



Gathering of Nations, page 16.



Family supports Billie Garcia, center, and his boxing career, page 9.



Rodeo proved disastrous, page 9.



Youngsters played baseball to a T, page 8.



# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

“Voice of the Unconquered”

\$1.00

www.seminoletribe.com

Volume XXI Number 6

May 5, 2000

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



Dr. Patricia Wickman, great-grand niece of Indian hunter.

## The Search For Seminole Roots

**By Vanessa Bauzá**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — In mid-1800s Florida, Jacob Mickler was known as a hard-drinking poker player who saw a price tag on every Indian's head. Dressed in white buckskin, the bounty hunter would track Seminoles through the swampland to round them up and ship them out to Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma.

How things change. Today Mickler's great-grand-niece, Patricia Wickman, works for the Seminoles as director of the tribe's Department of Anthropology & Genealogy.

She is one of a few historians around the country who is tracing Native American family trees and attempting to capture in writing what so far has existed only in elders' memories.

Just as her great, great uncle tried to erase the Indians' past from this land, Wickman's job is to rescue it. The irony is not lost on Wickman or the tribe.

“We are in agreement that there's a strong possibility that one of the reasons I'm here is to make up for him,” Wickman said. “I believe there's a reciprocity in the universe. There's a balance and an equilibrium, and maybe I'm helping to restore the balance.”

From her office on the fourth floor of the gleaming Seminole Tribe government building, Wickman has a view of the urban reservation near Hollywood. It is a none-too-scenic tangle of roads and overpasses. Farther away there are tax-free cigarette stores and a block-long bingo hall. The enterprises help pay for Wickman's research, rescuing names and charting them back to the days when the Indians traversed the moist swamps in cypress log canoes.

In four years Wickman has cataloged about 6,600 Seminole ancestors. Talking to tribal elders and checking her work off the scant written records kept by Spanish, French and English settlers, she has been able to reconstruct some families back to the War of Removal in the

See WICKMAN, page 11

## Tribe Plans Appeal Judge Dismisses Times Lawsuit

**FORT LAUDERDALE** — American Indians have many “legitimate issues” to debate with America's government. But the way the *St. Petersburg Times* gathers its news is not one of them.

That's what Broward Circuit Judge J. Leonard Fleet concluded, April 27, when he dismissed the Seminole Tribe of Florida's lawsuit against the *St. Petersburg Times* and reporters Jeff Testerman and Brad Goldstein.

But the case is not over yet. “We'll just take it up to the next level of appeal,” said Tribal Chairman James Billie. “They may want us to roll over, but we're not going to give up.”

The Tribe sued the organization which brands itself “Florida's Best Newspaper,” last year, basing its complaint on the *Times*' news gathering techniques during its 1998 series on the Tribe titled “A Trail Of Millions.” In the series, *Times* reporter Testerman and computer expert Goldstein painted an extremely unflattering portrait of Seminole Chairman James Billie and the Tribe's government and business enterprises. The series was followed with an editorial that used “A Trail Of Millions” as rationale for arguing against Class III Indian gaming.

Classified Tribal records, most of which were outdated and obtained without Tribal permission, were used in the series. The reporters who asked for “anonymous” aid in obtaining Tribal records contacted dozens of Tribal members, employees and vendors. Pointing to the series' headline and “slant,” the Tribe described the *Times* stories as “racist.”

The suit also claimed the newspaper failed to properly supervise its employees, accused them of hacking the Tribal computer and information systems and asked the

See LAWSUIT, page 12



Hollywood preschoolers watch Sgt. Frank Pugliese make a name rubbing at the Moving Wall exhibit.

## Moving Wall Visits Hollywood

**By E. Tiger**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — The Broward County Veterans Living Museum Inc. presented The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall at the Seminole Reservation's Fairgrounds here, April 24.

The community and a variety of schools in the surrounding area visited the Wall to pay tribute to the men and women who served the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War. The Moving Wall, built by John Devitt, Gerry Haver, and Norris Shears of Vietnam Veterans, LTD., of San Jose, Calif., was started to help inform and educate the public about the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served their country with honor.

The Traveling Wall, which is one half of the

size of the original wall found in Washington, D.C., stands six feet tall at the center and declines to three foot spans, with a length of 252.4 feet.

The moving wall memorial gives individuals who are unable to travel to Washington the opportunity to see the wall in their own community.

“It also helps educate people about America's past history,” says veteran Frank Pugliese, who helped in the day's presentation. In addition to the wall, an educational museum was also set up inside the ceremonial grounds where participants could go to view weapon replicas and actual vehicles that were used in WWI, WW11, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War.

Names of individuals are listed in alphabetic

See WALL, page 12

## Time Travel Tour Visits New Orleans Fort

**By Ernie Tiger**  
**NEW ORLEANS** — Tribal Members and officials traveled here to participate in two ceremonies commemorating the route taken by their ancestors in the 1800s during the United States Wars of removal.

The ceremonies were the capstone events of the Fourth Annual Time Travel Tour, which was sponsored by the Seminole Tribe's Department of Anthropology & Genealogy.

The Time Travel Tour provided the Seminoles an opportunity to explore their culture and retrace the steps their ancestors had been forced to travel years before.

According to Patricia R. Wickman, Director of the Anthropology Department and organizer of the Time Travel Tour, the Seminoles who were captured by the U.S. during the Seminole Wars were sent to one of two fortifications in New Orleans — Jackson Barracks or Fort Pike. Once there, they would wait for emigration agents to take them up the Mississippi River and across

land to their final destination in Oklahoma.

Representatives from several southeastern Tribes were present for the events: Chief Jerry Haney (Seminole Nation of Oklahoma); Chief Alton LeBlanc, Jr.

Louisiana, Maj. Gen. Bennett Landreneau, welcomed guests to the solemn and special ceremony. Chairman James E. Billie commented on the profound dignity of the Louisiana Army National Guard's commemoration, which included a



Oklahoma Seminole Chief Jerry Haney (l) joins Florida Seminole Chairman James Billie and Gen. Bennett Landreneau at Jackson Barracks' monument.

(Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana); and Chief Eddie Tullis (Poarch Band of Creek Indians of Alabama).

The Adjutant General of

21-gun salute and music by the U.S. Marine Corps Band of New Orleans.

See TOUR, page 11

## Dinosaur Symposium Scientists Visit Swamp Safari

**By Libby Blake**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — When world-renowned paleontologist Robert Bakker found himself coming to Florida for the Symposium on Dinosaur Bird Evolution, he wanted to “play with some alligators.”

Bakker contacted Dr. Martin Shugar, director of the newly launched Florida Institute of Paleontology at the Graves Museum in Dania Beach. Shugar, also a local ear, nose, and throat specialist whose office contracts with the Seminole Tribe through the Health Department, called on Chairman James Billie and Billie Swamp Safari to fill the bill.

On April 6, Bakker, along with two charter buses full of fellow scientists and dinosaur experts, descended on the Safari for a day full of fry bread, gator tail, swamp music, airboat rides, and a very special swamp buggy and hiking tour of cypress wetlands and gator holes.

The day started around 11 a.m. with an alligator demonstration by Swamp Safari saurian expert “Gator John” Kenyon. The group then headed to the Swamp Water Café for a Seminole barbecue buffet and a little swamp music.

See DINOSAUR, page 5

## Seminoles Gather At N.M. Powwow

### ■ Gathering Of Nations

**By Libby Blake**  
**ALBUQUERQUE** — By all accounts the 17th Annual Gathering of Nations Powwow was the largest to date and the Seminole Tribe of Florida was there. Chief Jim Billie performed, Miss Seminole Princess Suraiya Youngblood competed, William Osceola danced, and over 50 Tribal members bowled while Tribal President Mitchell Cypress and Tribal leaders David Cypress (Council) and Mondo Tiger (Board) mingled with the masses.

The Chief got the event started Thursday night when he performed with his band at the Miss Indian World Traditional Talent Presentations held at the Albuquerque Convention Center. He wowed the audience with several songs from his *Alligator Tales* CD along with the presence of a large alligator on stage, provided by Jay Young of Colorado Gator Farm. The Chief unveiled his new touring band, which includes guitarists Raiford Starke and David Shelly, bassist Robert “Freighttrain” Parker (Seneca), keyboard wizard Bob Taylor, and drummer Jeff Renza. Fiddle master J. Robert from

See GATHERING, page 16

## Long Ride For Max Osceola

**By Dan McDonald**  
**HOLLYWOOD, Fla.** — Max Osceola, a long time motorcycle rider, is embarking on a ride that will last a long time: A two-wheeled trek across the United States.

Max and fellow Tribal member David Osceola will participate in the Ride Across America charity fund raiser organized by the NASCAR Wives Association beginning April 29.

“We'll take seven days to ride from Fontana, Calif., to Trinity, N.C.,” Max says. “It will be the first time I've ever driven across the country and I'm really looking forward to it.”

“We'll be part of 150 riders, including some NASCAR drivers who will make the trip. I'm told we drive about 300 miles per day. I'm real excited about this trip. And, it raises money for a children's hospital, so it's a good cause.”

This journey is just the latest chapter in Max's long association with

See MOTORCYCLE, page 7



Editorial

Oppressed Freedom

**\*Seminole Tribune**

Broward Circuit Judge J. Leonard Fleet had a tough job in deciding the merits of the Seminole Tribe of Florida's lawsuit against the *St. Petersburg Times* and two of their reporters. On one hand, he had a federally recognized American Indian Tribe – an independent sovereign government with every right to protect its citizens and their right to privacy. On the other hand, he had an entity that proclaims itself as “Florida’s Best Newspaper,” and its two employees obsessed with obtaining, reporting and putting a negative spin on classified matters regarding the Seminole Tribal government and its people.

Looming over the whole case was the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Freedom of the Press. Though the Tribe was not accusing the newspaper of libel in the publication of its 1998 series, “A Trail Of Millions,” any decision by Judge Fleet would have to be illuminated by the bright light of the First Amendment rightfully grants to the press in this country.

Here at the *Seminole Tribune*, we are well aware of the First Amendment and the great protection it affords the citizens of this country. This newspaper was honored in 1990 by the Robert F. Kennedy Foundation for our stories that helped free an innocent man – migrant fruitpickers James Richardson – from a lifetime in prison. The First Amendment – the right of the public to know – was instrumental in obtaining the documents that proved Richardson was wrongfully convicted of the murder of his seven children.

Elaborate attempts to evade the light of the First Amendment were uncovered by this newspaper in its expose of the Rosewood Massacre and the controversial efforts to give restitution for the horrible crime which destroyed an entire North Florida black community in 1923. Without the freedom to investigate this tragedy, provided by the First Amendment, Rosewood might still be a “folktale” not even mentioned in the museums and schoolbooks of the very county and state where it occurred.

But would the framers of the U.S. Constitution have approved of reporters badgering employees of the Seminole Tribe to “steal” classified Tribal documents? Would they have approved of “hacking” into Tribal computer systems and looking at finan-

cial and personal information that are nobody’s business but the members of the Tribe? Would they have approved of asking an Indian Health Service doctor to break the law and provide them Seminole records? Would they have approved of threatening Tribal employees, disseminating rumors, using lies and subterfuge and criminal sources to embellish interviews?

It’s possible. The First Amendment may be the most precious part of the Constitution. Perhaps it even protects journalistic felons in the same way the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) defends the rights of the Ku Klux Klan and other racists to spew their hateful bile in the public’s ear. At the level, however, does the volume of the scream “Fire” in the crowded movie theatre cross the line that the framers and interpreters of our Constitution have drawn in the social sand?

This was Judge Fleet’s dilemma. The *Times* did not make it easy for him. They defended their employees’ questionable actions and their poor supervision of the Seminole project by hoisting the First Amendment as a shield to the Tribe’s charges of racism and wrongful newsgathering techniques. In the end, the Judge decided to rule in favor of the First Amendment, throwing the case out of his court. But Judge Fleet’s comments in the order clearly reveal his frustration with the case.

Hopefully, in the U.S. District Court of Appeals, where Chairman James Billie will next take this case, a greater airing of the issues beyond the First Amendment can take place. Perhaps then, too, the national journalistic community, reeling from the erosion of the profession’s credibility over the last decade, can break its silence and speak up with honesty and integrity about the sins of the St. Pete prodigal son.

And, more importantly, perhaps the real motive behind the trivialized holocaust-titled “A Trail of Millions” debacle will be revealed. Who is it that wants to hurt, entrap, ensnare, retard and ruin the Seminole Tribe? It’s a good bet that neither “Florida’s Best Newspaper” nor its high-placed governmental sources will ever want the public to know about any of that.

— *The Seminole Tribune is the official newspaper of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.*



Chokfet eelen oonachen tahnahlegah - Happy Easter!

FREE MONEY!!!

(Now that I have your attention . . .)

You know, believe it or not, I really don’t sit around trying to think of things to complain about, but when something begins to gnaw at the very core of my heart, I can’t seem to function until I am able to process it.

I also have a hard time believing that I am the only one who is aware of a situation that is not going to go away on its own. As many of you may be conjuring up your own images at this moment, the big picture is the continued abuse of our elderly. This sickens me to the point that I feel I must initiate something to stop this atrocity, and hope there are enough of you out there to make it happen. As they say about raising up a child: “It takes a village,” it is also going to take a village – and then some – to save our seniors. The worst part is that most of them need to be saved from their own families.

After spending 99 percent of the month alone, all of a sudden, Grandma or Grandpa get their monthly “visit” from their beloved children, grandchildren or someone else who “has their best interest” in mind. They show up to take “their loved one” to cash their check, and out of the goodness of their hearts – to the grocery store – where they can put in their order for what they want for themselves as well. What a deal this elderly person has just received. They were able to cash their check, buy groceries, and if they were lucky – maybe pay a bill or two; And it only cost them the bulk of their check; leaving them with almost nothing (but loneliness) for another 29 days.

Their children, grandchildren or caretaker has charged them for gas – usually a fill-up, groceries for their own family, a free dinner for the entire family (for coming along), and a big fat payment for that nice long (10 minute) visit. The family then leaves for home, shelving their guilt in the knowledge that the elderly person has no need for money anyway, since they don’t go anywhere nor do anything.

Hello? Does the thought of taking them out every once in awhile ever creep into the little minds of these people?

Then we have the family member who is taking care of a parent, grandparent or elderly neighbor. They boast to all who will listen that they are to be the savior of their loved one. They care about their elderly family member – so much so that they quit their job to take care of them – so they will be there for them at all times – or at least until their ride arrives to hit the casino or bingo hall!

How many times has the elderly

person been denied their health care, the administering of their medication or the preparation of their meals?

How about Grandma’s favorite little grandson, who, in a blink of an eye, has turned from that cute little toddler, to an addict or alcoholic. These older people, some of them, have a hard time realizing that the very people they raised would not bat an eye as they break into the house they called home for most of their lives and steal their grandparents’ money to support their addictions.

I vowed at the time I made the decision to present this to my people – I would not mention names: I don’t need to. But is there anyone else out there who shares my sorrow for our elderly – enough to do something about it?

Does anyone have any suggestions for a cure? Do we have to sit and watch these people who have given us our very existence be abused day after day? How many of us can lay our heads on our pillows at night and fall asleep with a clear conscience – knowing that we have done something to stop this abuse of our elderly?

I’ll tell you what. In that same blink of an eye, we are going to be the elderly, and I suppose it would only be justice when our own cute little toddlers grow up like some young and middle aged people – and give us exactly what we are giving our grandparents today. That’s a very scary thought!

This is going on all over the country – and it’s going on in every culture in the country. What I would like to know, is, since it has always been proclaimed that “the white man” is the one who introduced “firewater” to the Indians, exactly who was it that introduced the drugs to the world as we see it today? I would sure like to have some feedback on this editorial from any and all concerned.

One last comment – a sure-fire guarantee of an e-mail or letter from someone out there: As far as this subject of addiction and abuse is concerned, we may still have never signed a peace treaty with the United States government, but are we still the ‘Unconquered Seminoles’?

And no disrespect intended, but I know Osceola, Sam Jones and all our war leaders who gave their lives for our dignity and pride would be spinning in their graves if they knew how their children – our elderly are being treated – just as would George Washington Carver or Abraham Lincoln.

— *Virginia Mitchell is editor of the Seminole Tribune.*



Editor’s Thoughts

By Virginia Mitchell

e-mail

tribune@semtribe.com

**Dear Chief Billie:**

I don’t know if you would remember me, but I used to hang out with Skeet Johns and Sally Billie 15 years ago at Native Village. I was the short blonde girl who always spent my free time cleaning the pits and cages and feeding the animals. Now that I’m all grown up, I take my four kids to Native Village sometimes, though not as often as I should. They love that place as much as I did.

I also went to school with B.J. Billie and Paula Bowers. Not sure they would remember me though. It was so long ago and we didn’t really hang out much. I only met you a few times at Native Village, but your work for the people has always stood out in my mind whenever I remember my days at the reservation in Hollywood. I bought a copy of *Native Son* 15 years ago to give to my mom as a present. She’s half Cherokee, but your tales on tape of the Seminole history are hauntingly familiar to her.

She still has the tape and loves it. I have created a new one for myself. You have great music that helps people stay in touch with their roots. My father was 1/4 Choctaw and the rest of him was of Northern European ancestry. Although I don’t look like I have a whole lot of Native American in me, I feel it heart and soul.

Thank you for helping me keep that part of my culture alive. P.S. Keep up the great work and stay out of gear pits. The people need you. Glad to hear you recovered okay.

**Veronica Oyasato**  
**Fort Lauderdale**  
**polish\_irish\_indian@hotmail.com**

His name is Chocky Rock. Call him brother and he will come to you.

