be a heavy equipment mechanic.

Johns played football during his sophomore year. He would like to finish school before he has to start working and considers as priority, his education. Besides the vocational courses, he says that he would have to choose math also as one of his favorite subjects.

Danette Bowers, 17, is the daughter of Agnes and Dan Bowers. She is currently attending Brenau Academy in

Gainesville, Ga. Danette has attended Brenau for two years. Previously she attended Okeechobee County Schools. She participated in soccer in her ninth and tenth year in Okeechobee and has played



Danette Bowers

volleyball for at Brenau.

Recently she was named Most Valuable Player for this year. In the eleventh grade Danette was on the honor roll and this year has earned herself a place on the Dean's Honor Roll. She would like to continue her education at the University of Tampa and is undecided at this time as to what she will major in.



Stephanie Johns

Stephanie Johns is the daughter of Evelyn Tiencken and Billie Joe Johns. Stephanie graduates from Brandon High School. Stephanie has participated in track for three years and has managed the soccer team for three years. She is a two year member of the Kiwanettes, and FAC for two years.

Stephanie was also a member of Student Council for four years, the Dancerettes for two years. This year she won first place at the Florida State Fair for each of two Communications Technology projects. She will graduate with honors.

She has won an academic letter, a soccer letter and an award for the achievements in Communications. In addition, Stephanie has completed four years of cosmetology and plans to sit for the state boards shortly after graduation. Stephanie plans to further her education at Hillsborough Community College and then the University of South Florida where she intends to major in Psychology.



Jeffrey Osceola

Jeffrey Osceola, 19, is the son of Areka Buck and a lifetime resident of Brighton. He graduates from Okeechobee High School. Jeffrey is a talented chickee builder and is very interested in the construction business. Presently, he is leaning towards a career in construction, however his talents as a watercolor artist are steering him towards art school. He is also considering teaching.

During high school he participated in football for two years and basketball for four years. At home in Brighton he is a player on the Brighton basketball team. In addition, he plays softball for the Brighton co-ed team. He also loves singing and strumming his guitar.

Jeffrey is known for helping others and was recently nominated by Louise Gopher of Brighton Education for the position of the Youth Supervisor for the Summer Program. He recently fathered a baby girl, Jalynn, just three-weeks old.

Pete Hahn is graduating from Suwanee High School. He is the son of Terry Johns Hahn and Peter Hahn of Live Oak. In his first year at SHS he played quarter back and kicked for the Junior Varsity football team. During his ninth grade year he wrestled, winning the District competition, placed second in the Regionals and placed in the top sixteen in

the State.

In addition, he played left field for the JV team, becoming the leading hitter for the team, which earned him recognition as "Who's Who in High School Sports."

In tenth grade, Pete played foot-



Pete Hahn

ball as back up quarterback and free safety. In wrestling he was number one in the District, second at Regional and fifth in the State. He also played Varsity baseball. In eleventh grade he played back up quarterback and defensive lineman. In wrestling he won first in District, first in the Region and placed fifth in State. He also participated on the track team throwing the disk. He was named Most Valuable Player for baseball that year as well. His twelfth grade year he was the starting quarterback and named team captain. Under his leadership, he took his team to the Florida State Championship with a record of 10 - 5 During his high school career he completed 138 of 261 pass attempts, earning 1,833 yards and 19 touchdowns. He also rushed for 4 touchdowns and was selected Florida 3-A, third team All State Quarterback. Pete was also named Most Valuable Offensive Back. In baseball, his team was the District champs.

In wrestling he was selected All Area Wrestler in the 170 pound class by the *Jacksonville Times Union*. He was also selected All Area Wrestler by the *Gainesville Sun*. Pete has taken Honor classes throughout his high school career and has a 3.0 grade point average.

He is already enrolled at Florida State University and is scheduled to begin classes on June 26. He intends to earn a degree in Business Administration and would like to some day work with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Jill John, 19, is graduating from Okeechobee High School. Jill is the daughter of Julia and Joe Lester John. During high school she enjoyed computer class, business and art classes. One of her hobbies is to "surf the Internet" and hang out with friends. On the Internet she has made many friends in both indigenous and disabled chat rooms. Disabled only in body, Jill says she has never focused on being in a wheel chair. She spends many hours talking with others and inspiring them to adopt the same attitude and do the same.

Jill works with Brighton Education and would like to attend Indian River Community College and study general education. She would like to then further her education and attend the University of New Mexico majoring in Psychology and Native American Studies.

Some of her hobbies include reading, and shopping. She especially enjoys spending time with her many friends.



Ginger Jones

Ginger Jones, 18, is graduating from Okeechobee High School. She is the daughter of Rose and Parker Jones and lives with her three sisters, Laverne, Farrah and Magan at Brighton. After graduation, she has no definite plans other than being a mother to her new baby girl, Jalynn, born three weeks ago.

College is possibly in her future and she notes a special interest in accounting. Definitely in her future, however, is a trip to Cancun, Mexico. Tribal youth are being treated to a trip to Mexico and will be taking the trip in the Tribal jet.



Dr. Sharon Byrd Gaffney shares Title 1 honor with President Mitchell Cypress.

Ahfachkee School Receives National Title 1 Award

By E. Tiger

BIG CYPRESS — Proud staff members of the Ahfachkee School K-12, were very *Ahfachkee*, which means happy, after becoming the only Native American School out of 90 institutions nationally to be selected for the Title 1 Award on May 3.

The award, presented annually, is given to identify schools that have ensured all educationally deprived students have access to standards and assessments and that the school provides educational strategies for the youths.

The Ahfachkee School, which was in serious trouble three years ago because of the student failure rate, has since made miraculous improvements in its curriculum to bring students back to school.

"First some 'Band-Aid' strategies were put into place to keep student achievement from falling further behind," says Director of School Operations Dr. Sharon Byrd-Gaffney.

"Then once these preventative measures were in place, a School Improvement Plan, written by staff members and community members was implemented."

The school has made considerable changes in the curriculum with the help of educational staff, leading to the Title 1 Award.

The school, which was started and held under a thatched-roofed chickee back in 1940, is a far cry from the old days. Today, the Big Cypress campus is nothing short of state-of-art. It was constructed in 1991, and has since made expansions to its facilities including a junior high school and an alternative high school. In 1999, a pre-kindergarten was opened.

The school, which currently has 142 students, gives youths the unique opportunity to tap into their native heritage with culture class lessons from language and culture teacher Teresa Jumper.

"The Seminole Culture Class is directed at helping strengthen one's identity," says Jumper. "We focus on a variety of native fundamentals including beadwork, patchwork, and sewing."

In addition special language programs are also set up for youths during their first years of school. Here, youths are taught through an extensive language program how to read and write before entering the first grade.

"The language program provides youths with the educational foun-



Alexandra Tommie sews in Ahfachkee cultural class.

dation needed for succeeding in today's world," says Dr. Sharon Byrd-Gaffney.

The purpose of the Title 1 Award which was received by Ahfachkee, was to identify schools that are (1) ensuring that all children have access to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content and (2) demonstrating success in ensuring that all children, particularly educationally deprived children, make significant progress towards learning that content.

Ahfachkee school is supported by Seminole Tribe funds (60%) and grants for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Mariann "Shaanutchkee" Billie Graduates Arizona Academy

MESA, Ariz — Mariann Shaanutchkee Billie recently graduated from Arizona Career Academy here. Since then she has been working at the Learning Resource Center in Big Cypress and plans to attend Tallahassee Community College in the fall to study Business Management. The daughter of Bobbie Lou and James E. Billie, Mariann plans to pursue a career in the music or television industry. Congratulations and Happy 18th Birthday on May 18th!



Mariann Shaanutchkee Billie

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SPORTS

Garrett Madrigal Qualifies
In Track and Field Event

OKEECHOBEE — Jacoby Johns, Erin Willie, Hilliard Johns, Jordan Jones and Garrett Madrigal — members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida — competed in the annual Hershey's Track and Field Events May 12.

The competition is held at all elementary and middle schools in Okeechobee County. Students compete with each other at the school level. The top two compete on the county level to qualify to compete on the state level this summer.

Garrett Madrigal, a third grader who competed in both the 50 and 200 meter runs, will advance to compete in the county level.

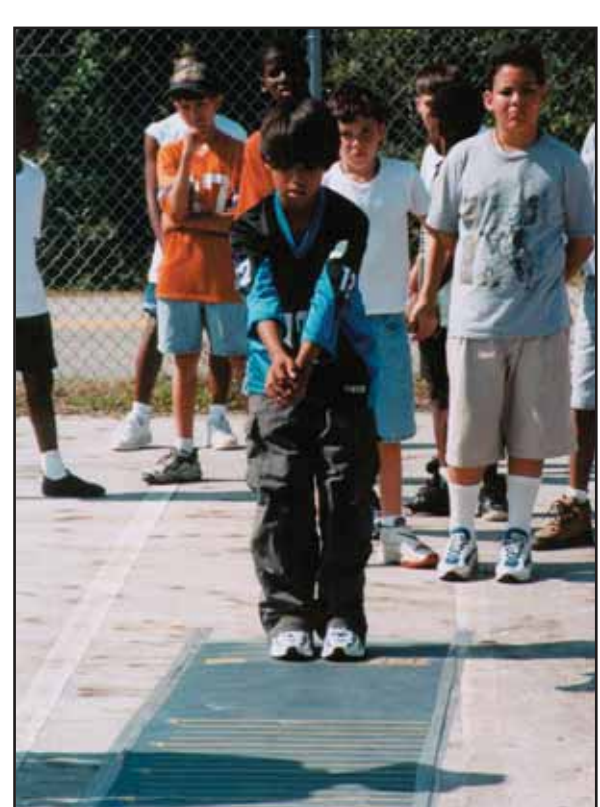
Jacoby Johns, a third grader, competed in the standing long jump. Erin Willie, also in the third grade, competed in the softball throw. Jordon Jones, a fifth grader, competed in the standing long jump event. Hilliard Johns competed in the softball throw.