This women I married down here has been my wife six times before and once was my chosen one wife about 60,000 years ago. Is there any one race of people upon this planet? The answer is no.

All peoples have been all races, warriors, kings, queens, whores and the lot, as you know, we’re all just mere human beings and there are no real grounds for racism. The star peoples made us human beings. Sadly the first batch destroyed itself.

Within the heavens there is an alien league called the League of the White Light with 142 alien tribe members. Over the years you have seen them in the skies and once on the ground, too. I have much medicine things to tell you and it would give me great pleasure and I would be honored to talk with you. Again, call the first Indian “Chocky Rock” and the grandfathers of the N. E. S. and West Aziou, enou, hocheta and noahta.

Call white buffalo women, spider women, grandmother moon, Ms. Peelee from Hawaii, Grandfather Sun, Mother Earth, the Great Creator and his tribe, little peoples, fairy peoples, chosen ones from past rebirthing ceremonies and they will all come to you brother. Look forward to hearing from you brother, law of one peoples

**Keenusit**  
**jlotz1@netzero.net**

*Wait a minute brother, but didn’t Yellowdown marry Chocky Rock back in the early 10,000s BC?*

esting story that I would like to relate to whoever can help me.

I hope I’m not wasting anyone’s time, as I really feel drawn to my Native American roots very strongly. I’ll bet you receive many e-mails like this one, but I could really use some help! Thank you so much in advance.

**Saunya Hildebrand**  
**Frankensaunya@SCIA.net**

**Chief Billie:**

I just finished looking at the great pictures you’ve posted on your site from the New Year’s celebration with Phish and wanted to say thank you! More importantly, I wanted to say thank you on behalf of the Phish fan base for hosting such a spectacular event. With many of us coming from much colder climates (some even from Alaska and Japan), the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation was a slice of heaven and from the bottom of our hearts we want to thank you for sharing the land.

Your kindness and generosity created the most positive vibe many of us have ever felt and we will never forget our experiences there. I’m not sure if you’re familiar with the large scale with which taped copies of Phish shows are distributed (for free), but the New Year’s sabbath with Chief Jim Billie’s message are all over the world!

Thank you for joining us in ringing in the new millennium and for preserving the land. Your reservation was breathtaking, a testament to the world of what can happen by remembering important basic values of respect, conservation and community. Thank you again from tens of thousands of Phish Phans still smiling from the experience.

**Anna Barrett**  
**Anna@bombdiggity.co**

**Chief Billie:**

Hello brother, my name is Keenusit Tall Oak, a practicing medicine man who moved to Australia in 1993 and married an Aborigine medicine woman who is also a lawyer. I first came to Australia in 1989 on a vision quest from Alaska and met a Blackfoot man named Peter Williams from Alberta, Canada, who had been waiting for me to come for three years. I set up a marriage with a Blackfoot girl named Yellowdown who I had to find by July 1, of ‘90, but was not allowed to marry her because she carried another man’s child inside her.

What I am, Chief Jim, is a chosen one, the eighth who come every 10,000 years for the rebirthing of all the Indian nations in the U.S. and Canada. This ceremony goes back in an unbroken line for one million years. What’s the name of the first Indian who is one million years old?

**Chief Billie:**

My great, great grandmother was Seminole. Her name: Martha Lauree Noles (married Bryant) and I have tried many times to find information about her, to no avail. I plan on ordering your genealogy pack, but past this I have no idea how to find more information on her. The things I do know about her seem to correspond very much with what I have read about Seminole history (her dress, some of her beliefs, she was from the Everglades, I was told she had an “Indian name,” etc.) I am also interested in finding her clan name. My family has not been much help providing information.

Also, there are some family members who were very close with the Tribe in the 40s and 50s, and I was wondering if anyone might remember them? I was told they helped the Seminole Tribe out in very hard times. It is really an inter-

Letters

6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024

**Editor:**

I would like to bring something to your attention. We are senior citizens; we have a wide circle of friends who have money to spend. They love to gamble but they have an aversion to smoke. Many have had cancer and or lost someone to cancer.

You are loosing a large section of possible customers because of the smoke. Bingo is also a problem, with smoke. The smoke is terrible and does carry a high risk with second hand smoke. We all know we are in the last stages of our lives, but we all want to live as long as possible. Hanging out in a smoke filled room will make it a shorter not a longer life span.

How much of problem would it be to make an enclosed, non-smoking section in both the casino and bingo? You would double your income by catering to the non-smoking senior citizens.

You will continue to lose customers to the casino ships until you come

to your senses concerning smoking. Please consider what we are saying.

**Patricia Sullivan**  
**Davie**

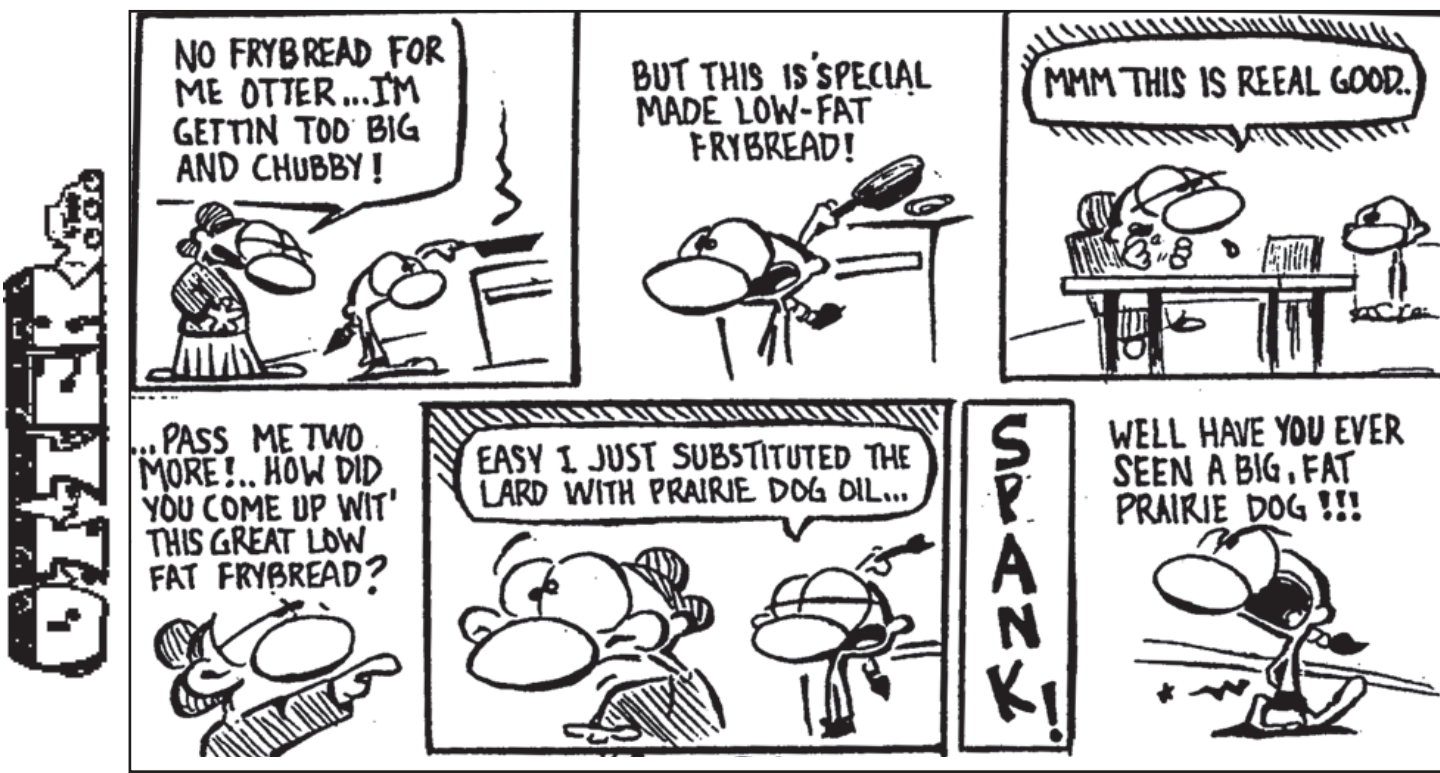
**Editor:**

We recently spent three months in Arcadia, and during our stay we visited the Big Cypress Reservation. While at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, we picked up a copy of the *Seminole Tribune*.

The historical stories were of great interest. I loved reading about Fort Pierce. We were also interested in the performances of dancers and the rodeos. I hope to be able to attend some year.

Until then, I want to purchase a subscription to the *Tribune* so we can keep informed about all the events coming up. Thank you for mailing the paper to Indiana for us. I will share it with others.

**Lois Fitzpatrick**  
**Whiteland, IN**



Seminole Tribune

Publisher: James E. Billie  
Director: Dr. Betty Mae Jumper  
Editor: Virginia M. Mitchell  
Special Projects: Peter B. Gallagher  
Design/Layout: Melissa Sherman  
Design/Layout Assistant: Vanessa Frank  
Secretary: Valerie M. Frank  
Reporters: Libby Blake, Elrod Bowers, Colin Kenny, Ernie Tiger  
Business Manager: Dan McDonald  
Contributors: Tommy Benn, Amy Cox, Charles Flowers, Michael James, Bob Kippenberger (Photos), Brian Larney (Design), Mark Madrid, Sandi McClenithan, Rhonda Roff, Benny Secody, Raiford Starke, Sabrina Tuttle, Vida Volkert, Patsy West, Dr. Patricia R. Wickman

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

© Seminole Tribe of Florida



Community News

# Students Enjoy Brighton Critter Hunt

**By Michael James**  
**BRIGHTON** — If you've never heard of it, the 'Critter Hunt' is an annual field trip organized by the Brighton Education Counselor's Office and undertaken by students in the Brighton Community. The popular field trip focuses on the variety of life forms that inhabit the community. The highlight of the excursion is when children are given nets and the opportunity to learn about local aquatic denizens that are common to the canals and ponds around Brighton.

This year, thanks to Rhonda Roff of Water Resources and Brighton Board Representative Alex Johns, the participants were given the opportunity to explore the bigger picture as it pertains to life in the south Florida ecosystem.

The March 17, field trip saw at least 23 participants from Brighton gather for a learning adventure on the world's largest river restoration project, the Kissimmee River. Participants, including Alex Johns, who funded the opportunity, gathered at the



Youngster gets hand unloading at the sand bar.



L-R: Daylon Youngblood, Ritchie Pewo, Emily Cortez and Justin Aldridge had plenty of fun while hunting critters to study.

Riverwoods Field Laboratory and boarded a boat for the day's adventure.

During the 30-minute boat ride, students took part in identifying birds, alligators, plants, and other features along the way. Their destination was a newly-formed sand bar, one of the first tangible effects of the restoration. The plan for the day was to have a picnic on the sand bar, but according to Louise Gopher, the kids were so excited that few of them took time to eat. Kids, nets, and water — a perfect combination for fun while learning.

The Riverwoods Field Laboratory is a working research center open to scientists and students alike. Many university courses use Riverwoods as a field laboratory. Workshops on aquatic invertebrates, aquatic plants, and geology are currently taught at the facility that is jointly funded by the South Florida Water Management District and the Center for Environmental Studies. Riverwoods is located on the Kissimmee River in Cornwell, Florida.

# Youth Make Annual University Visit

**GAINESVILLE** — Ten Seminole students accompanied by four adults made the annual tour of the University of Florida and Florida State University. The trip, arranged through the Brighton Education Counselor's office, took place between March 27 and March 29.

At least 12 hours of driving time were eliminated from the students' schedule this year as they were treated to a ride on the Tribal jet. The students noted that it took only 30 minutes to arrive in Gainesville and were in agreement that it was much nicer than a five hour van ride.

They started their tour in Gainesville, where the students were given the opportunity to visit dorms, the campus, and meet with the registrar. After touring the University of Florida, the students boarded vans for the drive to Tallahassee. Upon arrival in Tallahassee, the students met with coach Bobby Bowden and toured the Seminole's Athletic Complex.

A proud Bobby Bowden showed the students the two championship trophies that the team fought so hard to bring home to Tallahassee. Afterwards, the group was invited to a lunch at the President's box at Doak Campbell Stadium. The Vice



First to identify these students wins free Tribune T-shirt!

President of the University, the Registrar, and representatives from the financial aid office were on hand to answer the students' questions.

After lunch, the students toured the Florida State University Circus tent and later watched the Florida State-Mercer baseball game. Kevin Osceola threw the first pitch to start the game, which was won by the Seminoles.

The Tribal jet arrived in Tallahassee, and returned the students home to Big Cypress after a 45-minute flight.

# Census 2000 Begins Door-To-Door Campaign

**HOLLYWOOD** — Seminole Tribal members and others have been hired as Census takers specifically to help our community "count" all individuals during this important data collection time, and everyone is asked to respond positively to the Census taker's visit.

Census Bureau officials are urging local residents to cooperate with Census workers as they follow up with households which did not respond or complete Census 2000 questionnaires.

"Beginning April 27, Census workers will be going door-to-door in both rural and urban areas to conduct interviews with local residents," said Regional Director James F. Holmes. "We encourage everyone to participate in Census 2000. The census is critical to the future of every American and will impact many aspects of daily life."

Census workers can be identified by their red, white and blue official badges worn in plain view and can provide resident with their Census local office phone number for verification. Workers will make several attempts to obtain information from

households and will work from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m., seven days a week.

Census workers must pass stringent security and protection reference checks, and are sworn to protect information received from residents. By law, census information cannot be shared with any other government agency — not the INS, IRS, FBI or CIA — not even the President of the United States. Census data is published only in summary form — no individual information is available for 72 years.

Census 2000 population totals are used to reapportion the seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and to redraw the boundaries of state legislative districts and even some local voting districts. These totals and subsequent population estimates based on the decennial numbers are one element that determines eligibility or distribution to state and local governments of more than \$180 billion per year in federal government funds.

For more information or if a special translator is needed contact Debi Lowe in the Secretary-Treasurer's Office: (954) 966-6300, extension 1473.

# Another Group Finishes Carnegie Course

**By E. Bowers**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On April 13, the Dale Carnegie course held its graduation ceremony for the third group of Tribal employees.

Each of the 21 graduates were required to give a two-minute speech about how they employed Dale Carnegie techniques in their professional and personal lives.



Dan Osceola and Rick Alumbaugh.

Polly Hayes, Sampson Frank, Jackie Thompson, Howard Madrigal, Yvonne Waters, Isabell Garza, Travis Osceola, Cynthia James, Wendy Green, Michael Aguilar, McDuffie, Rick Alumbaugh, Noel Gianelli, Amanda Jaffe and Leona Williams.



Jackie Thompson and Bobby Frank.

After presenting the students with their certificates, instructor Shay Gomez was herself presented with an Indian jacket by the students.

Three awards were bestowed upon select graduates. Polly Hayes received the Breakthrough Award, Patty Waldron received the Outstanding Performance Award, and Noel Gianelli received the Highest Award for Achievement.

Graduates included: Cicero Osceola, Michael Nadeau, Rhonda Bain, Mylyn L. Vedel, Patty Waldron, Yvonne Waters, Isabell Garza, Travis Osceola, Cynthia James, Wendy Green, Michael Aguilar, McDuffie, Rick Alumbaugh, Noel Gianelli, Amanda Jaffe and Leona Williams.



Instructor Shay Gomez.



Shay Gomez and Noel Gianelli.



Wendy Green.

# Community Drug Alert

**By Nery Mejicano**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — The Federal government as well as some local and state agencies monitor trends in the illegal use of mood altering drugs. Recently, these monitoring system have detected an alarming increase in the popularity of some very dangerous substances known as "club drugs." This term refers to drugs being used by young adults at all-night dance parties at clubs and bars.

These drugs have been popular in major metropolitan areas such as Miami, Chicago and Los Angeles. But more and more they are making their way into suburbia, rural America and Indian Country.

The Seminole Medical clinic in Big Cypress has identified at least three cases of young people whom after using one of these drugs, MDMA, also known as "ecstasy" experienced very negative side effects, ranging from nausea to anxiety and panic attacks.

These drugs are not harmless, as some people would like to believe. Their use can cause serious physical and emotional problems. Because they are chemically related to amphetamines and their action on the brain can be similar to cocaine, they can have very serious consequences for those who have some medical conditions, such as heart problems and high blood pressure and it can lead to kidney and heart failure. The most serious impact, however, can be on the psychological and emotional wellbeing of people

taking these drugs. Some of these effects include depression, anxiety, panic attacks, visual disturbances, memory problems and in some reported cases, permanent damage to certain parts of the brain.

As in the case of most drugs sold on the streets, the buyer does not know what he is getting. Most of the club drugs are manufactured in illegal basement labs and usually cut with other chemicals just as dangerous, if not more, than ecstasy. Some of the chemical being found in ecstasy includes cocaine, LSD, and Ketamine (an animal anesthetic). These drugs are colorless, tasteless and odorless, so they can easily be slipped on other's drinks without their knowledge. These have led to overdoses, rapes and severe emotional problems.

The purpose for this alert is to keep you informed of drug trends so that the community can be better prepared to respond to these chemical threats on the physical, emotional and cultural well being of the people. I hope that this information is helpful and useful in your efforts at maintaining a drug and alcohol free environment in your community.

More information and help can be obtained by calling your Family Service Program Offices: Hollywood is (954) 964-6338, Big Cypress is (941) 983-6920, Brighton would be (941) 763-7700, Immokalee office is (941) 657-6567 and Tampa program office is (941) 628-0627.

# Brighton Hosts Family Class

**BRIGHTON** — Brighton Health Education is hosting classes for expectant families and families with children under one year.

Classes began on March 30, and will run every Thursday through May 11. The classes are being held in the Field Office Auditorium at noon. Classes will include Infant/Child CPR, Infants and Car Seats, Infant massage and Newborn Care. Anyone interested in attending please contact Wendy Johns, Health Education at (863) 763-4128.

Our last class will be on Thursday, May 11, from noon to 1 p.m. in the field office auditorium. Topic: "Newborn Care in the hospital and at home." Our guest speaker will be Cathy Kovacs, RN from Highlands Regional Medical Center. Please make plans to join us. Lunch will be served.



Learning proper child care was subject of event.

## FLORIDA INDIAN YOUTH PROGRAM

July 16-30, 2000

SPONSORED BY THE FLORIDA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON INDIAN AFFAIRS, INC.  
1341 CROSS CREEK CIRCLE, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301  
1-800-322-9186

**Students 14-18**

- Attend the Florida Indian Youth Program or Florida Indian Youth Leadership Academy
- Earn Scholarships to Attend College
- Learn Occupational and Leadership Skills
- Make New Friends
- Learn from Famous Motivational Speakers
- Have an Away From Home, College-like Experience
- Take Field Trips & Play Sports
- Attend an Awards Banquet in Your Honor

**Students 19-24**

- Participate in the Florida Indian Youth Program as a Counselor Trainee
- Take part in a new national leadership program and learn to be a leader in your community, train other young people to be leaders and how to create a business for yourself while doing it!

**Earn a \$100 Bonus - \$50 just for applying by the Bonus Deadline!**

**See your Education Counselor or call 1-800-322-9186 for an application**

## Native American High School Students...

Join Project Phoenix and see if you have what it takes to be a Native journalist.

Project Phoenix is a journalism camp for Native American high school students.

Learn news writing and photojournalism

Students who have an interest in journalism as a career should apply.

Selected participants will travel to Fort Lauderdale, Florida and publish the 2000 edition of the Rising Voices newspaper.

Project Phoenix provides travel, housing, meals, and materials at no charge.

## Rising Voices

SALMON Activities, speakers & protesters 4

WHALING Resolving a culture crisis controversy 6

TILLICUM VILLAGE Northwest Native culture in Pacific Northwest 8-9

## PROJECT PHOENIX

"Learn journalism in a cultural setting"

June 9 - 15  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Application deadline: Friday May 5, 2000

For brochure and application information call: Native American Journalists Association (612) 729-9244



# Fort Peyton: Post Played Key Role During Dark Chapter In U.S. Military History

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

**By Vida Volkert**  
**ST. AUGUSTINE** — Most people familiar with the history of Florida and the Seminole Indians’ struggles to remain free will agree the most dishonorable act of treachery during the Seminole Wars was committed by the United States Army with regard to the capture of the Indian leader Osceola.

Born around 1804, the young and courageous Osceola, who was a gifted war leader during the Second Seminole War, 1835 – 1842, was captured by treachery in October 1837 under a flag of truce offered by Gen. Thomas Jesup.

Charles Tingley, library manager for the Saint Augustine Historical Society, said Osceola and 81 other Indians were captured in the vicinity of Saint Augustine, ¼ mile south of Fort Peyton.

“Osceola was en route to the fort under a flag of truce when he was seized on Oct. 21, 1837, in accordance with orders of Gen. Jesup,” said Tingley. “The site of this disgraceful capture took place on King’s Road, within gun shot range of Fort Peyton.”

Fort Peyton, which according to Tingley was constructed to guard the southern approach to Saint Augustine, was situated on the right-bank of Moultrie Creek, about seven miles southwest of St. Augustine.

“It was located right where the road [Old King’s Road] crosses the creek [Moultrie Creek].”

Tingley said Fort Peyton was a modest wooden fort and blockhouse established on July 17, 1837. It was named for 1st Lt. Richard H. Peyton, a West Point graduate, who was the post’s first commander.

Jacob Rhett Motte, a surgeon stationed at Fort Peyton between September-November 1837, wrote the fort was situated on an elevated piece of ground in the midst of a pine barren near Moultrie Creek. Motte gave the following description of the fort:

“It consisted of four log houses built in a hollow square; two occupied by the troops; one by the officers, the fourth used as a hospital and commissary store.”

Tingley believes that although Fort Peyton was not “quite of substantial quality” it held Osceola for a brief time after the Indian leader’s capture.

“We believe Osceola was held in Fort Peyton momentarily,” said Tingley.

Noted Florida historian and former Senior Curator for the State of Florida, Patricia Wickman says that on the morning of Saturday, Oct. 21, 1837, Osceola “was made a prisoner at Fort Peyton and was taken seven miles north to Fort Marion at St. Augustine.”

Wickman, who is Director of the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Department of Anthropology & Genealogy, is also the author of *Osceola’s Legacy*, which details the history of one of the most famous Native American warriors. (Her book and others are available on the Seminole Tribe’s web site at [www.seminoletribe.com](http://www.seminoletribe.com).)

In her book, Wickman writes that Osceola and the other 81 Indians captured, including the Chief Coa Hadjo, were marched away from Fort Peyton through a double file of soldiers to St. Augustine.

According to Wickman, Osceola and three other prisoners were given horses to ride to St. Augustine. “The rest walked,” wrote Wickman.

Historian and retired professor of history of the University of Florida, John K. Mahon, said although Osceola was not an Indian Chief, he was given the treatment of such.

“Osceola emerged in a critical situation as a war leader,” said Mahon. “He did not have any hereditary claim to leadership, he did not have any right to speak, but he got up and did so.

“He stood up for what he believed was right and because of his absolute determination to save his people, they listened to him,” said Mahon, who is also the author of the authoritative *History of the Second Seminole War*.

According to Mahon, Osceola, who had begun life in the Creek country of Alabama, had white blood in his veins because his great-grandfather was a Scotsman named James McQueen.

At the time of Osceola’s birth his mother was married to a man named Powell, “but there is no evidence that Osceola was Powell’s son,” Mahon said.

During the Creek War, after the battle of Tohopeka, Polly Copinger, Osceola’s mother, took him with her when she migrated to Florida. They were accompanying a Red Stick band led by a half-breed relative named Peter McQueen.

According to Wickman, McQueen, who was involved with a “native revivalist” movement, helped shape the future Seminole warrior’s spirit. “Peter became an Indian ‘prophet,’ spurring his family and other Creeks to resist forcibly the growing influence of white culture and to reassert their Indian heritage,” wrote Wickman, adding that Osceola was much impressed with this ‘nativist’ philosophy.

Years later, Osceola’s nativist philosophy was reflected in his own achievements and enormous popularity among the people of Florida. In his journal, Motte wrote Osceola was always represented as “an upstart in the nation, a novus homo, but having an unbounded ambition, he had obtained his high elevation, by energy and great talents.

“...he [Osceola] was a ruling spirit among those wretches, and exercised with autocratic power the sway he had acquired by his superior shrewdness and sagacity over their stern minds, and exacted from them the homage of vassals and dependents.”

Wickman and Mahon support Osceola’s name was derived from the Creek words Asi Yaholo, meaning “black-drink singer.” The name was easily corrupted into Osceola.

According to Mahon’s investigation, Osceola’s contemporaries described him as a little below common height, elegantly formed and with small hands and feet.

His face was variously described as thoughtful and cunning, with piercing eyes, chiseled lips, and

having a mild, sweet expression. Osceola’s address was easy and affable, his manners courtly, his handshake firm. The military officers gave him special attention.

Mahon, who referred to Osceola’s capture as the “most notorious treachery of the Second Seminole War carried out,” wrote that to Jesup’s surprise the capture resulted in the making of a martyr, referring to Osceola, and that of a villain, referring to Jesup.

“...Osceola became to many Americans a symbol of the patriot chief fighting for the land he loved.”

So much influence had Osceola over his people that the events preceding and following his capture were significant and influential to the outcome of the Second Seminole War.

Most of them, which occurred within the vicinity of St. Augustine and within the boundaries of Fort Peyton, were in most part recorded in detail by several officers who served in Florida between 1837-38.

Motte, who reported at Fort Peyton during the first days of September 1837, recorded the most vivid accounts. At the time of Motte’s arrival, Capt. Gustavus S. Drane was in command of Fort Peyton.



Osceola was captured under a flag of truce near Fort Peyton, an event that author John Mahon called “the most notorious treachery of the Second Seminole War.”

Motte who had the spirit of a poet rather than that of a soldier, and was very talented at describing scenes and events, rapidly met his comrades at the new post, gathered anecdotes and recorded them in his journal.

“It was not very far from this place [Fort Peyton] that an act of great gallantry was performed by an officer of the Army,” wrote Motte in his journal upon his arrival to the fort.

Motte learned from the soldiers that near this fort Capt. Justin Dimick of the 1st Artillery and a small party of U.S. troops had successfully confronted a “superior” force of Seminoles, resulting in the captain’s promotion to major.

During this skirmish, two Indians of “huge stature” fired at the Captain from different flanks, wounding him and throwing both, horse and Captain, to the ground.

The wounded Captain, however, disengaged himself from his horse and with great activity, wrote Motte, “...gained his feet in time to bring down one of the antagonists, as, with fearful yells, they rushed to take his scalp, thinking their fire had killed him.”

Noticing his warrior companion on the ground, the second warrior chose to retreat, but the Captain shot him dead.

“In the mean time, the wounded Indian, though unable to rise, had seized a gun, but before he could use it, the gallant Captain despatched him with his sword.”

A few days after Motte’s arrival to the post, a most significant event took place. On Sept. 4, 1837, four “Negroes” who had escaped from an Indian camp, delivered themselves up at Fort Peyton.

It seems the fugitives were originally Major Benjamin D. Heriot’s property since according to a Jan. 13, 1836 report in the *Florida Herald*, a band of Seminoles under King Phillip had burned the Heriot plantation in December 1835, carrying away 75 of Heriot’s slaves.

Motte recorded the Heriot’s slaves had decided to escape from the Indian camp because there, the Indians mistreated them.

“They complained of having encountered intolerable hardships and very scant fare among the Indians who gave them nothing to eat but Coontee and alligators...”

These slaves gave information on the Indians’ activities and whereabouts, eventually leading to the capture of King Phillip and Uchee Billy.

In his *The Florida War*, Brevet Captain, Eight Regiment U.S. Infantry, John Titcomb Sprague,

who operated in Florida during the Seminole Wars, gave a description of the Indian Chief King Phillip.

“King Phillip...was a good natured, sensible Indian; his age which was about sixty, and his royal blood, attached to him some importance.”

Sprague wrote King Phillip was inclined to peace, but determined to die in his land. It seems as if King Phillip “...was wished to avoid the whites, rather than to fight...”

On Sept. 7, 1837, about 170 men under the supervision of Gen. Joseph M. Hernandez, whose staff consisted of Lt. John Graham and Surgeon Motte himself, departed from Fort Peyton to search for the Indian camps described by the four “Negroes.”

The troops consisted of two companies of 2nd U.S. Dragoons under Second Lt. John Winfield Scott McNail and Charles Augustus May; one company of 3rd Artillery under Lt. William Fraser; and two companies of Florida Volunteers from St. Augustine under Lts. Francis Pellicier and Daniel W. Whitehurst. Lt. Peyton of the 2nd Artillery was commanding the whole battalion.

After several days scouting the wilderness south of Fort Peyton, the troops found another group of slaves belonging to Heriot.

Some of the slaves who had escaped from the Indians were scattered in small groups. This new group led the troops to King Phillip’s camp and later to Uchee Billy’s camp.

Both King Phillip’s and Uchee Billy’s camps were taken by surprise. But while Phillip’s capture was accomplished with no casualties, Uchee Billy’s capture cost the lives of a young Indian warrior and Lt. McNeil.

Ironically, while the young Indian warrior was shot by Lt. Peyton – commander of the expedition and the namesake of the fort — Lt. McNeil was shot by the same Uchee Billy, leader of the Indian camp.

The Indians were taken prisoner to Fort Peyton and from Peyton to St. Augustine.

According to Motte, before Osceola’s capture, King Phillip and Uchee Billy were being held as hostages in a St. Augustine dungeon. The other chiefs in the area — Micanopy, Coacoochee, Jumper, Holatoochee and Coa Hadjo — were still free but inactive. The war had drawn their people to a state of starvation, dependency and desperation.

As a result, the Indians were holding back the fight and were willing to negotiate peace with the white men.

On the other hand, Gen. Jesup, then commander of the peninsula, was exhausted from having to deal with the people of Florida who were also tired of Jesup’s attempts to negotiate peace. They were pushing the government to enforce removal of the Indians.

Because he was ready to request dismissal from the Peninsula, the general was also ready to explore almost any desperate measure to put an end to the war.

In one final attempt to end the stalemate, King Phillip in captivity was given the opportunity to persuade the Indians to surrender in exchange for peace. King Phillip requested his son Coacoochee, known as Wild Cat, should serve as his messenger in the effort to persuade his Tribal members to surrender.

During these negotiations, Coacoochee paid several visits to the officers stationed at Fort Peyton. Motte recorded in his diary some of these visits, including the most significant one made on Oct. 14, 1837. On that day, Coacoochee returned to Fort Peyton with Phillip’s brother and Phillip’s youngest son.

According to Motte’s account, Coacoochee informed the military that Osceola and some other chiefs, with about a hundred Indians, “would be in, in a few days to hold a talk. . .”

Coacoochee also informed the military that a large number of “negroes” were at Volusia; but that they “should not be sent for until the result of the talk is known.”

Also, Coacoochee advised the military that as the Indians were in a starving condition, provisions should be sent to ensure their survival.

The morning after, Motte rode along with Gen. Joseph Hernandez 20 miles of Fort Peyton to the Indian camp situated out away from St. Augustine. At the camp, they had an interview with some of the “inferior” chiefs. Motte noted Osceola was not at the camp.

On the same night, Motte, Hernandez and many other officers and leaders including Coacoochee and King Phillip’s brother, met in St. Augustine. The purpose, however, was not to hold the peace negotiations, but to celebrate Gen. Hernandez’ daughter’s upcoming marriage. Ironically, in a time of war and desperation, the white and red men had bonded to celebrate.

“We reached the city at midnight. . . I soon transferred myself to where bright eyes beamed and beauty sighed, and light feet tripped the music’s swells, witching the heart and captivating the senses,” wrote Motte.

Assistant Surgeon Samuel Forry, who attended the party as well, described Coacoochee as “the lion of the night.”

“His remarks were always to the point, prompted by the impulses of nature,” wrote Forry about Coacoochee’s behavior when dealing with the ladies attending the party.

“A lady and gentleman being introduced to him [Coacoochee] he inquired if they were married. Being answered that the pair had lately been yoked, he added that she was very pretty, and that her husband no doubt enjoyed her very much, but that after

bearing several children, she would be scarce worth having. . .”

The morning after the party, two Indian runners desiring an interview with Gen. Hernandez arrived at the gates of Fort Peyton. Motte recorded the spokesman affirmed they were representing Micanopy, Holatoochee, Jumper, Osceola and Coa Hadjo. The spokesman said Osceola had sent him to say that he would be in to hold a talk in person.

“That the Indians were sincere in desiring peace, there could be no doubt; but as they said nothing about emigration, their peace was attended with the provision of being permitted to remain in the country,” wrote Motte.

It seems that the military did not trust Osceola and feared his peace talks were just part of a plan “to rescue King Phillip, who was held in high estimation by them, and to massacre the inhabitants of St. Augustine.”

“...he was not to be trusted,” wrote Motte about Osceola.

On the morning of Oct. 21, 1837, Gen. Jesup, who was then in command of Fort Peyton, instructed Gen. Hernandez and 250 troops to set out south to meet the Seminole Indian leaders Osceola and Coa Hadjo. At that time, Osceola and his men were camping about a mile from Fort Peyton.

On the troops’ arrival to the Indian camp, the soldiers spotted the Indians flying a white flag. The troops had previously been instructed by Gen. Hernandez to close in and surround the Indians at a given signal.

In his journal, assistant Surgeon Nathan Jarvis, who was present during the event, wrote as follows:

“...my attention was of course first directed to discover Os-Cin-Ye-Hola [Osceola]. He was soon pointed out to me but I could have designated him by his looks as the principal man among them. Nothing of savage fierceness or determination marked his countenance, on the contrary his features indicated mildness and benevolence. A continued smile played over his face, particularly when shaking hands with the officers present.”

Gen. Hernandez then, addressed to Osceola some questions pertaining to the Indians’ surrender.

In *The Florida War*, John T. Sprague, Brevet Captain, Eight Regiment U.S. Infantry, stationed in Florida between 1836 and 1837 recorded Osceola’s reaction towards Hernandez’ inquiries.

“Whether there was any question in those questions which awakened distrust in the minds of the Indians, or they had not come with a determination to emigrate, or they had been ascertained, but the answers of Powell or Oseola [Osceola] to these inquiries were certainly evasive and unsatisfactory. In fact, Oseola [Osceola], after a few vague replies became silent, and, turning to Coa-Hajo [Coa Hadjo], was overheard by the interpreter to say, ‘I feel choked; you must speak for me;’ a proof of uncontrollable emotion, remarkable in an Indian, and possibly the result of a suspicion of what followed, or of disappointment and dissatisfaction at the course which the conference had taken.”

After some additional talk in which Coa Hadjo replied they had not come to surrender, but to discuss the possibility to make peace, Gen. Hernandez gave the signal and the troops closed in.