The competition at the school level takes place during a four week time period. Parents, teachers, teacher's aides and people from Parks and Recreations helped the students during the competition.



Erin Willie throws the big ball down the pike.

The Hershey's Track and Field event was created in 1975 by Dr. Donald Cohen, the founder of the National Track and Field Hall of Fame to help students develop physical fitness. Hershey Foods Corporation now sponsors the event, which has become the largest youth sports program of its kind in the United States.



Jordan Jones caught in standing long jump mid air.

Bowlers Enjoy Tournament

By B. Secody
HALLANDALE — Sarah McDonald and Milo Osceola took top honors at a bowling tournament held May 6, at the Holiday Lanes in Hallandale for the Seminole Summer Bowling Leagues.

Two separate sessions were held to accommodate the huge number of bowlers who signed up to compete in the tournament. Jack Gorton, Assistant Coordinator for Big Cypress Recreation, said he was pleased with the turnout for the day, and congratulated everyone for their efforts.

The winners of the league in their respective series are as follows:
First place went to Sarah McDonald, second place to Chris Coppedge and Remus G. and in third

place Eugene Bowers and Sonya Johns.
Women's division winner was Sarah McDonald with a score of 642. Men's division winner went to Milo Osceola with a score of 636.

High Game — Cornelia Osceola, Men — Moke Osceola, 2nd Ladies — Alfreda Muskett and Men — Toby Johns 3rd Ladies — Alice Sweat, Men — Michael Micco. Total Series: Ladies — Cornelia Osceola and in Men — Toby Johns.

Men: 1 — Milo Osceola, 2 — Toby Johns, 3 — Moke Osceola, 4 — Amos Billie and 5 — Eugene Bowers.

Women: 1 — Sarah McDonald, 2 — Cornelia Osceola, 3 — Chris Coppedge, 4 — Patricia Wilcox and 5 — Tomi Micco.



ICE BREAKERS: Come out to TECO Arena and support the Naples Seminole Rollerblade Hockey Team.

Naples' Seminole Hockey Team

By Benny Secody
NAPLES — Tribal member David Billy, who works for the Collier County Sheriff's Department, got together not long ago with other law enforcement officers and put together a roller-blade hockey team known as the Naples Seminoles.

Consisting of 10-12 members, they participate in weekly competition against seven other teams who play at the TECO arena each Wednesday night in the rough-and tumble sport.

When the team was first started, they had no sponsor or team uniforms, and didn't even have an official name for their team. David states he came up with the idea of approaching Seminole Chairman James Billie to request sponsorship through the Tribe.

Chairman Billie was impressed with the team, and liked the concept of a Seminole Hockey team. He presented their request at a Tribal Council

meeting where members voted to sponsor the team. Thus, the Naples Seminoles were born.

They now have uniforms, which sport the Tribal logo on the front of their shirts, and the words 'Seminole Tribe,' down the right pant leg. The uniforms and team colors are red and black.

On May 3, the team went up against a tough team called themselves The Europeans, winning a 7-5 victory. Perhaps not many folks are aware of the existence of the Seminole Hockey team.

"It would be nice to have a cheerleading section out here — especially some people from the Tribe, since they are the ones who sponsor us," said Billy."

The games are held each Wednesday night at the TECO Arena, located off I-75 at exit 20. Admission is free. The Seminole team is in their third season, and they continue to improve with each competition.

Chickee Church Teens Defeat Adults

By Pastor Arlene Payne
HOLLYWOOD — On a warm spring afternoon in early May, the teens of Chickee Baptist Church defeated the adults in a softball game 21-11.

The teens challenged the adults early this year to play this softball game. The game was played at the Seminole ball field.

For much of the game the score was tied, then during the seventh inning the teens pulled ahead. It had been a long time since many of the adults had played a softball game and their skills (and muscles) were a bit rusty.

The youth group at Chickee Church has been growing under the leadership of their new Youth Director, Keith Riggott. The youth group includes

students from 5 through 12th grades.

They have adopted the name S.M.A.S.H. which stands for Students Ministering and Sharing Hope. They meet each Sunday morning at 10 a.m. and on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. The evening meeting is held at the Seminole Recreation Center (gym) where they play games followed by a short devotional message. All young people are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings.

Last month the teens challenged the adults to a basketball game, which they won as well. The next challenge will be volleyball. However, the young people will have to give the adults time to recover from the softball game.

— Arlene Payne is Pastor of the Chickee Church.

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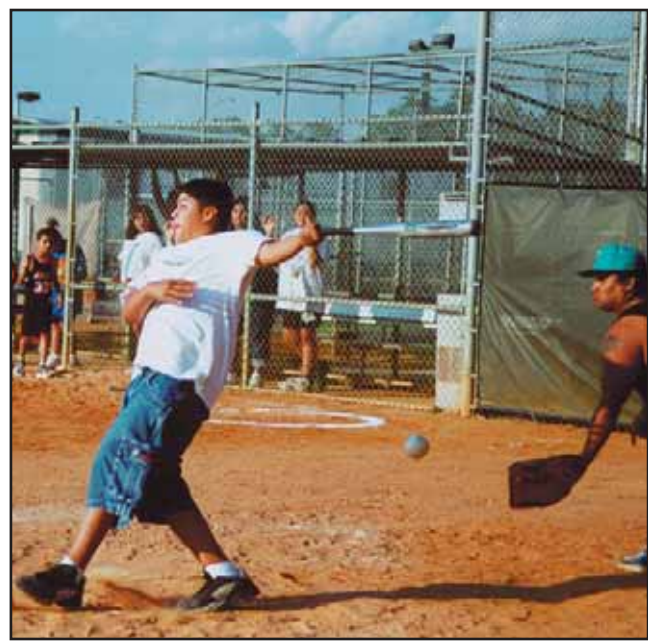
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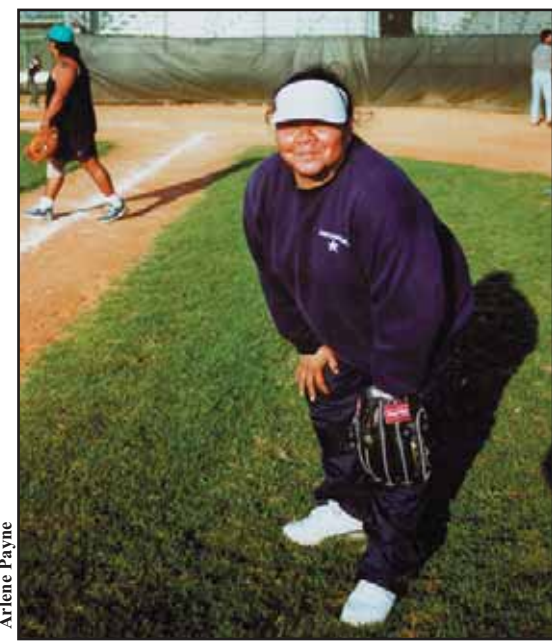
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Dwight "Ike" Jumper strikes air and misses.



Rosetta Jumper is an adult outfielder.

Tribal Members Win Pool Tourney

By Libby Blake
HALLANDALE — Immokalee/Naples pool team "Motown Boyz" shot their way to first place in the Sportsman Division of the Florida State Valley National Eight-ball Association (VNEA) tournament held here at the Clarion Hotel May 4 — 7.

The "Boyz" came up from the loser's bracket and had to win two matches against the winner's bracket team. Team members included captain Ralph Sanchez, Roy Garza, David Billie, Mario Posada, and Isaac Rodriguez. Garza is Director of Immokalee Recreation and Billie serves as Assistant Director.

With the first match of the finals won, the "Boyz" struggled from a 13 ball deficit until Posada and Rodriguez shot ERO's (eight run outs) in round two. The second match still came down to the last game of round three. Posada fought hard and came away with the win to clinch the match.

"I want to thank Immokalee Casino for their sponsorship. It enabled us to come to the tournament and I'm glad we can take back this trophy to them," stated Sanchez.

At the State Division, the Boogie Men team finished 9th. Daniel "Boogie" Nunez captains the Okeechobee chartered team. Team members are David Nunez, Dallas "Dusty" Nunez, Chuck Spiva, and Danny Meara.