Forry, who witnessed the affair, claims 82 prisoners, including half a dozen women and children, were captured with Osceola. Sprague states there were 71, “the elite of the Mickasuky tribe, six women, and four Indian negroes.”

Historian John K. Mahon wrote there were 71 warriors, six women, and four Indian-Negroes among the captives.

Following his capture, Osceola and the other Indians were taken to St. Augustine and held in a dungeon in the formidable Castillo de San Marcos, the oldest stone fort in the United States.

To the military’s disappointment, on the night of the Nov. 29, Coacoochee with 16 men and two women escaped from the fortress. To the Indians’ misfortune, Osceola could not make it. Some speculate that Osceola, who had contracted Malaria early in 1836, fell sick and realizing his health was declining, decided against an escape. “Osceola was too ill to escape from the dungeon,” said Mahon.

Osceola was later removed from the peninsula to Fort Moultrie in South Carolina, where he was held while awaiting deportation to Indian Territory. It was there he was a captive at this installation that the great Indian leader met his end.

Dr. Frederick Weedon, the physician at Fort Moultrie, gave an account of Osceola’s last moments.

Weedon wrote that about half an hour before Osceola died, apparently sensing his own death, he sent for the chiefs, the officers of the post, his two wives and sons.

According to Weedon, Osceola put on his full dress, which he wore in time of war. The great warrior, then, painted with red one half of his face, his neck and his throat – his wrists — the backs of his hands and the handle of his knife.

“His knife he then placed in its sheath, under his belt; and he carefully arranged his turban on his head, and his three Ostich plumes that he was in the habit of wearing in it,” wrote Weedon.

Before dying, Weedon stated Osceola shook hands in “dead silence” with all the officers, his wives and children.

“...he then slowly drew from his war-belt, his scalping knife, which he firmly grasped in his right hand, laying it across the other on his breast, and in a moment smiled away his last breath, without a struggle or a groan.” Osceola died on Jan. 31, 1838.

After his death, Osceola’s legacy, however, remained a strong influence among his Tribal men, inspiring the warriors to resist the white men’s pressure and to courageously endure the most astounding saga of survival.

In his honor, there are in the nation 20 towns, three counties, two townships, one borough, two lakes, two mountains, a state park, and a national forest bearing his name.

The violation of the truce is commemorated by a historical marker about a mile from the site of Fort Peyton, which according to Tingley, the St. Augustine Historical Society library manager, was abandoned in July 1840.

Charles Tingley says the site of Fort Peyton, which is owned by the county, is in the middle of suburban houses. About Osceola’s capture site, Tingley said it has never been officially identified, but is believed to be developed as a residential area.

“That’s because nobody has done any archaeological investigation,” said Tingley. “Maybe amateur archeologists have searched both sites with metal detectors, but ground proving has never been performed.”

Tingley added the only thing standing for Fort Peyton and the site where Osceola was captured is a concrete marker with a remembrance plaque on it.

For more information call the St. Augustine Historical Society at (904) 824-2872.

**Next: Fort Shackelford.**





Scientists got a first hand look at the alligators that have never been know to fly out of the Swamp Safari.

# Dinosaur

Continued from page 1

Swamp-rocker Raiford Starke, accompanied by Sunset Beach Pete on rhythm guitar and Elan Chalford on fiddle, serenaded the group with bluegrass versions of such regional hits as "Girl From Immokalee" and "Stockbroker Took My Girl."

After lunch the scientists were transported to the West Boundary Road area for a combination swamp buggy – hiking tour of the cypress wetlands and gator holes. Dr. Bill Dunson, biologist in the Water Resources Department, and Joe Davis, archivist

"The deep centers of cypress domes were the traditional home of alligators – not the man-made canals. If wetlands are rehydrated properly, alligators and their prey base should return."

Dr. Bakker was particularly interested in this. In general this was a new idea for the group and they were somewhat amazed at the whole operation. Members of the group also took advantage of the airboat rides offered by the Safari. Later, as they were preparing to depart, everyone was given a Seminole 2000 calendar and a copy of the *Seminole Tribune's* special *A Day in the Life of Big Cypress*.

Chairman Billie and Billie Swamp Safari got up close and personal with the paleontologists again on Friday at a banquet held at the Broward County Convention Center.

During the cocktail hour, alligators and birds of prey moved through the crowds with their handlers. Comparisons and debates regarding the connection, or lack thereof, between alligators, birds, and dinosaurs could be heard throughout the room.

The Chief, accompanied by wife Lesley, was introduced to the assembly by Dr. Shugar and asked to say a few words.

"Thank you goes out to these world famous scientists who specifically requested to visit Billie Swamp Safari and the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation to see alligators in their natural habitat," James Billie said during his remarks. "Understanding of the study of present day alligators is fundamental to the understanding of the dinosaur-bird evolution. We were very happy to have been able to accommodate you and invite you to return anytime."



Scientists have discussson comparing this alligator's limbs to modern birds.

at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, led the groups.

"The point of my short tour was to introduce these scientists to the real-life world of restoration ecology," said Dunson. "I tried to emphasize how complicated these issues are, but how they could be simplified by letting the biota 'do the talking.' In other words, the use of bio-indicators to judge damage and how much it is repaired.

Cypress Seminole Reservation to see alligators in their natural habitat," James Billie said during his remarks. "Understanding of the study of present day alligators is fundamental to the understanding of the dinosaur-bird evolution. We were very happy to have been able to accommodate you and invite you to return anytime."

# Russell Osceola Sends Message Of Hope And Encouragement

By Michael James

**BRIGHTON** — Russell Osceola, the last diabetes testmion before the 2000 Wellness Conference, brings a message of hope and encouragement for all those afflicted with the disease.

Like others before him, Russell is a staunch advocate for prevention and management of this disease that affects the lives of so many Native

After six months of being on dialysis, Russell's name was put on a donor list to receive a kidney. During that time he had begun to suffer the debilitating effects of retinopathy and eventually lost the sight in one eye.

The waiting game for organ transplants requires the potential recipient wear a beeper 24 hours a day so they may be contacted at a moment's notice should an organ becomes available.

"I was in Hollywood that weekend for a pool tournament," said Osceola, about the day he got his call. For some reason his was a phone call and not a pager call and as luck would have it he was at a friend's home sharpening his pool skills before the tournament began.

Fortunately for Osceola when he finally returned to where the tournament was being held, friends informed him that someone from the hospital was trying to get in touch with him. In an ironic twist of fate, organ procurement staff at the transplanting hospital had already stated calling down the list of other potential donors after being unsuccessful in reaching Osceola.

Lucky for him though, the next two people on the list could not be located either. In the mean time, he was able to make the call that changed his life.



Russell Osceola: New kidney, same diabetes battle.

"I was lucky," he says. "I came back to Brighton to try to get someone to take me to Orlando, but I ended up driving myself, arriving in Orlando well after midnight."

Osceola underwent immediate surgery. Later there was a long postoperative stay because it was necessary for him to stay in close proximity to his doctors to be monitored.

"Once you get a kidney, it is just another beginning," said Osceola of his experience, emphasizing that the new organ does not cure diabetes. "The problem does not go away."

Today he must abide by a strict regiment of anti-rejection medication, which includes up to 21 pills throughout the course of a day so his body will not reject the new organ.

"It's great not having to be on dialysis anymore. I just want everybody to know that diabetes does not have to be a death sentence," says the father of four, who has 11 grandchildren. "It's only a death sentence if you ignore it. Now I live by a strict diet."

"You can't skip anything. Just because you may feel good doesn't mean you can skip medications," said Osceola, who absolutely maintains a low fat and low sugar diet and walks a mile every morning and every afternoon. As a result, his morning blood glucose level rarely measures over 90.

"I just want everybody to read about diabetes and learn all you can about it," he says. "Listen to the doctors, eat right, go to Diabetic Day when it is held and get checked and also listen to what they tell you at the clinic. Get out and do something about it," said Osceola in conclusion.

"I felt real bad when I found out. First I got a fistula in my arm. That was bad. And then I got a graft."

Q & BREW PUB

954.431.8044

POOL TABLES GAMES FOOD DRINKS

FREE POOL

FOR NATIVE AMERICANS

6 P.M. TIL CLOSING

SUNDAY THROUGH THURSDAY

NATIVE AMERICAN LADIES

8 BALL POOL TOURNAMENT

EVERY TUESDAY

7:30 P.M.

\$5.00 ENTRY

7357 DAVIE RD. EXT

DAVIE, FL. 33024

SOUTH OF STIRLING RD.

WEST SIDE OF ROAD

Protect Your Rights!

Maybe we can help!

Tired of hiding?

Violations of Probation?

Warrants, open criminal cases?

DUI or DUI injury cases?

The Law Offices of Guy J. Seligman, P.A.

320 S. E. 9th Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33316

954-760-7600

The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

It's more than western wear

how the west is worn.

Davie

6211 S.W. 45th Street

(954) 587-9000

plus locations in Coconut Creek, Hialeah and Ocala

... It's a way of life.



# Brian Zepeda Lends Voice To TV Series

By E. Bowers  
MIAMI — On April 27, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Operations Manager Brian Zepeda visited the



Brian Zepeda reads his lines that will be part of TV series.

WPBT Channel 2 station to provide a voice-over for the 2-part series, *The Unconquered*. The series, which will air on the weekly mag-

azine show *New Florida*, will feature the history and culture of the Seminole Tribe. The Emmy-award winning series will air the first segment on June 24, at 7 p.m., with encores on June 25, at 5:30 p.m. and June 27, at 3:30 p.m. The segment centers on the significance of the land and its resources to the Seminoles during the Seminole Wars. The second segment will air on July 1, at 7 p.m., with encores on July 2, at 5:30 p.m. and July 4, at 3:30 p.m. The segment will feature the Kissimmee Slough Shootout, an 1840s battle reenactment held on the Big Cypress Reservation in February. The segments will “always be from the point of view of the Seminoles,” said Frances Berrios, WPBT Program Administration Coordinator. “We try to paint the real picture. “The mix of cultures is why South Florida is so unique, and we feel it’s our mission to tell the whole story.” According to Berrios, WPBT is developing another program featuring members of the Seminole Tribe — tentatively titled *Seminole Tapestries*, which will focus on four generations of Seminole women — to air during November, which has been designated as Native American month.

# House Has A Message Of Hope

By Michael James  
BRIGHTON — Located at 17320 Short Street is a “house.” Not just a house, but a war room where battle lines are being drawn against an enemy that kills more people each year throughout the world than guns or bullets. It is a difficult struggle because this adversary accomplishes its insidious work by infiltrating homes, neighborhoods, families and businesses. This enemy is, of course, substance abuse. The house is the Sober House. On the fifth anniversary of the Sober House, the Seminole Tribune was invited to share in a heart wrenching and empowering testimony of two individuals whose lives were taken over and nearly taken away. Now they are among the privileged few who enjoy the richness and fullness of life having beaten the enemy.

“There is no one in the Tribe that has not been touched,” said Helene Buster underscoring the critical situation. Helene took her first drink at 12 and today, as a practicing registered nurse, can look back and realize that many parents passively teach their children drinking is a way of life.

“I did not drink as a kid because of an unhappy home life, I drank because it was a way of life for us,” Helene says.

“I remember setting up parties in the teen building. Before we went to work in the tomato fields we already had everything lined up — liquor, food, music — everything. We even managed to get a jukebox donated.”

Eventually Helene married, and after ten months and a new baby her husband died. This gave her the justification she needed to drink more. Helene married again, to an abusive alcoholic. She remained in that relationship for 15 years, despite the abuse. Ironically, she did not drink during those fifteen years.

When the divorce finally did come, she started doing all the things that she left him for. She was actually encouraged to “go out socially” because she deserved to, after everything she went through. This encouragement came innocently from well meaning friends as well as her family. However, drinking to Helene was not social. When she drank she had one goal in mind — getting drunk.

Throughout all of this she never considered herself an alcoholic. As the alcohol worked its mind warping effects, it slowly required more and more to trick the brain into believing the body felt good. Conversations around the bottle turned to talk about the popular new drug that changed cocaine from being the drug of the upwardly mobile and the elite to one that everyone could afford — crack cocaine.

“We drank and we talked about it and finally we went and got some and that was it,” she says. “The first hit was addiction. People will sell their souls for the next hit. All I could think of was getting more crack

“I stayed up for days and spent nights crawling around on my hands and knees looking for more. I just knew that somewhere someone had dropped a rock. I lost my business, my kids and then I lost my home. I felt a certain drug induced freedom. I no longer had the worries and could concentrate on crack.”

The bottom came for Helene when she found herself in a bar in an argument over money with her ex-husband. She had been working to give the crack a break, and by mutual agreement the couple had a modicum of success until their judgement was displaced again by the alcohol.

“We got into a fight because I refused to give him any more, the next thing I remember was waking up on the pavement with my purse, money and car gone. All I could think of was taking something from him — something that mattered.

“I walked down the street towards his house, went in and remember actually seeing myself walking around the house. It was sort of like an out of body experience. I got the lighter, walked back to our smoking room and set the curtains on fire. I calmly left the room and remember checking the house to make sure there was no one inside and left the house and closed the door behind me.

“As I walked down the street I passed him, he asked where I was going, I replied nowhere. I then walked to the police station and told the police what I had done. I was sentenced to four months in jail, 10 years probation and \$20,000 restitution.

“My brother Willie wanted to come and get me but I told him, ‘just leave me here, this is the only way I can get straight.’ In that time I rehabilitated and decided to eventually go back to school, become a registered nurse and rebuild my life.”

Not an easy task, Helene asserts that the first



Andy and Helene Buster help others find sober path.

step is to realize you have a problem. Next is to remove yourself from tempting situations, meaning anything that evokes the desire to drink or use again. Recovering is a minute by minute process. One is never recovered, as long as you live you will always be recovering. Helene remarried two years ago, this time to her soul mate who is also a recovered alcoholic.

Andy Buster, 57, is a traditional tribal judge for the Miccosukee. He took his first drink at the age of 7 and by today’s standards was a full blown alcoholic by the age of 12.

“Mom sold beer during corn dance time and it was easy to sneak the beer out. I grew up watching drinking, fighting and cutting,” said Buster.

By the time he was 14, his focus shifted from drinking to working towards the purchase of his own automobile. Cars played a very important role in Andy’s life. They motivated him to work and stop drinking.

Buster won instant popularity amongst his peers for having a “cool ride.” He had managed to stay away from alcohol until his early 20s. The simple act of socializing and hanging out with his buddies introduced alcohol into his life once again.

This time, however, he learned of marijuana too. Andy would go on binges of drinking and drugging, lose automobiles and friends and then stop again. This start and stop behavior became regular. With each onset of “using” Andy would inevitably lose his car. Andy sought identity in his automobiles.

Andy’s bottom happened the day he decided to commit suicide. There was preparation for this, he needed enough beer, cocaine and the pot. He then loaded his gun and began the process.

He started early in the morning, but by the afternoon he felt nothing. The alcohol and drugs, as if by miracle, had missed their mark. He felt perfectly sober. Later that afternoon a friend dropped by and suggested that they go and shoot some pool at a local bar.

He remembers his friend having to leave and pick a friend up from work and the next thing he remembers was lying in a hospital bed. He woke up, and trying to use the bathroom he fell to the floor. When help arrived, he was informed that he could not try and walk.

He had broken his femur. In addition to a broken femur, his was missing his front teeth as well. Andy lay in his hospital bed for the next few hours trying to retrace his steps. He had concluded that he had been in a fight, however could not remember.

When his friend arrived he asked what happened. The answer was shocking. Andy had been found in the middle of the road in front of the bar and had been run over. Andy was soon released, only to injure himself once again. This time Andy found himself in a hospital in Miami for the next nine months in a full body cast.

It seemed to Buster that the nine months spent in the hospital would provide the opportunity to rehabilitate. However, miscreant hospital workers held another agenda. Those charged with his care would undo his will to stop drinking by indulging themselves with bourbon in his room. Soon after they would share.

After his release, it finally dawned on Buster that all the unfortunate happenings in his life were the result of alcohol and substance abuse. After three years of sobriety, Buster wanted to be baptized and gave his testimony in church.

Andy celebrates his 19th year of sobriety. Today by unwavering spiritual strength they have been able to build a rock solid union, and they have turned negative energy into a positive life affirming force by which they help others. Andy and Helene began the Sober House using their own funds.

“I remember five years ago when I would sit here in this house by myself for an hour and not one person would show up,” says Helene. “Tonight 12 people met here. Some of the people meeting are there by an order of the court, and some of their own free will.”

Meetings are held at the Sober House every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Brighton, and every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Big Cypress. The meetings are open to anyone. If you feel that sharing your testimony could help one other person break the hold of addiction, please give Helene Buster a call at the Big Cypress clinic. Your story will be published if you agree.



**DIRECT**  
TICKETS & TRAVEL



SPORTS

CONCERTS

THEATER

BUY/SELL

SUPERBOWL - NASCAR - FINAL FOUR

All Events Local and Nationwide

**Broward: 954 938.9090    Toll Free: 1.888 590.9090**

We Deliver Licensed & Bonded # 31393

<http://www.directtixx.com>



**OUT  
JAIL  
FAST**

*Bail Bondsman*  
**MYRNA LOY**

**Tribal Dividends Accepted**

**24 Hrs. • Speedy Release • Professional Service**

**Tel: 954. 583.9119    3232 W. Broward Blvd.    Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312**





**\$1000 OFF**

On All Show Trucks & A Large Variety Of New & Used Pick-Up Trucks Without You Present This Ad!