Team Seminoles, from the Okeechobee charter, and Seminoles West, from the Naples charter, were eliminated early in the State Division competition. Among the players on those teams were Tribal Council Representative David Cypress and Big Cypress Recreation Director George Grasshopper. Other team members included Elrod Bowers, O.B.



(l-r) Anthony Falcigno, David Billie, Mario Posada, Isaac Rodriguez, Ralph Sanchez, Immokalee Rec. Director Roy Garza and son Damien.

Osceola, Randy Clay, Corey Penrod, Tony Carter, Joe Chandler, Andy Tennent, and Anthony Falcigno.

In the men's and women's singles tournaments, Theresa Boromei was the highest place finisher. She took 4th place in the double elimination race-to-three event. Corey Penrod finished 4th among the men when he was defeated by Andy Tennent who subsequently lost his next match finishing 3rd.

Other singles men money finishers were as follows: 17th — 24th place bracket — David Cypress and David Nunez (first 5 games shot were ERO's); 25th — 32nd place — Joe Chandler; and 33rd — 48th place — Tony Carter.

There were a total of 256 men and 64 women who played in the singles events. In team events there were 60 entries in the State Division, 53 in Expert Division, and 33 in the Sportsman Division. Divisions are determined by final positions in league play.

Young Riders Receive Awards

By B. Secody
OKEECHOBEE — Whitney Storey won the All Around Cowgirls Award — laying claim to three of the first place saddles — at the Florida Junior Rodeo Association (FJRA) awards banquet for the 1999/2000 season, April 30, at Okeechobee High School cafeteria.

Recognition was also given to FJRA members for scholastic accomplishments. Sheyanna Osceola and Wilson Bowers received commendations for making the Honor Roll at their respective schools. Shelby Osceola was recognized for showing great improvement throughout the year.

Bullriders Stephen Billie, Clinton Holt and Wilson Bowers received awards for third, eighth and ninth places respectively, with Clinton

and Stephen taking second and third in the bareback category. Shelby Osceola received her award in the goat tie event, scoring in the top 15. Jade Braswell — still nursing a leg injury — collected her awards.

Appreciation and Recognition Awards were presented to individuals who have given so much for the young people. David DeHass — for the Seminole Tribe — was the recipient of one such award. David and his sister Debbie, have gone above and beyond the call of duty and make it possible for the youth to compete in rodeos all over the state of Florida.

Following the awards ceremony, an auction was held to raise funds for the upcoming year. Proceeds will go towards expenses in the operation of next season's two-day monthly competitions.



BULL RIDER: Clinton Holt with mom Barbara Billie.

FJRA Regular Season Ends

By Benny Secody
OKEECHOBEE — Five Tribal members made it to the finals during the last Florida Junior Rodeo Association (FJRA) meet of the year, April 28-30, in Okeechobee.

The five, members of the Seminole Horse Club, are Shelby Osceola in the goat tie event, Jade Braswell for steer undecorating, Clinton Holt, bareback riding and bull riding; Wilson Bowers, bull riding, and Stephen Billie for bull riding.

All contestants did well in their categories, however, due to a sprained ankle, Jade Braswell was unable to compete in Saturday's event, but still finished in the top 15 as did Shelby Osceola in the goat

tie competition.

Clinton Holt placed second in the bare back class, with Stephen Billie placing third. The bull riding event finished with Stephen Billie placing third for the year, with Clinton Holt in eighth place and Wilson Bowers finishing ninth.

Although Clinton's doctor had recommended he not ride for the remainder of the season, he not only rode, but finished in both categories with one of his highest scores of the season.

Shelby Osceola was one of eight contestants vying for FJRA Rodeo queen title, and proudly represented the Seminole Tribe. Ashley Rice emerged as the winner for the 2000/2001 season.

Mizerak May Help Tribal Tournament

By E. Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — President Mitchell Cypress, Councilman David Cypress, and George and Dale Grasshopper met with Hall of Fame poolplayer and Senior Tour founder Steve Mizerak at Billie Swamp Safari on May 2 to discuss his involvement in the Tribe's Memorial Day Games.

The Tribal dignitaries also extended their thanks for the legendary pool player's participation in the Senior Tour, which held its season-opening tournament in March at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel on the Tampa Seminole Indian Reservation.

"I think the Tour went over very nice, but we need more spectators," said Mizerak. "We were expecting 40 to 50 people," said Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress "with more advertising and PR, next year's tour is sure to bring more people."

The next pool tournament will be held at the Hollywood Dog Track during the 1st Annual National Native American Pool Tournament in May. The tournament will be just part of the many games during that month.

Prize money will be awarded to winners of sport activities including bowling, baseball, softball, boxing, golf, football, and wrestling.

When asked about future involvement with



POOL SHARKS: (l-r) Steve Mizerak, David Cypress, George Grasshopper, Mitchell Cypress and Dale Grasshopper.

the Seminole Tribe, "I hope we can continue our partnership, but it would have to be beneficial for both of us," said Mizerak.

In addition to the morning discussions, Mizerak and his wife presented David Cypress with a signed pool cue that had been hand made by Dennis Searing of Davie, lauded by Mizerak as the "the best cue maker in the country."

For more information on the Memorial Day Weekend events, contact Bo Young at Hollywood Recreation (954) 989-9457.

Ahfachkee Ends Year With Win

HOLLYWOOD — Ahfachkee School students challenged Beacon Hill School Students for the final basketball game of the year April 27.

Since January students from both schools have been playing the — just for fun — games Ahfachkee School students have had a 6 — 3 season.

The Ahfachkee team finished with a win, beating Beacon Hill 28-19, in the final game in Hollywood.

Basketball Tournament Results

BIG CYPRESS — The following are the results of the March 25-26 basketball tournament.

Men's 1st Place — Miccosukee. 2nd Place — Brighton Recreation. Women's 1st Place — Lady Seminoles. 2nd Place — Brighton.

EIRA Rodeo Results

IMMOKALEE — After a break from action, the cowboys and cowgirls gathered in Immokalee to pick up where they left off at the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) rodeo held on May 5. The following are the results:

Bareback Riding — Alex Johns, 71, 10 points; Robert Simpson 63, 9 points. Steer Wrestling — Marty Johns, 6.7 seconds, 10 points; Jason Grasshopper, 8.1 seconds, 9 points; Naha Jumper, 10.4 seconds, 8 points. Men's Calf Roping — Marty Johns, 21.4 seconds, 10 points earned; Happy Jumper, 22.5 seconds, 9 points; Billie Joe Harris, 25.3 seconds, 8 points.

Team Roping — Marvin Bowers / Naha Jumper, 9.5 seconds, 10 points; Moses Jumper / Sampson Gopher, 11.1 seconds, 9 points; Alfonso Tigertail / Jason Grasshopper, 11.2 seconds, 8 points; Cicero Osceola / Rudy Osceola, 14.4 seconds, 7 points.

Women's Break Away Roping — Billie Tiger, 4.5 seconds,

10 points; Jo Leigh Johns, 6.4 seconds, 9 points. Women's Barrel Racing — Holly "Scooter" Johns, 17.41 seconds, 10 points; Emma Johns, 17.59 seconds, 9 points; Ayze Henry, 17.63 seconds, 8 points; Jo Leigh Johns, 17.71 seconds, 7 points. Bull Riding — No qualified times.

Mutton Busting — Jaime Gonzales, 2.73 seconds; Tyler Tigertail, 2.27 seconds; Jonathan Robbins, 2.2 seconds. Calf Roping — Nick Jumper, 71; Roy Stewart, 68; Garrett Anderson, 62; Seth Randolph, 60. Junior Bull — Clinton Holt, 74; Wilson Bowers, 64. 50 and Over Break Away Roping — Rudy Osceola, 9.3 seconds; Paul Buster, 27.3 seconds.

Beginners Barrel Racing — Morningstar Webster, 19.36 seconds; Danielle Webster, 19.88 seconds; Nauthkee Henry, 22.95 seconds. Novice Barrel Racing — Mary Huff, 19.26 seconds; Jessica Buster, 22.18 seconds. All Around Cowboy — Marty Johns, 20 points.



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Cattle Video Sale Pleases Ranchers

By Tommy Benn
BIG CYPRESS — The 17th annual sale of Seminole cattle by the Superior Livestock Video Sale of Fort Worth, Texas was held April 21, and the prices produced a lot of happy ranchers. Buyers from around the United States bid on this year's crop of calves simply by having their television turned to

checked the monitors to see how well cattle from other states were selling before the Seminole Cattle went on the block. Board President Mitchell Cypress and Board members Alex Johns and Manuel 'Mondo' Tiger watched the monitors as the first group of Seminole calves started ran to \$1 per pound. When the hammer went down, the price was at \$1.06. The voices roared and smiles were everywhere.

Caroline Billie's and Don Robertson's smiles were among the biggest in the room. Mondo Tiger did his "calf sale dance." Cattle prices have been steadily higher this year and the Seminole herd shared that good market trend all the way to the bank.

Also of interest was the fact that the black calves brought 7 to 11 cents more than red and mixed colored cattle of the same weight.

The Seminole Tribe has put a lot of effort and money into upgrading the bloodline of the herd. The Tribe purchased Black Brangus bulls from Texas and crossed them with the base Braford and Beefmaster cows. It was clear from the higher prices that the Tribe is delivering what the market desires in this highly competitive business.

Of the Tribe's herd, 1,550 heifer calves and 2,375 steer calves were sold. The prices were \$106.25 per hundred. Calves sold at a 400-pound weight.

There were

also 300 medium frame steers at 500-pound weight, which sold at \$96 per 100-pound weight. There were also 85 heavy steers tipping the scale at 585 pounds. They tallied 87.5 cents per pound or \$87.50 per hundred pound weight.

The sale confirmed that the Seminole Cattle operation, as well as the Board Cattle Projects, are headed in the right direction. Good management, good base cows, and a good bull battery means more weight and larger frame and that in turn equals to more money in return to the beef producer.



Mondo Tiger and Don Robertson watching auction boards.



COWS ON THE TV: Bid on beef.

Satellite Galaxy 3, Channel 18. With phone in hand, buyers viewed and bid on the cattle. When the sale hammer came down, if their bid was the highest, they became the new owner.

As the cow crews and several cattle owners filled the Big Cypress Cattle and Range Building to view the sale, they

Legislature Approves Environment Projects

The 2000 legislative session held in Tallahassee proved to be overall a good session, especially for the environment. The nearly \$8 billion project to restore the Everglades natural water flows was unanimously given a vote of approval.

Gov. Bush plans to sign a bill calling for the state and South Florida Water Management District to spend \$2 billion over the next 10 years on the restoration.

"Other than the Big Dig in Boston we're now partners in the largest

public works project in the history of the United States of America," Bush said. "And it's the largest environmental restoration project in the history of the United States of America."

Lawmakers in addition sent Bush a Lake Okeechobee cleanup bill with a \$38.5 million price tag. The project is designed to reduce phosphorus in what is known as "Florida's great lake." The money would be used to buy land needed to filter fertilizer filled water before it enters the lake.

Another win for environmentalists was the Senate's refusal to consider a proposal to convert a bass fishing reservoir in northeast Florida into a 9,000 acre state park. This would have turned the Rodman Dam and Reservoir into the Rodman Reservoir Recreation Area. Those who oppose would like to dismantle the dam and restore the flow to the Ocklawaha River, a tributary of the St. Johns River.

Range Managers Visit Big Cypress

By Tommy Benn
BIG CYPRESS — The Spring tour/meeting of the Florida Section of the Society for Range Management (SRM) met at the Range and Cattle Office on the Big Cypress Reservation for a guided tour of the ranchlands and area wetlands April 20.

The main objective of SRM is to promote and enhance the stewardship of rangelands to meet human needs based on science and sound policy. The society, founded in 1948, is a non-profit scientific and educational organization.

Some 40 members of the society registered and spent the day viewing the Big Cypress Community. They visited Tribe's cattle, citrus and various farming operations. The group also reviewed how the Tribe is working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the State of Florida and other regulatory agencies on related topics of range management, water control, conservation, and long range planning.

Richard Bowers and Don Robertson gave an overview of the land usage program and the Seminole Cattle program. They also gave a short history of the Seminole's role in Florida agriculture, detailing tribal programs on both the Brighton and Big Cypress Reservation.

When they finished, Maelo Reyes hit topics of land usage, foliage, water conservation and future plans for the Seminole Tribe's use of natural resources on both Big Cypress and

Brighton Reservations. The tour boarded an awaiting bus and visited the Big Cypress Reservation to see cattle operations, pasture improvements and native pastures. They also reviewed water levels and pumping and drainage procedures. Craig Tepper, Director of the Tribe's Water Resource Management Department, took the tour to the famous Confusion Corner, where all the L canals meet and the Everglades truly begin. The group watched while South Florida Water Management District crews turned on the newest pump station for the very first time.

The new pumping station provides the Seminole Tribe 11 percent of all the water it pumps for reservation needs.

Dr. Bill Dunson enlightened the tour on the endangered species living on the Big Cypress Reservation. Among the endangered animals are the Florida panther, which needs a tree line to travel, the indigo snake, which can be found almost anywhere on the reservation, and the caracara, known as the Mexican vulture.

The group also included a tour of Billie Swamp Safari for swamp buggy and airboat rides.

"We wanted them to have a good time and to show them what we are doing to comply with never ending rules and regulation by the various ECO related governing bodies from both the private sector, and government agencies federal and state," said Richard Bowers.

Tribes Can Seek Federal Anti-drug Money

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) Executive Director Christopher Boesen recently declared victory in the release of over \$20 million in anti-drug money and crime prevention grants.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, which announced the notice of funding, made available the funds appropriated for fiscal year 1999 and 2000.

As recently as March a HUD spokesman had reported that a legislative technicality prevented the release of these appropriated funds. In fact, the "glitch" had been fixed in late October 1999 in the fiscal year 2000 VA-HUD Appropriations bill. "It's unfortunate that appropriated money would sit in an account for months because of red tape," said Boesen. "Tribes need these funds desperately."

The Department of Justice has reported that substance abuse and related crime, including gang activity, has increased in tribal communities while nationally these figures are lower. In 1996, arrests for alcohol-related offenses among Native American people were more than double that of other races.

NAIHC Chairman Chester Carl, was pleased with the funds release, saying, "We now have an opportunity to turn the tide and save our children from this influence of personal destruction."

Federally recognized Indian tribes and recipients of assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 will be eligible for these grant funds. The deadline is July 10, and no match is required. Additional information can be reviewed on the website at www.hudclips.org.

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HUMOR

All My Ex's Live In Taxes

April 15 has come and gone. Even in Starkansaw we have done our patriotic duty. We Starkansauceans gladly pay the price for a civilized society, for garbage protection and police pick-up, for pothole repair and the mayor's parking space. Compliance is voluntary which means you have to do it – or else. You doesn't make sense, you say? Well, neither did any of my ex girlfriends, wives and concubines. And pardner I'm still paying' for it. That's why all my ex's live in Taxes . . . and Taxes is the neighborhood where your money will be.

Welcome to Taxes, people. Taxes is an annex just outside of Starkansaw proper in the W-4 quadrant. It's a big neighborhood, really, right between Downtown and Queens. People living in Taxes think they're the coolest because they get everything for free.

They don't have to work; in fact if they get a good-paying job, they have to move out. It's a place where able-bodied men line up to get permits to park in the handicap zone, and where tourists line up to visit Andy Capp's home. It's a place where you stand at the counter of the office supply store for a 90-minute wait, only to find out they sell nothing but red tape. People shop at the food stamp store and get gas at the Voucher station. Most people here suffer from the AIDS syndrome. Lot of bad backs in this neighborhood. It's a place for unemployed people of all ages to line up to get paid 400 years worth of back wages.

In Taxes they've got an old saying: "You can take the boy out of Taxes, but then you've got to take Taxes out of the boy." Are we making any sense yet? Here in Starkansaw proper, cents is all we actually make. The rest goes to Taxes.

My daddy Alcatraz Starke always used to say, "If you want change, then go to McDonald's." Boy was that a long time ago. Then one April 15, I'm drowning in a sea of Schedule Cs, 1099s and receipts when all of the sudden it hit me like a 714. I've got less than ten minutes to get this stuff together and drop it off at the nearest post office. It just ain't gonna happen, I thought. In the background I could here ol' Willie on the radio singing the final chorus to "Pancho and Lefty:" "All the Federales say, they could've had him any day. They only let him go so long . . ."

It was all so surreal. Deadline Fever started taking over. I got out the phone book and found the

number for the Starkansaw Office of Revenue Etc. or SORE for short. I dialed. When the man answered, I disguised my voice.

"Hello, am I speaking to a SORE agent?"

"Yes," the man replied.

"Uh, yeah, I would like to know if in regards to paying our income to Taxes, is compliance, by law voluntary or compulsory?"

"Well it's voluntary – but you have to pay it."

"I don't understand," I said. "I thought 'voluntary' by definition means 'of one's free will.'"

"Well you're free to comply or not comply," he said, "but if you don't comply, just like Al Capone Starke, you will go to jail."

"But sir, that's not voluntary, that's compulsory," I argued, "and if it is in fact compulsory why doesn't the law just say so?"

"Now hold on there," the man said. "Before we go any further I need to get your name."

"W-w-why?" I asked. I knew about the awesome power of SORE. My mouth was getting dry. I guess I kind of panicked. I told him my name was Willie Nelson and that I lived in the town of Back, Taxes, and then I hung up.

I called up my friend Pete from Sunset Beach. "I need to get into Taxes by morning," I told him. He told me exactly what I needed to do.

The next morning I grabbed my wheelchair, rolled right into a place on the Starkansaw-Taxes line called Entitlements R' Us, and asked for a short form called a WD-40. I filled it out and next thing you know I'm full-fledged citizen of Taxes with enough benefits to put even the Amazing Lesko to shame.

As for Willie, he had his golf clubs taken away courtesy of SORE and Uncle Son of Sam until he pays his debt to Taxes. In the meantime, it's Raiford Starke helping out ol' Willie perform his community service to the tune of "On the Road Again" before an audience of screaming rednecks. As I stare out into the crowd, my mind wanders a little bit and I start thinking, it's amazing what just a little WD-40 can do.