Please Call To Register Prior To Arriving To Ensure Special Pricing

**"Lochachee Topeekeegee"**

**SPECIAL SEMINOLE CORPORATE & FLEET PRICING!**

**GMC SHOW TRUCK FESTIVAL!**

OTHER NEW & USED TRUCKS & CARS ALSO AVAILABLE

**DEAL DIRECTLY WITH CORPORATE FLEET PERSONNEL ONLY**

☒ NO SALES PERSONS INVOLVED! ☒ NO MIDDLE PERSONS! ☒ NO BROKER FEES!

**JERRY CRISTODERO**  
REGIONAL DIRECTOR, CORPORATE & FLEET OPERATIONS  
Direct: (954) 443-2028 • Fax: (954) 443-2054  
**TOLL FREE (888) 860-9121**  
email: [jerryscars@aol.com](mailto:jerryscars@aol.com)

Call Us For Special Pricing On Lexus, Toyota, & Pontiac Vehicles



**SALES • LEASING • EXPORT • WHOLESALE • INDUSTRIAL • CORPORATE**



## Brighton Blood Drive A Success

**BRIGHTON** — The Treasure Coast Blood Bank was at the Brighton Reservation on March 14, for a blood drive.

This time of the year there is usually a shortage of blood in the local banks. This year it has been really bad with the increasing numbers of people coming to Florida for the winter as well as Spring Breakers flooding into the area.

They called upon the Tribe for assistance and 20 people came for the blood drive. They will be returning to the Brighton Field Office parking lot on June 1, for another blood drive. They will be taking donations from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Anyone interested in more information can contact Wendy Johns at Health Education at (863) 763-4128.



Michelle Thomas gives gift of life.

## Free Breast Cancer Screening

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Broward County Health Department provides women 50-64 years of age to schedule an appointment for free breast cancer screening. The testing will take place at the following locations and times:

May 11 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the U.S. Post Office at 900 W. Oakland Park Blvd.

May 13 at the Hispanic Unity on

6850 Johnson Street.

May 20 at the U.S. Post office in Pompano 1250 N.E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

May 27 in Hollywood at the U.S. Post Office on 1801 Polk Street.

May 31 at the Migrant Education Program in Pompano.

Call (954) 762-3649 to schedule an appointment.

## ‘Weigh’ To Go; Big Cypress Residents Shed Pounds

**BIG CYPRESS** — Eighty-four Big Cypress residents finished a three-month weight loss contest April 3, with impressive results.

The “Millennium Weight Loss Contest,” sponsored by the Big Cypress Recreation Department, Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress, President/Vice Chairman Mitchell Cypress, and the Health Department was geared to promote weight loss through positive lifestyle change.



L-R: Tom Koenes - 5th place 13.5 lbs., Danny Tommie - 2nd place 19.5 lbs., and Charlie Cypress - 1st place 35 lbs.

Department also helped contestants. The awards presentation was held April 17, at the gym. Winning contestants shared weight loss secrets centering around starting and sticking with an exercise or walking program, eating a lot of salad and lighter foods and staying away from desserts.

Pleased with the outcome of the contest was George Grasshopper, Director of Big Cypress Recreation Program. “We’re going to start back up and continue into the summer, that way it will encourage people to stay active and keep up the momentum,” said Grasshopper.

Jack Gorton, Assistant Director of Big Cypress Recreation, announced that water aerobic classes would now also be available and would be included on the list of previously mentioned contest resources.

David and Mitchell Cypress both offered their congratulations to the winners, with Mitchell expressing the importance of proper weight maintenance and fitness in overall health especially when concerning diabetes and high blood pressure.



L-R: Renee Tigertail 4th place 18 lbs., Wendy Cypress 2nd place 26 lbs., and Celesta Osceola 1st place 29 lbs.



Sponsors are (l-r) George Grasshopper from Recreation, Suzanne Davis from Health, and President Mitchell Cypress.

The contest saw over 40 finishing contestants, with the top 25 people boasting a total weight loss of 322 pounds. The competition was divided into men’s and women’s categories with prize money awards going to the top five winners in each division for their efforts. First place for the Millennium Weight Loss Contest — \$2,000 to the man and woman who lost the most weight.

Resources for the contest included the fully equipped weight room. Aerobics/personal training instructor Vicky Barrogannis, hosted by the Recreation Department, Toni Taglione, Health Educator/Exercise Physiologist and Nutritionist Anne DiCello of the Health

## Mystery Of The Disappearing Seminoles Is Over

**By Michael James BRIGHTON** — Seminoles have been disappearing at a record rate around the Brighton community since Jan. 28.

No need for panic though — this is not a case for Unsolved Mysteries. In fact, the only detective work required to crack this case would be a quick call to Wendy Johns, Brighton Health Educator’s Office, for some clues.

What Wendy would say is by the end of the eleventh week of the weight loss contest, 537.6 pounds had been lost by 121 participating Brighton residents.

Closely associated with the contest was the beginning of a Weight Watchers program which began Jan. 31, after Dr. Christopher Mavroides suggested some sort of program be started in the community. Wendy Johns presented the request to Weight Watchers and they immediately and emphatically told her no. It was the opinion of Weight Watchers that it would be impossible to find an instructor.

“No” is not part of the tenacious health educator’s vocabulary. She then took her quest up a level to the Orlando office of Weight Watchers. They were able to help by finding an instructor in reasonable proximity to Brighton. Instructor Pam Godwin was teaching the system in Lake Placid. Johns was able to sell Godwin the idea of teaching at Brighton and the rest is history.

“We begged her,” said Johns. “She agreed and we started with 57 people. Fifty would finish the program.”

Johns also said 19 have been so successful that several of the participants



At weight in, even a pair of shoes can change result.

with diabetes have had to have their medication doses adjusted.

“Adjusted. Wendy Johns teaches nutrition and portion control in a way that is easy to understand,” said Johns. “They work on a point system instead of a calorie count, and they teach one to work on a goal and then how to meet that goal and then maintain it.”

The weight loss contest was a 12-week challenge open to the Brighton Community. In addition to the health benefits, which was the primary goal of the contest, Council Representative Jack Smith, Jr. made winners out of all those that participated by offering a \$10 bounty on each lost pound.

To help the efforts, resources were made available. Aerobics classes were held three nights a week, and an

over 200-pound aerobic class was held every Wednesday and Friday. Also a lunch walk was encouraged every day at noon. In addition to the aerobics classes, the Recreation program maintained a fully equipped weight room with exercise machines.

The contest was a smashing success with over 20 participants losing over 10 pounds. Congratulations to the following:

Martha Jones — 26 pounds; Shane Buck — 24 pounds; Christie Strickland — 23 pounds; Earl Strickland — 22 pounds; Marvin Bowers — 21 pounds; John Wayne Huff, Sr. — 19 pounds.

Selena Billie, Margarita Baker and Lorene Gopher — 17 pounds; Cindy Rodriguez and Jody Goodman — 16 pounds; Betty Billie, Grace Koontz and Wendy Johns — 14 pounds.

Weems Buck — 13 pounds; Penny Colt, Rosie Buck and Willie Johns — 12 pounds; Mable Haught and Kim Gopher — 11 pounds; Abby James — 9 pounds.

George Micco, Patty Snow, Debbie Carter and Donna Randolph — 8 pounds; Patty Waldron, James Madrigal, Sheri Gore and Albert Snow — 7 pounds.

Mary Johns, Vicki Huff, Kasey Baker and Kerwin Miller — 6 pounds; Richard Osceola, Rose Johns, Dawn Snow, Mary L. Johns and Judy Snow — 5 pounds.

There were seven participants that either stayed the same weight or gained since the weigh in. Thirty of the participants were in the Weight Watchers program.

## Tina Osceola: Speaking Across Cultures

**By Benny Secody NAPLES** — A local TV station recently aired a segment pertaining to a law enforcement situation in Collier County.

Although the spokeswoman wore a Sheriff’s Department uniform, there was no mistaking that familiar face as being none other than former Miss Seminole, Tina Osceola.

Although 14 years have passed, Tina still has all the beauty, style and grace of the days when she served as ambassador for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. She has that presence of self-confidence and pride in who she is.

Tina was born in Naples to O.B. and Joanne Osceola. She credits her parents and her upbringing for her success and unique identity. Her father, a full-blooded Seminole has been a “chickee” builder most of his life, providing a comfortable living for the family.

Her mother, a beautiful woman of Norwegian descent, was a homemaker and fulltime mom who instilled in her children the importance of family values. She taught Tina and her brother OB Jr., how to live successfully in both cultures. She also taught them the value of a good education.

Tina feels fortunate to have had the opportunity to excel in two cultures. Although the family never lived on the reservation, they always participated in and attended many Tribal functions. She knows her Seminole culture and is proud of her people and the accomplishments of the Tribe. She is also proud of her ability to relate to people of any culture.

Tina graduated from high school and went to Rollins College. There she majored in Political Science before earning her Master’s degree in Business Administration from Nova Southeastern University.

She states she is grateful to Chairman James Billie who helped make it possible for her to get started in her higher education endeavors.

“I always had dreams of attending college,” Tina says. “I made education a priority.”

She says that anytime she has the opportunity to speak to young people, she stresses the importance of staying in

school and doing your best. She encourages them to work hard and to stay away from drugs, alcohol and things that will destroy their future.

### SEMINOLES IN LAW ENFORCEMENT PART I IN A SERIES

Although Tina has won many awards and titles such as Junior Miss Seminole in 1985, and Miss Seminole in 1986, she feels

that a person’s inner beauty is much more important. She states someone can be beautiful on the outside, but they can be a horrible person, so it is important to



Tina Osceola uses her experiences to reach others.

look at the person’s heart - not so much their appearance before judging them.

Among the awards Tina has been honored with is one that is particularly meaningful to her: The Sonia Johnson Feminist Activist Award, which she received in college where she advocated for all women’s rights. She recalled how one particular frat house had singled out certain women for their race, sexual and religious preferences and the devastating affects it had on these women.

She, along with other women, made it their mission to stop the abuse and harassment of these women. They were able to expose the abusers, and even managed to have the fraternity house closed down.

Tina is also proud of the honors bestowed upon her as Miss Seminole. During her reign, she was able to travel and meet many people. She was eventually appointed as the liaison for the Tribe to the Florida Governor’s Council on Indian Affairs, where she worked with Joe

Quetone in Tallahassee. Tina received much of her public relations experience during that time, but much of it came naturally for her as it is a part of who she is.

In 1995 Tina accepted a position with the Collier County Sheriff’s Department as a secretary. At that time, she had no thoughts of her new job becoming a career. However, in October, she was promoted to Deputy Public Information Officer for the Department.

Tina deals with each issue thrown her way with assurance and professionalism. Some of her duties include press releases and news conferences. Since Sheriff’s Deputies are not allowed to provide information to the media or general public, she coordinates various events and often deals with high-profile cases.

Tina admits some days are chaotic, but she loves the challenge and looks forward to going to work each day. Lately, things have been “beyond hectic” with the fires raging out of control in Southwest Florida. Being the centralized local point, she must know the precincts in order to accurately dispatch incoming information and assistance. Many businesses are donating food and drinks to those working in these areas and good public relations skills are essential. She says she loves the excitement and being in the hub of the activity.

Tina and her husband, a Corporal o the SWAT team are proud parents of a six year-old daughter, and a one year-old son. She states they both agree their children should not be cared for by anyone outside of the family, so during their daytime work schedules, “Grandma” Osceola cares for the children in her home.

Both are family-oriented, and feel that family is the most precious commodity. Tina says she wants her children to have the opportunity to learn — as she has — the importance of family values.

When they are not working, they include their children in all aspects of family life. Tina even occasionally takes her daughter to work with her.

Today, Tina Osceola not only serves her Department well, but also continues to serve as a roll model to all young people in all cultures. She has achieved success and is truly happy as a career woman in a highly respected field.

But, she is also a wife and mother. Tina says she is thankful for her family, friends and so many people who have helped and encouraged her along the way.



Max Osceola: Indian on Indian will ride across U.S.

## Motorcycle

Continued from page 1

still a teenager on the Hollywood Reservation.

“I got my first motorcycle when I turned 14,” Max, who was born in Fort Lauderdale, Aug. 13, 1950, says. “It was a Honda 150 Dream. Back then, you could drive a motorcycle at age 14 with a learner’s permit, and I used my bike to get to school and run around.

“It gave me the freedom I wanted and I guess that feeling has stayed with me. I’ve never not had a motorcycle since then, and I ride every chance I get.”

The time to ride is not as frequent as Max would prefer. After graduating with a BA Degree in Political Science with a minor in History from the University of Miami, Max turned to helping his Tribe. It was only a natural decision.

His mother is Laura Mae Osceola, one of the founding members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Laura Mae also served as the first Tribal Secretary/Treasurer.

Max is currently in his eighth, two-year term as a Tribal Councilman, and as the Hollywood representative, oversees a \$4.5 million budget. Still, the father of five — Melissa Osceola Cypress, Max Osceola III, Meaghan Osceola, Nehemiah and Zephaniah Max Baer — and one grandchild, Trevor Robert Cypress, 4-rides as often as possible.

“I try to ride everyday,” he says. “Even if it’s only going to a meeting or just down the street. And, recently, we’ve started an informal riding club with several Tribal members.

“Every Sunday when the weather is good, we get on our bikes and take a ride. We’ll have dinner, then return.”

Max also heads the Tribal contingent that rides in the annual Fort Lauderdale Toys for Tots motorcycle. This last year, Max was one of 12 Tribal members who joined 40,000 other motorcycle riders in what has become the second largest Toys for Tots run in the nation. It was the tenth year in a row Max has participated in the event.

He also makes annual pilgrimages to Bike Week in Daytona

Beach — this last year was his sixth — and plans to attend his second gathering in Sturgis, S.D. — considered the largest motorcycle event in the world — in August.

But, it’s the drive across America that has his attention. For Max, that means his longest ride yet on his favorite motorcycle, a black 1480 CC or 88 cubic inch Indian Chief.

“I always wanted to own an Indian,” Max says. “But, they went out of production four years after I was born, so I figured I’d have to purchase an old frame and rebuild it. So, I was really pleased when the Indian went back into production last year. I think I was one of the first in line.

“I have the best of both worlds. The new bikes look like the old bikes, so I have the classic look I really like. The nostalgia of the old, powerful frame. But, I also have a new engine, so it’s mechanically sound. It’s perfect. I love riding this bike.”

Max paid \$23,900 for the 1999 Indian Chief from Indian Motorcycles of Clearwater, Fla. For Max, it’s the ultimate driving

machine, and he’ll be testing it out on his longest ride yet.

The cross-country journey may change his opinion, but for right now Max says his favorite ride is a lot closer to home.

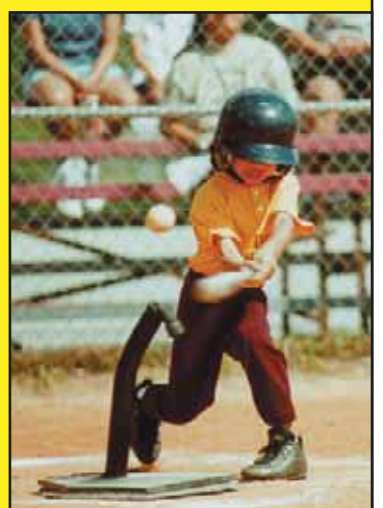
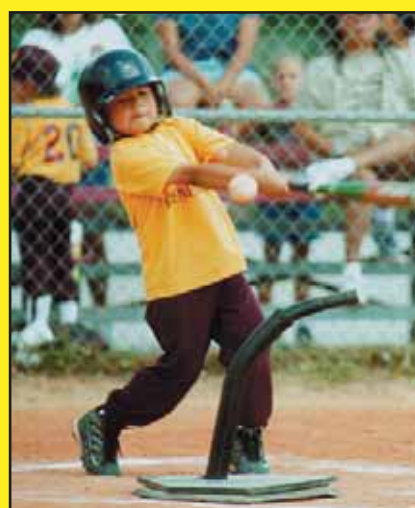
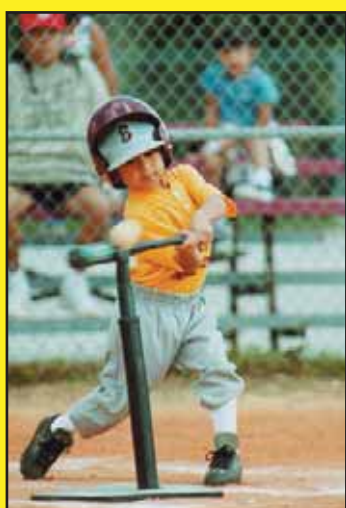
“I love to ride to Key West,” Max, who has lived his entire life on the Hollywood Reservation, says. “I especially love going over the 7-mile bridge, with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Gulf of Mexico on the other. When the sun is out and the water is beautiful, it’s a great ride.

“I also liked riding through the Black Hills when I went to Sturgis last year. That’s also a nice ride. They’re different environments, but they’re both good rides.

“I love riding my motorcycle. After all these years, it’s still my favorite way of riding from one place to another. It’s the fun and enjoyment and being out there and enjoying the scenery.

“You’re out there in the wind, by yourself. It’s a good escape. No phones or meetings or anyone making demands. It’s like recharging the batteries. And, I still enjoy that feeling of freedom. Nothing beats that.”