On the dole again.. I can't wait to get on the dole again. Makin' music and gettin' food stamps with my friends. I can't wait to get on the dole again.

— Raiford Starke's CD 'Speak Me' can be purchased online at www.seminoletribe.com/marketplace.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

Lee Tiger & Associates, Inc. will be hosting our next American Indian Outreach effort in the Big Cypress Reservation on behalf of F.D.O.T.

- WHO:** Florida Department of Transportation
Native American Outreach Program
- WHAT:** Workshop on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification forms and learn about contracting opportunities
- WHEN:** May 23, 2000, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- WHERE:** Frank Billie Center in the Big Cypress Reservation
- R.S.V.P.** Lee Tiger (954) 370-3900 Broward office
Bea Moreno (305) 257-3737 Miami office

Officials from Florida Department of Transportation(Tallahassee office will be co-hosting this personalized seminar/workshop to answer any questions.



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RETIREMENT BARBEQUE: (l-r) Mitchell Cypress, Rosie Billie, Agnes Bert, Jack Smith Jr., Connie Whidden, Terry Sweat pose at Rosie and Agnes' party.

Rosie Billie, Agnes Bert Retire

BRIGHTON — The Health Department and Tribal officials honored retiring employees Rosie Billie and Agnes Bert for their many contributions to community health with a ceremony at

by Jack Smith Jr., Brighton Council Representative, and Mitchell Cypress, President/Vice Chairman in honoring Rose and Agnes for their years of service.

Agnes Bert was hired in March of 1976 as an emergency medical technician along with Charlotte Tommie and Helene Reynolds. She became a CHR in 1989 after training in Nashville and retired as a CHR after 23 years this past November 1999.

Rosie Billie began her tenure with the Health Department as a CHR and outreach worker for social services in 1968. For 32 years she played a role in many areas, but will be most remembered as an advocate for families. Her more recent work focused on Tribal elder issues and elder care services.

She retired from her position as Tribal counselor in February 2000. Both women recalled fond memories and hope to remain active in their community.



Connie Whidden, Rosie Billie, Sammy Gopher.

Sonny's Barbecue restaurant in Clewiston, May 5. Connie Whidden, Health Director and department staff were joined

Evacuation Zones Revised

HOLLYWOOD — Broward County has revised the mandatory hurricane evacuation zones for the upcoming hurricane season that begins on June 1. The new evacuation zones more accurately reflect those areas along the coast of Broward County that are vulnerable to tidal surge from hurricanes.

State-of-the-art technology originally developed by NASA, called LIDAR, was used to determine the new evacuation zones. LIDAR, short for Light Detection and Ranging, utilizes a laser from an aircraft to measure land elevations to an accuracy of plus or minus six inches. Broward County contracted with Florida International University to perform the aerial analysis.

Plan A will require evacuation of

those persons located on the barrier islands, which are all those areas located east of the Intracoastal Waterway. Typically, a Category One 0 – Two hurricane will necessitate a mandatory Plan A evacuation.

Plan B will require evacuation of all persons located east of U.S. 1. Typically, a Category Three or higher hurricane will necessitate a mandatory Plan B evacuation.

In both Plans A and B, all mobile home residents must evacuate. Mobile home residents may also be ordered to evacuate if tropical storm conditions warrant. In addition, those persons located in low-lying areas or beside tidal bodies of water should seek shelter elsewhere if threatening conditions develop.

Pregnancy Advice Provided

HOLLYWOOD — Preparing for the birth of a child can not only be one of life's greatest experiences, but also one of its scariest.

Will you be a good parent? Will the baby be healthy? What should you eat? What shouldn't you eat? These questions and more were the focus of a "Healthy Pregnancy" class given on April 21 at the Seminole Medical Center. Sue Englund, an experienced Perinatal Educator from Memorial Regional Hospital, spoke to a diverse audience including both first time expectant moms and dads, as well as those who were a little more experienced.

The key to ensuring a healthy pregnancy is taking good care of your own health. It is best to start preparing before you are pregnant. However, if that is not possible, you still have nine months to prepare during your pregnancy. Taking good care of yourself while you are pregnant should include the following:

*Eat Well. Although more calories a day are needed, an expectant mom is encouraged to eat twice as well, not twice as much. Prenatal vitamins are also given to pregnant women in order to ensure intake of those nutrients essential to delivering healthy babies. The most important are: folic acid, calcium and iron.

*Exercise. Exercise during pregnancy can help to relieve stress, relieve backaches, and help to prepare the body for the physical demands of labor. Walking, swimming and/or stretching are the most frequently recommended modes of exercise. Always remember to drink plenty of water before, during and after exercise, never let yourself overheat and stop if you feel dizzy or faint.

*Reduce Stress. Stress during pregnancy is a very special time, it can also add a great amount of stress. Stress can cause many changes in the body, including increased muscle tension, shortness of breath, increased heart rate, and increased blood pressure. All of these changes can have a negative impact on the baby. Therefore,



Natashia Medaris, Matthew Osceola, Melissa Buster Metcals, Jesse Metcals, Larissa Tucker, Quannah Madrid were among the participating couples.

decreasing stress is critical to both mother and child.

Some ways to lower stress include exercise, finding a support person or group, listening to music, or sleeping.

*Avoid alcohol and drugs. All

drugs travel through the blood and therefore can cause severe birth defects or miscarriage. Because all types of drugs may be harmful during pregnancy including over-the-counter drugs, commonly used drugs (tobacco, alcohol) and illegal drugs

(marijuana, heroin, crack, cocaine, etc), it is important to consult your doctor before using any medicine.

In addition to the behaviors above, getting good prenatal care is vital for a healthy pregnancy. During a "normal" pregnancy, where there are no extenuating circumstances, the prenatal appointments should be as follows: once a month during the first seven months, twice a month during the eighth month and every week during the ninth and final month.

It is also helpful to learn about the discomforts of pregnancy and how to deal with them. Knowing the warning signs that something may be wrong can help to prevent potential problems.

Perinatal education is extremely important. Anyone who will be involved in the birth of a new baby (mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, etc.), no matter how experienced he/she may be should always take advantage of any education offered.

Newborn Tips Presented During Pregnancy Class

HOLLYWOOD — Having a baby is a life-changing experience that brings with it a world of new responsibilities. In addition to the prenatal portion of last month's Healthy Pregnancy class given by Sue Englund from Memorial Regional Hospital, newborn care was also a topic of discussion.

The following are a few highlights from that discussion:

Breastfeeding – Breastfeeding is a personal choice, however, it is considered the best way to feed an infant. A mother's milk promotes optimal health and growth for babies and can change as the nutritional needs change. There are fewer sicknesses, and a breast fed infant rarely has an allergic reaction. In addition to the above benefits, breastfeeding is also less expensive than formula feeding and probably most importantly, provides a special closeness between mother and child.

Crying – Babies cry for many different reasons. They may be hungry, wet, tired or sick. Newborns may cry up to three hours a day (not all at once). However, if a baby has been fed, changed and is healthy, the crying may be from colic. Colic is the name for long crying spells that happen in healthy babies. Suggestions to help soothe a crying baby include soft music, walking rocking, swaddling her/him in a blanket, and car rides.

Bathing – Tub bathing should not take place until the cord comes off. Tub baths are not necessary every day; two to three times a week is sufficient. Spot washing of the diaper area, face and hands however should be done every day.

Sleeping – Newborns sleep about 16 hours a day, usually in 3 – 4 hour shifts. As babies grow older they are awake for longer periods and will begin to sleep longer during the night hours. To reduce the chance of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), healthy babies should sleep on their backs. If however, you choose to use the side position, make sure your baby's lower arm is forward to stop him/her from rolling over onto the stomach.

Shaken Baby Syndrome – Head trauma is the leading cause of disability and death among abused infants and children and violent shaking is involved in many of these cases. Babies are so susceptible to head injury because they lack strong enough neck muscles to control their large heads. Some parents shake their babies out of frustration and fear without realizing the extreme danger.

If anyone would like further information on any of the above topics or any other topics relating to pregnancy, please contact Toni Taglione, Health Educator, at (954) 962-2009, ext. 111.

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Children of all ages need regular check-ups

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Florida Folk, Blues Legend Diamond Teeth Mary

Singer Diamond Teeth Mary Smith McClain passed away April 4. Many Seminoles know Ms. McClain as a regular at the Florida Folk Festival since 1981. She occasionally wore a Seminole dress at her shows. The Tribune's Peter Gallagher managed her career during the 1980s and just finished a short tribute film about her. These are his remembrances of an amazing woman.

A week after Diamond Teeth Mary died, I found myself at Sunset Beach, staring lazily out to a stormy sea.

It was late afternoon on the rustic back patio of the Seabreeze. The jukebox was playing and it seemed as if the female bartender was complaining, but I couldn't really hear the music or the churl. Children and seagulls were laughing, an offshore wind was brisk and the snore of the ocean soothed the driftwood in my mind. I just kept watching that fireball sun fall slowly into the shiny quicksilver Treasure Island sea.

The hypnotic dropping sun robbed me of rational thought save musings of Mary. I can see her, clear as fire-rimmed cumulus clouds, standing on Miami's South Beach, resplendent in long scarlet gown, her shoulders wrapped in fox fur. It is red sky at six in the morning, Christmas Day 1983. We have just finished a night of the blues downtown at Tobacco Road and are driving home.

The sun is rising in spectacular streaks from an angry boiling cauldron and we are all compelled to stop and view the phenomenon. The bad neighborhood junkies are ducking into the shadows now, and the martial artists are positioned eerily about the beach like angels, posing in strict tai chi position before the wash of dawn.

True inspiration tended to rock hell out of Diamond Teeth Mary and we all came to expect it. It could be a man walking by with a large cobra wrapped around his neck or a big fat man with a little teeny dog. Everything had to do with God. Mary's costume jewelry jangled as she raises one hand to the heavens. At the moment this fabulous sun takes flight, she crushes the hanky which hides her catfish cut-off thumb, squints her eyes shut and begins to pray: "Like a new born baby born, thank you Jesus. Like a new born baby born."

Thank you Jesus. Now, 300 miles north Mary is a Holy Ghost on a cramped barroom stage, preaching through a microphone. Could be anywhere. Seems like we are at the Stuffed Pepper. 26th and Central in St. Pete. Mid-80s. The music is way down and the piano player, a blind guy we found in a barber shop named Willie James, is tinkling the keys like it was Sunday for the preacher. The King Snake Blues Band is playing the minimum, eyes darting back and forth, rotating cigarettes and sips of beer, waiting, wondering. "Be kind to your mother," Mary extols, gripped with sincerity, fist to her chest and shaking. "Praise the Lord thank you Jesus."

Drummer Kevin Hogan bangs a single rim shot at that. Diamond Teeth Mary pauses in mid-prayer and opens both the eye. The glare of the Cycloper diva jolts the drummer back from his snare. He tugs on his Harley shirt, cricks his neck and shakes it off. Mary continues. "We never knew what she was going to do next," Hogan remembers, in awe, 15 years later.

Thick and noisy, the crowd all but shuts down. Only the cash register interrupts when Diamond Teeth begins to shriek and shake her religion. "She had a certain wisdom about these things. And she wasn't afraid to let people in the bars know what she believed," testifies harmonica wizard T.C. Carr. "The hedgerows and the highways, that's where people need to know God," she would say. "The people moaning and groaning" in church already know it!

"Turn the house lights on," she orders. "Turn the house lights on," she screams and screams and screams, over and over again, while nervous patrons feel the walls for switches in the dark. Cigarette lighters flame up begging Mary for butane absolutism.

"Turn the house lights on," she bellows. The bar owner is waving his arms. Johnny Morgan is from Philadelphia, but he speaks British when stressed. He hurls Cockney curses at Little Juke the guitar player. Mary called Juke "B.B. King Number Two." Number Two leans into Mary and whispers. "There's no house lights in this place, Mary."

All strength departs her body. She drops arm, sinks chin, shakes head and sighs. The room grows weird. That irritates her even more. Mary don't like no dead house. She one-eyes Juke, turns away from him and lets loose without missing a beat: "I'm a big fat woman/ the meat is shakin' on my bones/ and every time I shake it/ a skinny gal will lose her home. . ."

The lighters leap like lizards all over the room. Mary prances like an Egyptian, yowling like a cat. The Philly returns to Johnny Morgan's voice and the whole damn bar orders a beer. A flashlight aims square at the silvery Juicy Fruit gumfoil that wraps 'round her teeth where the eight diamonds used to be and the sparkles bounce off bottles and mirrors and into the eyes of the crowd.

Thank you Jesus for the flashlights and lighters. I remember they were a field of fireflies one special night. I feel the cool air, on a blanket in the back of the crowd. Tall longleaf pines frame an amphitheater near the Suwannee River. The 1997 Florida Folk Festival. Thousands of people, someone hits a pole and the power in White Springs goes out. Mary is in a wheelchair now, 96 years old, frothing at the mouth while she sings the "Walkin' Blues."

Piano queen Liz Pennock and guitarist Doctor Blues are Mary's whole band this night. Liz and Doc moved their whole life down from Ohio to perform with Mary. They are stunned when Mary keeps singing with the power out. They keep playing in the dark, wondering what the hell she's going to do.

"Suddenly there were lighters and flashlights all over the place, hundreds of 'em," remembers Liz. "They shined 'em all on stage so people could see her. The whole hillside got quiet to hear her. We played real lightly. They could hear Mary. And you could hear a pin drop."

"Twenty minutes she sang with no power. I don't know too many musicians of any age who

would or could do that," attests Rock Bottom, the bluesman who helped take care of Mary the last decade of her life.

"That was one of the most powerful moments in Florida Folk Festival history," estimates Kenneth Crawford, who directs the state's premier folk event, which on this date is half as old as Mary herself.

And then the house lights come back on. *Mary, the house lights are on!* And the crowd roars through her finale. *When The Saints Go Marching In*. Doc wheels her backstage, away from a standing ovation her failing eyes can't see. I notice her offstage persona, quiet and small now, innocent, helpless and withdrawn behind rouge and knick-

PETER B. GALLAGHER



ORIGINAL DIVA: This photo was taken in 1952 at Cincinnati's Cotton Club where Mary Smith was appearing with the Duke Ellington band.

knacks and rhinestone-decked fingernails.

A flurry of activity swirls about her. I can see faceless people lining up to talk in her ear. I see her smile and clutch twenty bucks in her palm. For a kiss, an autograph, a photo, a prayer. I see her explode into glossalalia agitation. Someone is dialing 911. They are digging in her purse for her flask of drinking ammonia and her bottle of "nervine" pills.

Someone had taken the microphone out of her hand. Rock Bottom considered his options: "I got the hell out of there when she began the talking in tongues."

I see blues legend Johnny Clyde Copeland, his arm around her at the Big Apple, 40th and Central. He just stepped off a plane from Harlem, the year he won the Grammy, to perform at her 85th birthday party. He got paid a bag of pot and \$25 "walkin' around money" from Don Jose Motel owner Jack McNeely, who gave him a room with a heart shaped bed and a working 8-track tape deck built into the headboard.

"Mother Mary is why I became a musician," Johnny explains. "I remember peeking under the tent when the medicine show came through town. She was the big star and I was the little boy who said 'I want to be on that stage, too.'" Mary outlived Johnny, Jack, the heart-shaped bed and the Big Apple.

John Lee Hooker is still around. He remembers when Mary's tent show came through his town, too. I asked him why he wouldn't let her open his show at Las Fontanas. The Boogiemani turned slowly and locked into my position with those deep black liquid soap eyes. "Son, do you think I'm stupid?" he drawled in that gravely asphalt voice. "I'm not gonna follow Mother Mary. She'd take the house down!"

I can still see the little yellow house Mary lived in with her second husband on clipboard East Bradenton. The first time I ever lay eyes on her, she is yelling at a door-to-door butcher: "Where's the pa? Where's the pa?" The man stomps away carrying something red in a soggy newspaper. I introduce myself and ask her, "Whose Pa were you talking about?"

Her face gurns: "What you talkin' about pa? The pig. The pig's paw. The rabbit. The rabbit's paw. The goat the goat's paw!" Mary felt it necessary to make sure the meat she bought wasn't dog or cat. She wanted to see the foot.

In the corner is husband Clifford, a skin and bones man in tattered coat and tie, weak and crooked from "sugar," smiling broadly but staying the hell out of her way. He holds Mary's beloved little pooch Precious. First time we took Clifford to see Mary sing, he was stunned: "I never knew I had such a wife," he kept saying. "I never ever knew I had such a wife." He died three weeks later in his sleep.

Diamond Teeth Mary outlived all her husbands, including the last one – Billy – who was 40 years her junior. The first one – named Daniels – just took off, Mary claimed, after she bopped him on the head with a cooking pan for "carrying on."

Duke Ellington. B.B. King. The 14-year-old Elvis. Nat King Cole. She knew them all and could talk about the famous and unknowns of her "ride" for hours. In the early 50s, the death of her mother and father forced her to remove the diamonds imbedded in her teeth "to pay the bills." She retired from 50 years of show business on the road – and found Jesus – in 1962. Right in Sarasota where Doc Bloodgood's last medicine show finally ran out of gas. Tired of the traveling, the lonesome

nights of having no roots, the "dope" musicians were doing in the dark, Mary was accepted among the show people south of the Skyway; she lived in East Bradenton until entering a St. Petersburg nursing home shortly before her death.

Oh, she appeared a few times at the Green Back Dollar Bill Club on 22nd St. in St. Pete, but it always got her kicked out of church when the gossip crossed the bridge. She would move to another house of worship until another preacher would find out. "I had no plans for a comeback," she always said, "It just happened. God had a better plan for me."

Diamond Teeth Mary had become "plain old Mary Smith," is the way she described it. So, when my phone rang in May of 1982 and state Folk Arts Coordinator Peggy Bulger asked me to give an old Bradenton gospel singer a ride to White Springs for the folk festival, I figured it would be an experience closer to "Precious Lord" than "Stormy Monday."