## Hollywood Seminole Panthers vs. Big Cypress Renegades

Story and photos by E. Bowers

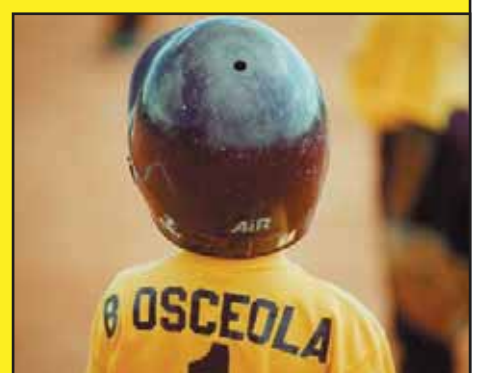
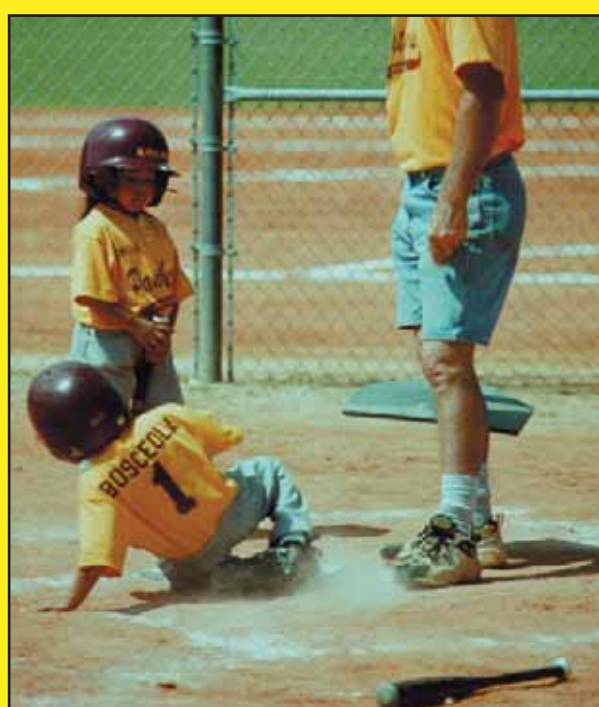
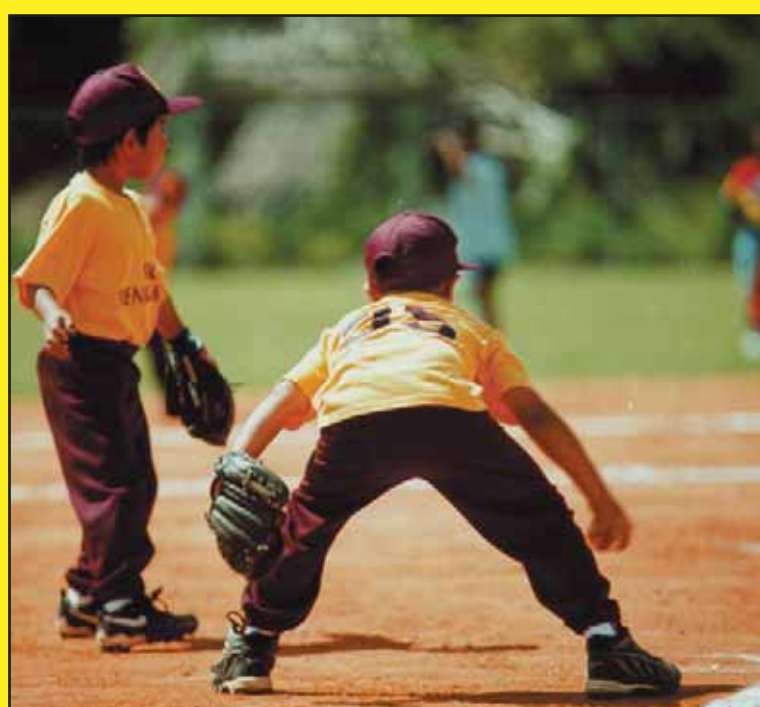
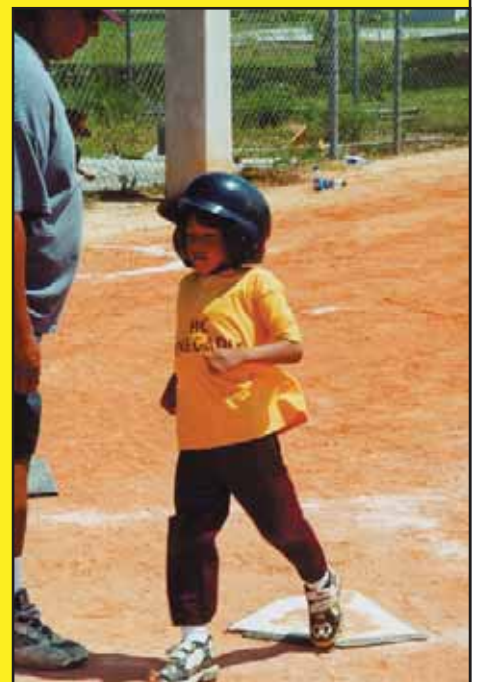
**BIG CYPRESS** — It was a Good Friday when the Seminole Panthers of Hollywood came to do battle with the Big Cypress Renegades tee-ball team.

The latest installment of an ongoing series started on Indian time after the ballplayers assembled for batting practice and loosened up their throwing arms.

Proud parents and relatives packed the bleachers as the Panthers started off the game. It seemed as if the Renegades would have their hands full when the Panthers reached the seven-run limit in the first inning.

However, the Renegades kept the score close with excellent play by their infielders and eventually took the lead in the late innings.

The spectators finally cried mercy under the hot sun and the game was ended, Renegades 22, Panthers 20.





**TICKET  
BROKERS  
LOCAL/NATIONWIDE**

Order by phone or visit our website:  
[www.frontrowusa.com](http://www.frontrowusa.com)

**CONCERTS  
SPORTS  
THEATER**

18170 W Dixie Hwy, 2nd Floor  
N Miami Beach, Florida 33160

**WE DELIVER SAME DAY!**  
Cash or Credit Cards Accepted

**FedEx**    

**ANY EVENT  
ANYTIME  
ANYWHERE**

- Dolphins
- Heat
- Panthers
- Marlins
- NCAA
- NASCAR
- MLB-MLS
- NFL-NHL-NBA
- SUPERBOWL
- OLYMPICS

Florida Seller of  
Travel #25555

  
National Association  
of Ticket Brokers

### 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.

<b>WHO:</b>	Florida Department of Transportation Native American Outreach Program
<b>WHAT:</b>	Workshop on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification forms and learn about contracting opportunities
<b>WHEN:</b>	May 23, 2000, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
<b>WHERE:</b>	Frank Billie Center in the Big Cypress Reservation
<b>R.S.V.P.</b>	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.

**(954) 983-8499**



SPORTS

Tribal Youth Makes His Mark

Seminole Boxer Billie Garcia

By B. Secody

**BIG CYPRESS** — Billie Garcia, a 16-year-old Seminole Tribal member living on the Big Cypress Reservation, has begun to make his mark in one of the toughest contact sports. He recently entered the world of organized amateur boxing and is currently 1-1.

On April 15, Garcia traveled to Tamarac to compete in the Florida Gold Coast Junior Olympic Boxing Tournament.

Accompanied by family, friends and supporters who waved Seminole flags, he managed to hold his own against one of the toughest competitors in the Police Athletic League (PAL) tournament. Enrique Hernandez, who just arrived from Cuba, has a record of 20-0.

Garcia became interested in the sport while attending Harlingen (TX) Military Academy. The students were mandated to select either boxing or rifle marksmanship as their sport of choice, and Billie didn't hesitate to choose boxing.

Billie intends to pursue the sport as a career. A

says she supports his choice, and will encourage him by attending his competitions, but insists he do well in school and graduate before pursuing any career.

After completing his stint in the Military Academy,



Garcia lands a punch on a stunned Enrique Hernandez.

Garcia enrolled as a tenth grader in Eckerd Youth Alternative School in Ocala, like some of the teenagers today, once found himself headed down a wrong path, but parental intervention has turned his life around. He now has found academic accomplishments as well as personal achievements to be very fulfilling. Above all, he has set goals for himself and his future.

Coach J.C. Quinones has been working with boxing hopefuls for many years and feels this program will instill self-confidence and good sportsmanship in kids, and even more importantly keeps them off the streets. The gym is open from after school until 8 or 9 each night, and there are usually 20-40 young men and women regulars. There is no fee to use the gym, which is also used from time to time by Sheriff's deputies and police cadets.

Broward Sheriff's Office / PAL currently has six locations throughout Broward, and all services are provided by volunteers — from the referees, weigh masters, judges, coaches and even a local doctor. "Some of these kids don't have transportation to the events, so whoever is going, will try to pick up the ones who have no ride, rather than see them not be able to participate," says Kenny Barrett, President of the Florida Gold Coast USA Boxing.

As for Garcia, he is determined to work hard for his next competition. He has what it takes to compete with the best of the best; and he is living proof that values and support are essential in realizing one's goals.



The young fighter has shown much improvement during short career.

nephew of Lesley Billie and (Tribal Chairman) James Billie, Garcia resides with their family as an adopted son. Lesley

are essential in realizing one's goals.

Rodeo Team Suffers Setbacks

By Benny Secody

**BUNNELL** — The final rodeo for points toward the Florida Junior Rodeo Association finals took place on April 15-16, in Bunnell.

Perhaps the presence of a full moon or just the stress of the need to perform their best contributed to a variety of mishaps, accidents and minor injuries. In two separate incidents, two young ladies were injured when they fell off their horses, one with a notable injury to her ankle.

Due to a prior back injury, Clinton Holt was informed by the doctor that he would not be allowed to ride for the remainder of the season. Clinton's absence awarded Joseph Szentmartoni the winner of the bare back event for the weekend.

In bull riding, Stephen Billie suffered an injury when he became entangled after hitting the railing. Billie was trampled and stepped on several times, and was taken to the hospital where an examination proved nothing was broken.

However, he was unable to ride the following day, and more than likely will be sidelined for the



Stephen Billie is down for the count after being trampled by his bull.

event, but has already qualified for the finals. Nick Jumper gave it his best shot, but was unable to hang on for that eight second count.

Shelby Osceola did a fine job in the barrels competition, scoring 17.932 on Saturday, and 17.926 on Sunday, with her sister Sheyanna trailing not far behind with a 21.014 for Saturday and 22.001 on Sunday.

It was a good weekend for Shelby in the goat-tying event as well, scoring 19.029 and 18.910 for the two days, respectively. Shelby also qualified for the finals in pole bending, and is in the top 20 for goat-tying.

In the pole bending category, Jade Braswell and Shadow Billie held their own, although neither placed in the top 10 for the weekend.

April 28 - 30 promises to be an exciting time for all young cowboys and cowgirls, as well as their families and friends. A full agenda of events will take place over the three-day event, including the Rodeo Queen pageant on Friday afternoon at 4 p.m.

Shelby Osceola is contending for Rodeo Queen, and will be representing the Seminole Tribe in her efforts. The rodeo will take place Friday evening and Saturday with other events scheduled throughout.

FJRA officials report all members are to be present — whether they have qualified or not, and will be expected to be in appropriate attire. The banquet will be for all members and their families. Reservations should have already been made to secure seating and provide an accurate count for the meal.



Jade Braswell leans her horse into the turn during pole bending.

finals in two weeks. This was another devastating blow for the team, and mostly for Billie, who had qualified in the top 10 for the finals in the bull-riding category.

Wilson Bowers was unable to attend the weekend



Clockwise top: Coach Bernadette, Donald Green, Jonathan Harjo, Victoria Hernandez, (bottom) Wilson Bowers, Andrew Bowers and Sonny Billie went out with a win in final game.

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 games which are

played monthly just for fun. 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.

Howard Tiger Basketball Tournament Results

By E. Tiger

**HOLLYWOOD** — Seminole and first time Mississippi, Cherokee, and Tennessee participants gathered together at the Hollywood Gymnasium for this year's Howard Tiger Memorial Basketball Tournament March 24.

The Tournament, which was started 33 years ago, was named to recognize one of the Hollywood Reservation's leaders. Howard Tiger established the recreational facilities that can be found on the Hollywood Reservation today.

"I can remember when the Hollywood Softball Field was nothing more than a field of sand spurs and palm bushes. Howard, myself and family would spend most of all our free time going to the field and clearing the bushes so that kids could have somewhere to play sports," said Winifred Tiger, Howard's widow.

"Howard was involved in many sports most of his life. He wanted to start some sort of athletic sports so that youths would have something that would teach them character and help keep them out of trouble."

Howard Tiger, who was also the first Seminole to serve in the United States Military as a Marine during World War II, died tragically in a construction accident in 1967.

Recreational facilities have come a long way since those early days of the



Teams came to pay tribute to Howard Tiger and to play hoops.

"Brier Patch." Now huge stadium lights shine on the three ball-fields which encompass a quarter of the recreation park. Not to mention the other facilities, which include: pool, batting cage, three ball-fields, and a gymnasium which is equipped with a full sized basketball court and two exercising rooms complete with weights.

The following are the results of the 33rd Annual Howard Tiger Memorial Basketball Tournament:

**Men's Championship**  
Seminole-40  
Big Cypress-70  
**Women's Championship**  
Lady Seminoles-34  
Brighton-37  
**Senior's Championship**  
Cherokee Win

**Motown Boyz** — Ralph Sanchez, Roy Garza, O.B. Osceola, and Mario Posado;  
**Motown Bandits** — Virginia Billie, Raymond Garza, Angel Cintron, and Victor Billie;  
**Swamp Rats** — Charlie Cypress, Cicero Osceola, Mike Onco, and Leroy King.

**No Doubt** — David Billie, Dennis Gonzales, Marciano Calderon, and Ralph Escobar;  
**Play Az** — Maria Billie, Roy Cantu, Raymond Mora, and Juan Salinas; Connie's  
**Cookies** — Connie Williams, Lonnie Billie, Genesis Osceola, and Libby Blake; and **Abel's** — Abel Salgado, Reyes Pacheco, Delfino Jaimes, and Martin Garcia.

New Pool League Formed

By Libby Blake

**IMMOKALEE** — Big Cypress and Immokalee Recreation joined together again to form a new adult pool league on Monday, April 3. Eight teams of four players each will compete in the 16-week season. Maria Billie was named President of the league. Libby Blake will serve as treasurer.

The teams and players participating include last season winners — **Seminole**, David Cypress, George Grasshopper, Randy Clay, and Joe Billie. Tony Billie will sub as needed.

Other teams and players are as follows:

Turtle Island National Sports Festival

American Indian athletes from throughout the United States and Canada are invited to compete in a major national sports festival hosted in Oklahoma, June 3 - 10.

The first games of the new Millennium sponsored by the Indigenous Nations Cultural & Sports Association are scheduled in Norman, Oklahoma. In conjunction with the athletic events, there will be a native cultural village featuring cultural activities, demonstrations, and native foods.

There are 24 athletic events planned ranging from archery to volleyball. Organizers plan for the games and cultural village to be an annual event. These games are being held the week leading into the annual Red Earth festival scheduled June 8 - 11.

All athletes competing must be of one-eighth American Indian blood. Competitors will play in age categories.

Athletic events include: Basketball, volleyball; golf; archery; bowling; tennis; soccer; softball; slo-pitch; fast pitch; track and field events; horseshoes; decathlon for men; pentathlon for women. The decathlon and pentathlon will be named in honor of Jim Thorpe.

Basket weaving, flute making, dance demonstrations, story telling, language, stick-ball, and other exhibitions are among the activities planned in the Native Village. Anyone interested in providing similar kinds of pro-

grams and helping to create a cultural atmosphere are encouraged to contact the organizers. INCAS is looking for people who can provide traditional tips and other cultural displays. Tribes are invited to display traditional and/or modern programs. Schools also are invited to set up information booths.

Other events and activities are traditional fire starting, hide tanning, patchwork, and sign language. Invitations have been extended to the famous Code Talkers to demonstrate their work of World War II.

Crafts must be of genuine native craftsmanship and vendors must be able to authenticate their crafts. Entry fee for athletes ranges from \$10 to \$30 per athlete depending on age. Fees for display and craft booths are \$200.

Entry forms, waiver sheets, and other information will be mailed to inquirers. Every athlete must sign a waiver to compete. Athletes may compete in two different sports for the same entry fee.

Brochures have been mailed to various tribal offices and agencies, as well as individuals and the Festival is already drawing lots of interest from across the United States.

For more information, contact INCAS, P.O. Box 2000, Seminole, OK 74818-2000. Phone (405) 382-4040, fax: (405) 273-6668, e-mail: INBCBILL@AOL.COM



# The Seminole Tribe of Florida

Presents

# Memorial Day Weekend 2000

## 5TH ANNUAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

ABC - WIBC  
SANCTIONED  
TEAM EVENT MAY 26-27

SINGLES/DOUBLES  
MAY 28-29

AT HOLIDAY BOWLING  
CENTER  
ENTRY FEE - \$16 PER  
PERSON/PER EVENT

Mail entries no later than May15, 2000.  
Early entries will be given first, second,  
or third choice of squad times. All hand  
carried entries received one hour prior to  
squad times will be accepted, provided  
space is available.

No entry will be accepted unless accom-  
panied by total fee. Entries must have  
complete addresses and telephone num-  
bers. Make cashiers check or money  
order payable to: Seminole Tribe of  
Florida  
Bowling Tournament  
No personal checks accepted. For more  
information, contact: Jack Gorton at Big  
Cypress Recreation (863) 983- 9659.



## NASA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

ALL-INDIAN FAST  
PITCH  
MAY 26-27  
AT OSCEOLA PARK  
REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE MAY 12

MEN & WOMEN'S  
DIVISIONS  
18 + OVER ONLY (NO  
EXCEPTIONS)  
MUST SHOW TRIBAL ID  
AND PICTURE ID  
NASA MEMBERS ENTRY  
FEE \$225.00  
NON-NASA MEMBERS  
ENTRY FEE \$350.00

Entry fee, entry form, roster due by May  
12. Check or money order made payable  
to: Seminole Recreation  
For more information contact: Bo Young  
at Hollywood Recreation (954) 989-9457.

ALL PARTICIPANTS INVITED  
TO THE OPENING RECEPTION

**THURSDAY  
MAY 25  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
HILTON  
POOL SIDE  
6-9 P.M.**

**SPECIAL GUESTS**

**PRESIDENT MITCHELL CYPRESS  
COUNCILMAN DAVID CYPRESS**

**BASEBALL**  
**TOM SHOPAY-YANKEES/BALTIMORE**

**BOXING**  
**BONNIE CANINO**

**GOLF**  
**LPGA PRO SHIRLEY AYLOR**

**ENTERTAINMENT BY LITEFOOT**

**FOOTBALL**  
**NEAL COLZIE- RAIDERS/DOLPHINS  
JOE JONES- REDSKINS/BROWNS  
MARK CLAYTON-DOLPHINS/GREEN BAY  
FLORIDA CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLERS**

**"THE WARRIOR" JOE GOMEZ  
DUKE "THE DUMPSTER" DROESE  
"THE MASTER OF DARKNESS"  
ABUDADIEN**

**"CHIEF OF OPERATIONS" LARRY LANE**



Rooms are available at the Fort Lauderdale Airport Hilton.  
Call (800) 426-8578 to make reservations.  
After May 4, rate of \$59 will become subject to availability.

## 1ST ANNUAL NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN POOL TOURNAMENT

MAY 26-27  
AT HOLLYWOOD  
GREYHOUND TRACK  
(305) 454-9400

EIGHT-BALL  
MEN'S & WOMEN'S  
DIVISIONS  
\$8,000 ADDED PRIZE  
MONEY

SINGLES DIVISION  
MAY 26  
REGISTER 11 - NOON  
TOURNAMENT STARTS -  
12:30 P.M.  
ENTRY FEE - \$10  
MEN - RACE TO 3  
WOMEN - RACE TO 2

TEAM DIVISION  
MAY 27  
4-MAN TEAM  
REGISTER 11 - NOON  
TOURNAMENT STARTS  
12:30 P.M.  
ENTRY FEE \$40 PER  
TEAM



GOLF TOURNAMENT  
MAY 29, 2000  
ARROWHEAD GOLF  
CLUB  
(954) 475-8200

4-MAN BEST BALL –  
BLIND DRAW  
8 AM SHOT GUN START

\$ 50.00 ENTRY FEE  
\$5,000 ADDED PRIZE  
MONEY

Registration Deadline  
Must call in by May 15

Pay Entry Fee at Tournament  
For more information, call:  
(863) 983-9659



# Tour

Continued from page 1

The Washington Artillery, LAARNG's Color Guard, wearing period uniforms of the 1830s, presented the colors at both ceremonies, together with representatives from the Seminole Tribe of

them. I erase from the roll the names of those that died before I was away from the camp where they lie. I discharged the trans[port] today.

"I am now opening the articles guaranteed by treaty, which issue has not been made before I took charge. After leaving the Choctaw Agency, we had [multiplied] difficulties to contend with.



Stuart Johnson gives photo and Fort Pike plans to Pat Wickman, Mitchell Cypress.

Florida's Veterans' Color Guard and veterans from the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

A permanent monument will be placed at Jackson Barracks in honor of the Seminole people who were imprisoned there and a plaque will be mounted on one of the walls at Fort Pike also honoring the Seminole people who were held there as well. Almost 4,000 Seminole prisoners had been taken out of Florida by 1830.

"It's good that we can be here today to let people experience what really happened back in the 1800s and help people understand some of Florida's unique culture," said Wickman, who spoke at the Jackson Barracks ceremony.

Wickman's speech, which recounted the Seminoles' journey to their new land, was very informative and gave the culture-hungry audience a taste of the past. She read a letter, acquired from the National Archives in Washington, D.C., that was written by an officer transporting the Seminoles in the 1800s. [This emigrating party left Tampa Bay April 11-12, 1836]

The letter says:  
"Seminole Lands, May 5, 1836.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that I arrived here today, where finding the Canadian impassable for our wagons, we obliged to cross the party in canoes, the horses swimming. I have re-mustered the party and find 325, showing 82 deaths since their departure from Tampa Bay. At least half the party are still sick, and they are rapidly [dying] even while I count

forcible efforts to retard the party, (arising from a belief that no troops could there be brought against them) that it would have had a wholesome effect had they been left to their fate, or driven at the point of the bayonet.

"In addition to the Indians and their effects, the blankets, shirts, and other goods, we were obliged to transport [several] wagons loads of surplus corn and bacon which these people had accumulated before I took charge. I thought best to haul this with us and to get rid of it by diminishing the issues.

"Very respectfully, Your obt.Srvt., J. Van Horne, Lieut. of inf., Dis Agent Sem."

In addition to the ceremonies, Seminole Tribal members who participated in the Time Travel Tour had the opportunity to stay at the Beau Rivage Resort in Biloxi, MS and see a performance of Cirque du Soleil. In New Orleans, they also stayed at the Hilton Riverside, which was right on the banks of the Mississippi River and directly across the street from the new Harrah's Casino.

One night they enjoyed the sounds of Dixieland Jazz on a paddle-wheel steamboat cruise and were able to spend some time shopping in the French Quarter which offered a variety of items such as beads, voodoo dolls, chicory roasted coffee and beignets (French 'fry bread').

All in all, a good time was had by everyone and some of the time travelers made sure their names would be on the list for the coming year!



Monument tells of forced Seminole removal.

# Wickman

Continued from page 1

mid-19th century, when the U.S. government forced about 3,000 Seminoles to move to Oklahoma.

Eventually, she hopes to have traced 20,000 ancestors back to the 17th century. The names and their clan affiliations will be kept in a digitized database, making it the first time many Seminoles will see their lineage laid out visually.

With a nod to her persistent digging and inherently nosey job, the Seminoles created a one-person clan for Wickman: the armadillo clan. It is both an honor and a well-meaning joke for a non-native who has been let inside their history.

Wickman's ancestors came to St. Augustine in 1775 as indigo planters from Menorca. Born and raised in St. Augustine, Wickman, 55, is a former senior historian for the state and author of several books on Native American history, including one on Osceola, the greatest figure in Seminole history.

But little prepared her for the detective work needed to trace genealogies. Her job is complicated by inconsistent name spellings and a naming system that has little in common with European systems.

A woman's name is not used after she gives birth to her first child, except by certain clan members. After puberty, a boy's name is replaced with a ceremonial title or honorific that can change several times over the course of his lifetime.

Wickman considered using charts made mostly for white Western cultures, but soon found they were not suited to her work. The Indians' generational span was different because they tended to marry and have children later than whites. Sometimes multiple partners fell outside neatly drawn lines.

So Wickman developed her own charts to accommodate the matrilineal clans that organize Seminole society.

But do not expect to see her work posted on the Internet or at a university library. The charts are available only to tribal members, and Wickman will not show them to anyone outside the tribe or even talk about the elders she has interviewed.

**Tribal identity**

To understand her secrecy, and the tribe's, is to travel into the history of the Seminoles.

"One of their core beliefs is that they have survived over the years because they have protected this information," she says. "Native Americans today are locked in yet another war, the ability to protect this information without the assumption that they should be sharing it."

"This is extremely important," Wickman says. "Sovereignty is the big issue. They keep the past as who they are."

One side effect of her work is a

slew of letters and e-mail from people who think they have Seminole blood and are clamoring to join the tribe. They send pictures of their families and point to high cheekbones or straight black hair as proof of their Native American ancestry.

"They're *always* related to Osceola," Wickman says with a sarcastic grin.

By most estimates there are 2,600 Seminoles in the state, about 400 Miccosukees and 100 "independents" who are not associated with either tribe. But in the 1990 census, 36,000 Floridians described themselves as Native Americans.

The Wannabees and the Outtalucks, Wickman quips, are the biggest tribes in Florida.

Several months ago she answered a query from a woman who asked why the tribe doesn't simply accept all those people who have any Indian blood, however distant the relationship. "That's one heck of a voting bloc, you know," she continued. "I'd just annex all those who have any Indian blood and that would make you the biggest tribe in America."

Wickman's partner in the painstaking project is Geneva Shore, 60, who grew up on the tribe's Brighton reservation off Lake Okeechobee.

The two women have a shared interest in genealogy. As a child, Shore absorbed her grandparents' stories, their memories. And for 32 years she worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where she helped compile a census of the tribe.

**Written for first time**

"That's when I started thinking about putting everyone on a chart, but I didn't know how to start," Shore said.

She said some elders she talked to even express fear the names could be used to organize another removal from the land.

Several years after Wickman was hired in 1992, the tribe created the Department of Anthropology and Genealogy. Soon after, she and Shore realized they could work together to create a catalog of names using anecdotal information they were both gathering.

For some in the tribe it was a departure, considering the Seminoles are an oral society with no written records. But, Wickman said, many decided the names would fade away if they weren't recorded.

"Within a year or so after I was here someone said to me, 'It looks like everyone is afraid they're going to lose this information,' and they decided it should be written down," Wickman said. "That floored me. I see this as the greatest responsibility, but also the greatest honor of my life. These are some of the most important things in their lives that they are handing me. By handing me their personal experiences they are handing me their blood, sweat and tears."

*Vanessa Bauzá can be reached at vbauza@sun-sentinel.com or 954-356-4977.*



# "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 48<sup>th</sup> 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 Ee-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!**

**Memorial Day Weekend / White Springs, FL**  
**MAY 26-28, 2000 • 10:00 AM-Midnight**  
STEPHEN FOSTER STATE FOLK CULTURE CENTER - ONE EXIT NORTH OF THE I-10 JUNCTION ON I-75  
ADVANCE DAILY-ADULTS: \$10; CHILDREN: \$4; FAMILIES: \$20 CALL 850-488-1484 OR VISIT: [flheritage.com/folkfest](http://flheritage.com/folkfest)



# Lawsuit

Continued from page 1

court to prevent the *Times* from further “reporting” using such “unethical” techniques.

*Times* reporters became inflamed at the Tribe when the *Seminole Tribune* “scooped” the *Times* by publishing a series of stories titled “Newspaper Invades Indian Country” and placing the entire text of the *Times* interview with Tribal leaders online at the Tribe’s *seminoletribe.com* Internet site . . . weeks before the *Times*’ series was published. The matter was bantered about the journalistic “list-serve” chat rooms; many in the national press sided with the *Times*, angry that the *Tribune* had reported on a story that had not yet been published.

*Tribune* reporters, however, uncovered the *Times* investigation and found its effects far reaching — even damaging — throughout the Seminole community. “The *Times*’ investigation was news. Just like a plane crash in the middle of the community. It was news and we reported what was going on,” said Dan McDonald, *Tribune* Business Manager. “We don’t have to wait for the *Times* or any other newspaper to tell us when we should publish a story.”

Goldstein has since left the employ of the *Times*; he was subpoenaed recently to appear as a witness in a federal money laun-

dering case involving former FBI informant Stephen Weil, long suspected to be one of the original sources for the *Times* in its Seminole project.

Judge Fleet, after reviewing the case for several months, wrote in his order of dismissal: “Native Americans have many legitimate issues to which our government, at all levels, should promptly and fairly respond with care and concern. Nonetheless, when relief is sought under the United States Constitution, relief must be denied when grant thereof would transgress its great principles. Not the least of these principles of Constitutional dimension is freedom of the press; to restrict it is to take a step down the short road to despotism. This Judge refuses to believe the noble and proud American Indian nation, no matter how harshly it has been treated, would want to take such a journey.”

The case will be appealed to the 4th District Court of Appeals in West Palm Beach, according to Tribal attorney Don Orlovsky: “Judge Fleet had a tough decision to make. It’s not your run of the mill case. The Judge did what he thought he had to do to protect the 1st Amendment.

“We feel, however, that this case is not about the 1st Amendment, but a case about how reporters should conduct themselves. Hopefully, we can get it sorted out in the appellate court.”

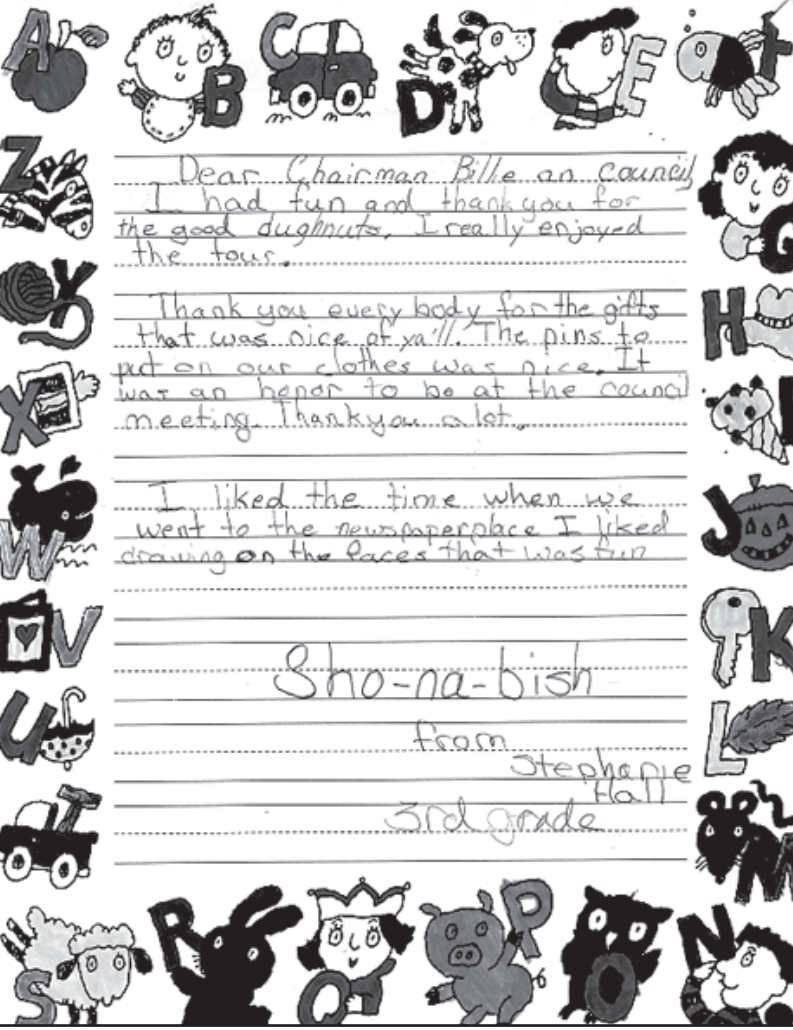
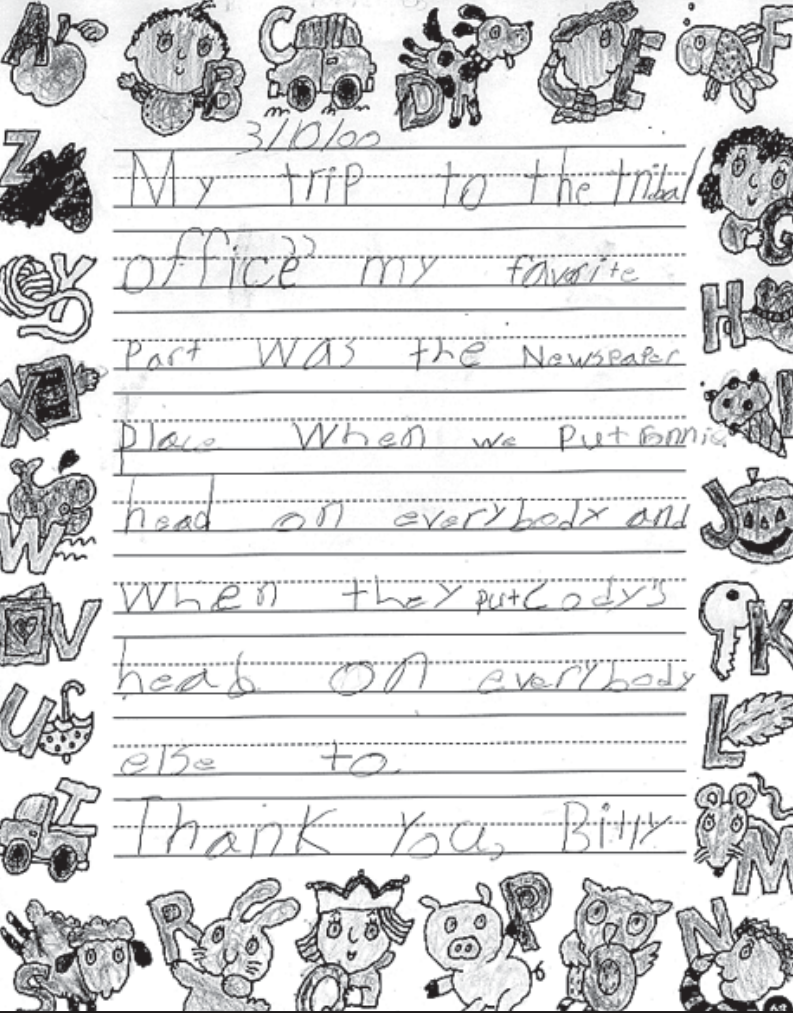
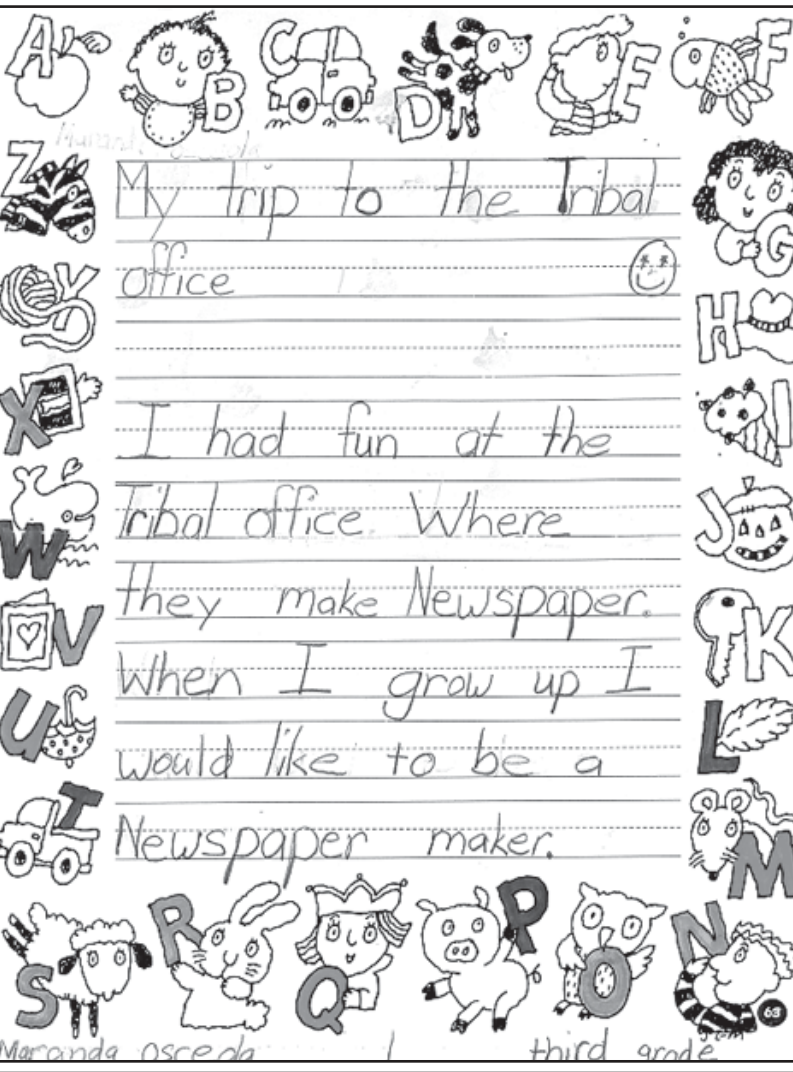
# Ahfachkee’s Third Grade Class Gives Thanks