I can still see my nine-year-old daughter, eyes wide, holding a tape recorder close to Mary's mouth as we tool up I-75 in my old red van. We are going to drop Mary off at a motel and then go strike a campsite near the Suwannee. I am a columnist for the *St. Petersburg Times* and, after seeing the chaotic scene at her house, figure this might be a lady worth documenting.

"Darling, they used to call me Diamond Teeth Mary," she says to little Marlena. "I used to be biiiiini and fat." She places one finger to her big red lips: "But don't tell nobody, hon. I don't want nobody to know."

Then she begins to sing: *"If I should take a notion, and jump right in the o-shun, ain't nobody's business if I do. If I should go crazy, take a shot-gun and shoot my baby, ain't no-oh-obody's business if I do. . ."*

She tells her two favorite stories: her half-sister, blueswoman Bessie Smith, lying in a hospital waiting room, arm "hanging by a thread and bleeding" in a pan, dying while the white doctors stood by.

And the one about Big Mama Thornton, who wrote Elvis' "Hound Dog," and Janis' "Ball and Chain." She tells how she picked Big Mama off a garbage truck and made her a performer. It seems part fantasy. But, later events prove it out.

I see Mary walking the streets of New York City, right in the front door of Gerde's Folk City in the Village. Photos of Bob Dylan stare down at us as we walk past the stage in the middle of Big Mama's set. Big Mama is in a wheelchair, all skinny and mean, hair like a wig. But her harmonica stops cold, and the room is ice when her eyes meet Mary's. Big Mama begins to cry. Mary hands her the coffee hanky.

Big Mama's words are slurred but genuine: "Ladeez and gentlemen, this is Walkin' Mary Smith. She's my mother. She took me off the back of a garbage truck in Montgomery Alabama. I was dressed like a boy and she put ribbons in my hair!"

Mary thanks Jesus and smiles so wide, the edges of the gum-foil stick out. The great folksinger Odetta is in the audience. All three women sink the impromptu blues, fighting for verses and attention. Mary wrestles the ending note from the others and breaths it forth with hollers that have us all holding our mouths and standing. Big Mama is coughing. Odetta walks away.

We walk outside. "Stubborn. Headstrong," she rages. "That Willie Mae hasn't changed a bit!" Mary wishes she would have left the girl on the garbage truck. Willie Mae – Big Mama Thornton – would be dead in less than a year.

Mary had another 15 years. She lived for the cheers and adrenalin of her musical revival in the hedgerows. I see a whole collage of separate Mary images, fringing the same song two or three times in a row while frantic stage managers study their wrists in the wings. I see her swinging an SM58, actually bopping people about the face and head while an emcee tries to take the microphone out of her hand. I hear the crowd screaming, "Leave her alone."

At a *St. Petersburg Times*-sponsored event, a Dixieland band of old codgers were directed to actually take the stage, set up and begin to play while Diamond Teeth Mary was still singing her last number. When some geezer stepped in front of her strumming a four-string banjo, I was afraid Diamond Teeth Mary was going to physically kick him off the stage.

The promotion director was proud of his accomplishment: "That's the way to keep Diamond

Teeth Mary on time," he preened, straightening his tie. I called the a – an a – and he snitched me out to the upper management. "That's strike one and strike two, Pete," the editor told me.

When I took a called third strike a few months later, Mary swore she would never read that newspaper again. She loyally cussed out the Gainesville Police Department on a live TV show for writing me a parking ticket. The last time I saw her, she was blind and weak, but she squeezed my hand and said the same thing she always said when we met. "Tell me, how is your daughter?"

In Mary's world, little Marlena was still a freckle-faced nine-year-old holding that tape recorder while we drove to White Springs. I told her she was grown, now, and doing fine. "Praise God," she always said.

The sun was floating on the ocean now, a deep orange sherbet scoop melting on the sea. Dozens of people were standing in the sand, up and down the beach, facing west. Day had almost turned into night and I contemplated the sunset of Diamond Teeth Mary's life.

This all happened *after* she turned 80:

She played Carnegie Hall, the White House, the W.C. Handy Awards, the Long Beach and Chicago Blues Festivals, the Apollo Theatre, the Cotton Club and toured Europe three times. She appeared on the Today show, in an off-Broadway Musical and danced in the streets with the kids of FAME. She played every hall, bar and jook joint in this part of Florida, hundreds of shows. She was backed by nearly every blues musician in Tampa Bay, including Leonny Larry, Mikey Leach, Diddy Wah Diddy, Boneshaker, Freightrain Parker, Raiford Starke, Smilin' Mike, Southside Charly and Gentleman John Street. She tried to make church every Sunday to beg forgiveness for the blessed sin that was her life in the blues.

Levon Helm put her name in a Band song and Marlboro used her in a national ad. She starred in a PBS special. They named the performing room upstairs at Tobacco Road the Diamond Teeth Mary Cabaret. They collected her gowns for the Florida State Museum. They gave her Florida's highest folk music award and she was up for the national honor when she passed away at 6:45 a.m. Tuesday April 4, 2000.

She was the fat lady who sang at the end. The last surviving member of the Irwin C. Miller Bronskin Models, the Rabbit Foot Minstrels, the Bronze Mannequins and Sammy Green's Hot Harlem Revue, the last of the legendary blues shouters – the last tree in the blues forest was either 97, 98, 99 or 100 years old – depending upon which birthday Mary used last. Her adopted son Yogi – a victim of congenital bone disease she taught to be a carnival "rubber man" – hadn't been seen in more than ten years. Under next of kin, she wanted "the blues musicians."

A guy named Digger, a Vietnam POW and flute player who named Mary's affairs at the end, said there was no pain. She was real tired and wouldn't eat, but holding on for days.

"I told her, Mary, you can rest now," Diggers says of the final moments. "You don't have to do any more shows. She seemed to relax knowing that. She said 'I'm going home now. My mother's waiting.' And she was gone. Just like that."

Out in Dripping Springs, Texas, hot shot guitarist Erik Hokkanen, who had cut his teeth backing Mary, heard the news and went to the woods to do something ritual with flame and smoke: "Funny thing is, I wasn't sad. I felt she was there with me. I feel as if she will always be here with me."

Seminole Chief Jim Billie offered to pay for Mary's burial, but her bank account had enough to cover it all. "I can tell you right now, Mary was damned proud of that," said Rock Bottom. Mary always claimed to be half Cherokee and showed a very distinctive photo of her mother to anyone who doubted her word. Chief Billie funded the completion of a short documentary on her life which had been in the works for more than 15 years; it premiered at the 2000 Florida Folk Festival.

At Mary's request, Digger will spread her ashes on the railroad tracks outside her home town of Huntington, W. Va. That's where she jumped a freight at 13 to begin the incredible adventure that was her life. Each time she reached the crossroads, the Devil let her pass. "One journey's finished. Another journey begins. That's the way Mary looked at it," sighed Digger. "Everyone loved her. She loved everybody. She was bigger than life."

Much bigger than life. She was a national treasure. Her likes may never pass this way again.

I was all warm inside when the last teeny sliver of sun slipped beneath the horizon. I heard applause in every direction – the length of Sunset Beach. I heard hoots and hollers mixed in with the handclaps. I hear Diamond Teeth Mary screech: "I love that kind of carryin' on!"



"EE-TO-LIT-KE" SEMINOLE FAMILY CAMP

We join with our friends from the Seminole Tribe of Florida in welcoming all of Florida's citizens and visitors to the Seminole Family Camp, and to the 48th Annual Florida Folk Festival.

Each year, Seminole people come to the Festival to share their traditions. Built more than 15 years ago by Chairman James Billie, the Seminole Camp was created to serve as a base for cultural presentations of Seminole traditional arts, crafts and foodways.

Featured annually at the Festival, are cypress canoe carving, beadwork, doll making, patchwork sewing, sofkee and frybread cooking, roping and other cowboy skills. Musicians from many Florida cultures perform their songs at the Ec-To-Lit-Ke. In the quiet, tree-shaded area, visitors gather to hear acoustic folk music in a natural setting.

"COME HOME TO FLORIDA" AT THE FESTIVAL'S SEMINOLE FAMILY CAMP!

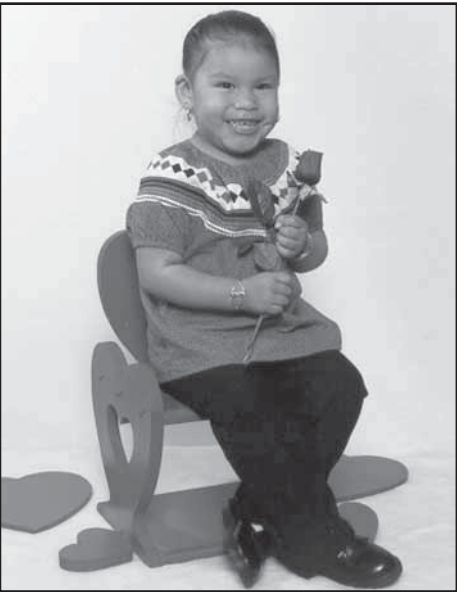
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Classified • Announcements

Happy Birthday



I would like to wish my daughter, **Darian Cypress**, a Happy 5th Birthday on May 22. **Love you always.** Your mom, **Ericka Cypress**.

New Born



Mariah Denise Robbins Smith was born on April 6, 2000 at 8:43 a.m. Weighing in at 9 lbs. 15 oz. and 21 inches in length at the Lee Memorial Hospital. Proud parents are **Larry Smith** and **Tara Robbins**. Grandparents: **Elsie Smith** and late **Richard Smith** and **Mary Jane Billie Robbins** and **Bernard Robbins**. Sr.

Happy Mother's Day to my Grandma, **Nellie Mae Smith**. I love you very much. Love, **Megan**.

Happy Mother's Day to my mom and my aunts. Love, **Megan**.

To **Doris**, **Happy Birthday** and best wishes to you! We love you very much. Always, **Danielle, Kayla, Keyana** and **Dyami Bankston**.

Happy Birthday Mom, Grandma Doris. We love you with all our hearts. One love, the Otter gang, **Cheyanna, Dominique, Letitia, Marlon, Denise, John-John**.

Dominique Sharaine Osceola, to our bad girl, now you're 13; be a good girl. Try anyway! We love you lots! **Letitia, Marlon, Denise & Baby John-John**.

Happy Birthday to Dom on May 1st. Love, **Egoosh**.

Belated Birthday Wishes going out **Heather Cypress, Bonnie and Faye Frank**. Miss you and love you much, **Valerie**.

Congratulations



Congratulations Anthony and Amanda! Married on April 22, 2000. Love Mom, Dad, T.J. and Elliott.

Poems

The Education

*The time to walk these dogs is now
Somehow – we need to proceed
With plans from our young seeds
Let us teach ‘em the life that would be right for them to lead
Get educated at school – learn to read
Tell ‘em the facts – how to relax – and yes
Sometimes we will bleed. We might face prejudice people
Or some type of greed – but it’s all a part of life
Stepping stones to being freed. Indeed.*

*Our people are a strong tribe. Maybe one of the strongest
So many before us have been struggling for the longest
Osceola fought proudly for our name
So it’s only right we get educated, and learn the facts of the game
Or we too will end up the same, as a few other tribes
Whose culture didn’t survive – you and I need to unify
So that forever we can survive. In the hearts of those
Who are now growing like the rose
At first we started underground. Then the sun and rain
Helped us grow – as did the fearless – now passed on Seminoles*

*We didn’t give up then – so why should we now
I prefer to be on top – rather than on the ground
As for me I will continue to speak my mind
Writing poems to my comrades locked away doing time
I may be young – but I understand my native tongue
And still I’d rather be killed
Than to be pushed out of where I’m from
To some – these words I write they like
To some they’re dumb. Opinions are like a hole
Everybody has one – So ‘til this is no longer true
I will use my pen like a gun, blastin through to you*

*Busting round for round – on this sheet of paper
I throw down – I turn silence into sound
Still holding fort – standing my ground
Seminoles are a chosen few – not everyone can be
Like me and you – but to be us – you’ve got to go through
Some cruel – times – voices in the wind
Singing to me like chimes. Now is the time
Look inside yourself and you will find
The strength to conquer the fears in your mind
The battle of life continues – as does the hands of time*

*You’ve got to get up – get out – and get something
If not in the end – you will wind up with nothing
Do you want a good life? – ask yourself this thing
This question I ask – life is short – don’t live too fast
Before you know it – the future is the past
Get educated – cause only God knows how long we’ll last
The time is now.
— **Markell “Eli” Billie***

Notice To Women

All Women Welcome At Meeting

HOLLYWOOD — Employees, Tribal members, non-tribal members, other Indians, community members, spouses, friends are welcome to come to the women’s meeting.

Topics: budgeting money/time, work, eating, exercise, rest, recreation, attitudes, focus, personal growth, spirituality, communication, relationships, feelings, anger/stress management, basically addressing balanced living.

Meetings are held every Wednesday at Noon. Come to the Health Clinic, first floor conference room.

Don't forget to support our advertisers!

Notices

Penn State offers Education Doctoral Fellowships — Deadline for submitting applications is April 20 for Fall Semester 2000 and Nov. 20 for Spring Semester 2001. To American Indian and Alaska Native students interested in doctoral level training in special education or educational administration. To prepare American Indian/Alaska Natives to be leaders in special education by completing doctoral degree programs in either special education or educational administration. Focus will be on special education, educational administration, leadership, policy, and Indian education. Contact Dr. Gajar at (814) 863-1626.

American Indian Special Education Teacher Training Program — deadline is April 20, and Nov. 20. Special features of program include extensive practicum with children with disabilities in mainstream and integrated settings; required related course work in educational administration; classes and readings on AI education; and guest lecturers. Contact Dr. Gajar at (814) 863-1626.

Florida Film Festival — June 9 – 18. Many of the festival’s events are held at the Enzian Theater. Phone (407) 629-1088.

Homosassa River Raft Race — June 5. Great fun with homemade rafts

providing the entertainment. Call Citrus 95 Radio station at (352) 795-9595.

National Conference on Race & Ethnicity in American Higher Education — June 1 – 5, in Santa Fe, NM. (405) 325-2248

Third Annual National Native American Youth Initiative (NNAYI) — June 17 – 25, in Washington, DC. The goals of the NNAYI are to motivate Native American students to remain in the academic pipeline and to pursue a career in the health professions and/or biomedical research. For application download on the AAIP web site <http://www.aaip.com/student/nnayi>. For information contact Lancer Stephens or Bryan Whish at (405) 946-7072.

The World Gaming Congress and Expo 2000 — Oct. 18 – 20, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. For information call (212) 468-1685.

Unexpected Orlando Travel Guide — to obtain a copy call (800) 367-1496, visit the Orlando Web site at www.Go2orlando.com or call the Official Visitor Information Center at (407) 363-5872.

Culture-Based Curriculum Development Workshop — July 10-13, in Warm Springs, OR. Curriculum development in all subject areas, such as math,

science, language arts, speech, art, social studies, history, etc. All participants are encouraged to bring an elder (65 and older) with them. To register call (405) 325-2248, ext. 2248.

7th Annual Seminole Wellness Conference — July 17 – 21, at the Marco Island Hilton. Deadline for application is June 9. Those who are active in support groups, or have participated in treatment centers, or who are pursuing a healthier drug and alcohol free lifestyle will have first priority if registration exceeds the limit. Contact Seminole Health Centers on your reservation for more information.

Walk for Sight – A Step in the Right Direction — Sunday, May 28, 8 a.m. registration, walk begins at 9 a.m. On the beach at A1A and Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach. Call Penny Sugar at (954) 781-1551 for details.

Women's Leadership Conference II — June 28 – 30, at Marriott's Mountain Shadows in Scottsdale, AZ. The theme for this year's conferences is "Empowering the leadership process through collaboration." For information contact Anne Susan at (602) 364-5270/5280.

Car & Boat Auction — June 17, July 29, and Aug. 19. For more information call (954) 463-3725.

Job Announcement

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

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

Position: Maintenance Worker
Location: Building and Grounds Brighton
Opening: February 24, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$6.50 Per hour plus benefits

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

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

Position: Assistant Cook/Janitor
Location: Nutrition (Hot Meals Hollywood)
Opening: January 25, 2000
Closing: Until Filled
Salary: \$8.73 per hour plus benefits

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

Position: Certified Behavioral Analyst (LaBelle)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Position: Teacher Aide II – 2 need/1 year olds & infants
Location: Education Preschool

Opening: Hollywood
Closing: February 29, 2000
Salary: March 14, 2000 \$8.73 per hour plus benefits

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

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

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

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

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

Deadlines

Seminole Tribune

June 16 Issue • Deadline June 2

July 7 Issue • Deadline June 23

July 28 Issue • Deadline July 14



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Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm

Rev Arlen Payne: Pastor
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Grand Prize and Seminole Adults 1st Place Iretta Tiger



Seminole Adults 2nd Place Chris Osceola

Seminole Snapshots

HOLLYWOOD — The results are in and the *Seminole Tribune* is proud to announce Iretta Tiger as the grand prizewinner of the Second Annual Photo Shootout. This year the Tribune received 70+ entries by the April 14 deadline. The entries were judged again by Neil Staples, Professor of Photography at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale. Staples, who spe-

cializes in commercial and portrait photography, judged the photos on subject, composition, and presentation. Iretta Tiger received two first place awards for her pictures, including Grand Prize for her Seminole Adults entry, a full-frame print of Brian Billie on a canoe. "Although the print could use some shadow detail, I just love the quali-

ty of light that's falling on him," said Staples. First place winners received \$100 and 5 rolls of Fujii Superia film, Second place received \$75 and 5 rolls of Superia film, and Honorable Mention received \$25 and 5 rolls of Superia film. Grand Prize received \$100 and 20 rolls of Fujicolor Press 800 film. — **E. Bowers**



Wild Life Nature Honorable Mention Gordon Wareham



Wild Life Nature 2nd place Linda Billie



Wild Life Nature 1st Place Ralph Billie



Seminole Sports 1st Place Lawrence Osceola



Seminole Children 1st Place Iretta Tiger



Seminole Children 2nd Place Gordon Wareham



Seminole Children Honorable Mention Jade Jim



Seminole Adults Honorable Mention Chris Osceola