Dear Chairman Billie and Council:

Thank you for inviting our class to the council meeting and touring the Tribal offices. Everyone had a great time and had fun learning about the daily operation of the Tribe. Thank you again for everything.

Sincerely,

The Third Grade Class of Ahfachkee Elementary



Trewston Pierce, Brandtley Osceola and Joseph Johns “spy” at wall.

# Wall

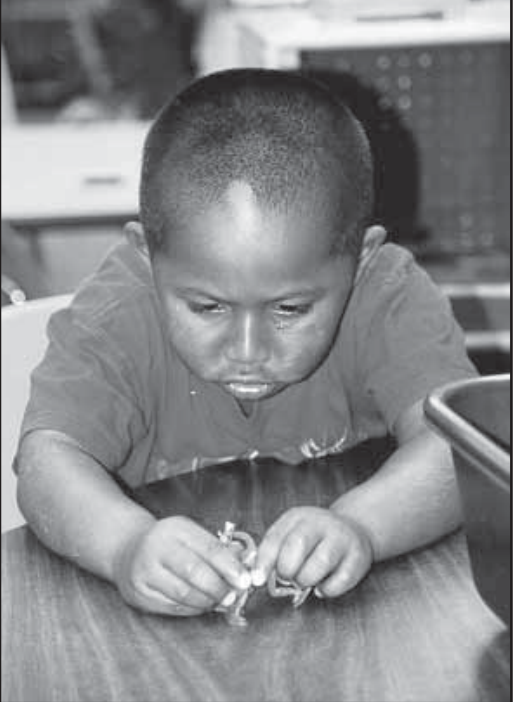
Continued from page 1

order along the wall — 58,219 total. The Wall contains soldiers who gave their life for their country and POW’s (prisoner of war) and MIA’s (Missing in Action) names. (Diamond icons have been etched into the Wall beside soldier’s names whose death has been confirmed. Cross icons beside individuals names represents a partial listing of those still missing or who were still pris-

“The Wall has given my students the great opportunity to see a part of America’s history and insight into the Wall, which I think now they can learn to appreciate,” Crenshaw said. **The following are Seminole Veterans:**

Elton C. Baxley, Clifton L. Billie, Gary Billie, James E. Billie, Noah Billie, Andrew J. Bowers, Dan Bowers, Eugene Bowers, Paul Bowers, Sr., Steven D. Bowers, Billie Cypress, Herbert Cypress, Mitchell Cypress, David Joe Doctor, Joel M. Frank, Sr., John W. Huff Sr., Craig Gopher, Henry Gopher, Sammy Gopher, Charles Hiers, Sr., Archie Johns, Sr., Cecil Johns, Joe L. Johns, Timmy B. Johns, Stanlo Johns, Wonder Johns, Harley Jumper, Billy Micco, David H. Motlow, Sr., Theodore S. Nelson, Sr., David Nunez, Don Osceola, Jacob Osceola, Sr. Joe Osceola, Jr., Johnny Osceola, Moses B. Osceola, O.B. Osceola, Sr., Russell Osceola, Sr., Clifford Sanchez, Eddie Shore, Fred Smith, Jack Smith, Jr., Jacob Storm, Clyde Tiger, Joseph Tiger, Michael D. Tiger, James Frank Tiger Sr., Howard Tommie, Constance Williams.

**Deceased Seminole Veterans**  
Roley C. Buck, Lester Lee Gopher, Moses Jumper, Sr., Herman L. Osceola, Roy Nash Osceola, Raleigh Osceola, Charles S. Gopher, Bert C. Jones, Earl Nelson, Jack Osceola, Howard Tiger, Billy Cypress.



Luis Escobar plays with soldier during visit.

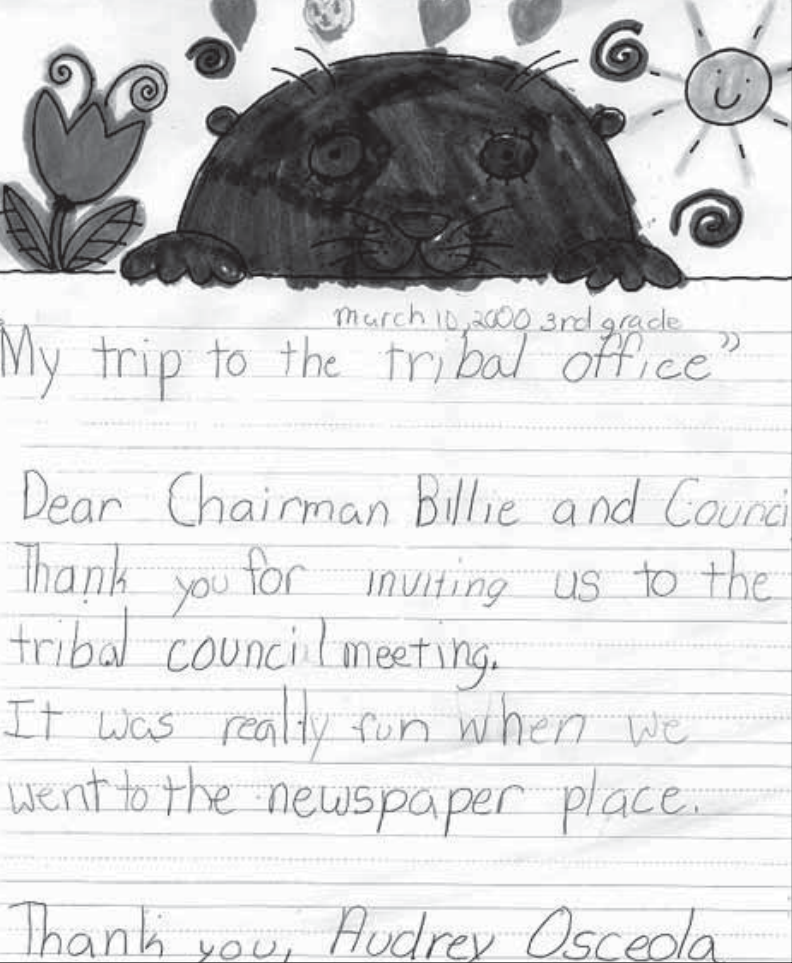
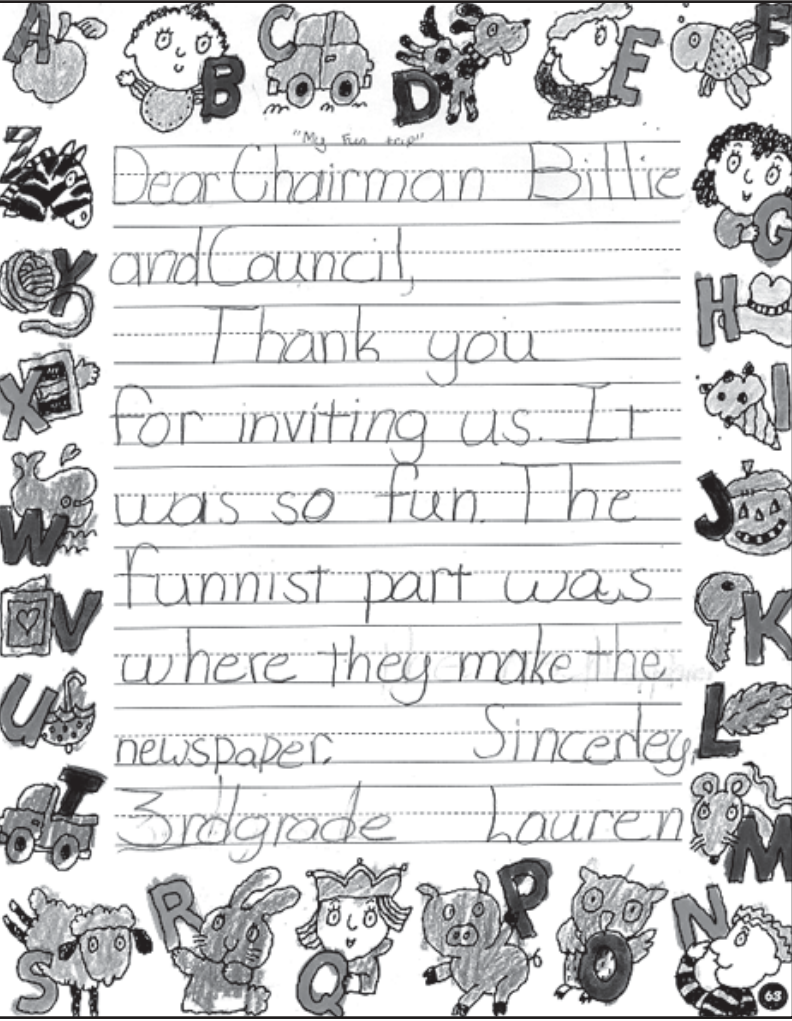
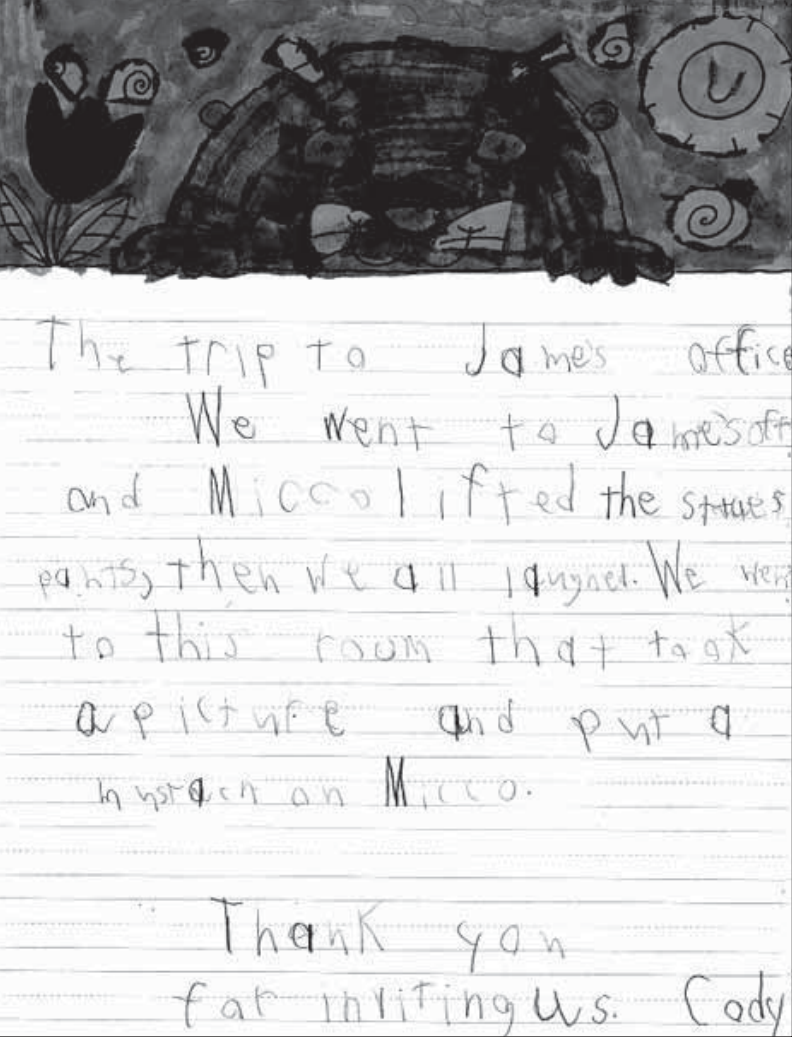
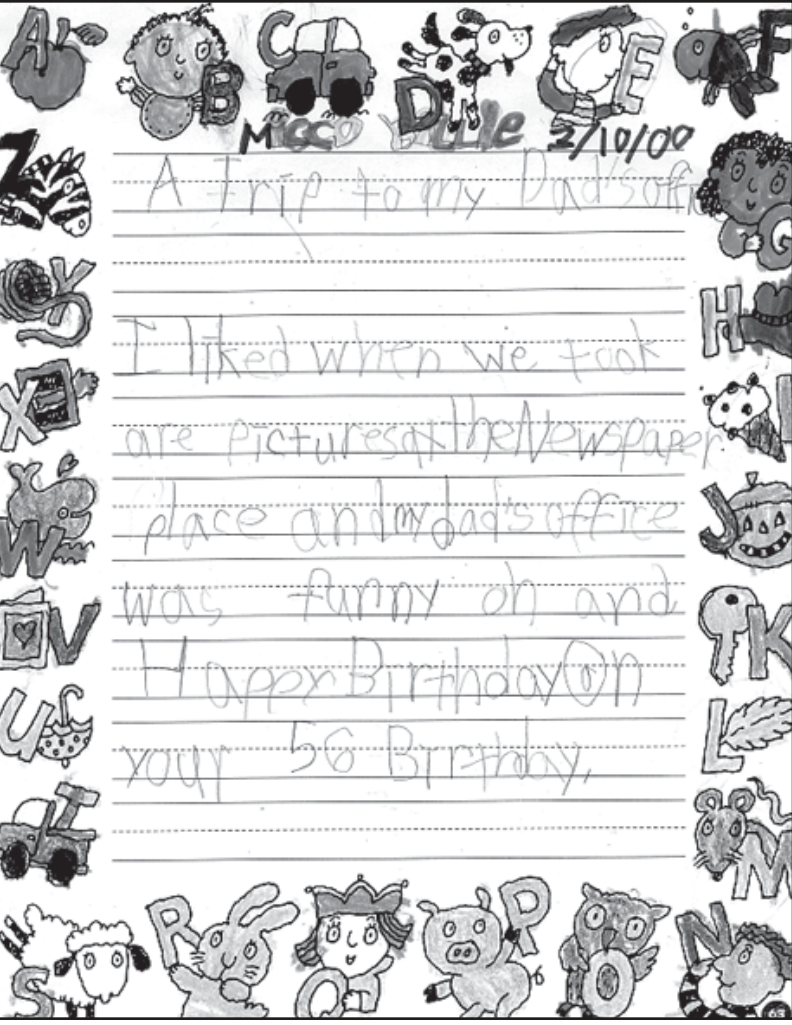
oners at the end of the war. “The Moving Wall educated the youths about their country’s past history and helped youths build respect for one another,” said Hollywood pre-school teacher Carol Crenshaw, who brought her students to the Moving Wall.

The students also placed flowers below individual names.



**THIS ‘GATOR WON’T BITE:** Seminole Tribal Chairman James E. Billie, who turned 56 on March 20, jokes with a cake alligator at his birthday party held at Alligator Alley. The Chief, who recently lost a finger to a real ‘gator, was pleased that this was turn-about -- the ‘gator got eaten.

Don’t forget,  
Mother’s Day is on  
Wednesday, May 10th!!!





# Maybe We Can Help?

The Law Offices of  
Guy J. Seligman, P.A.  
320 S. E. 9th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL. 33316



954-760-7600

The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

LICENSE PROBLEMS?

Suspended License • Revoked License • Traffic Tickets • DUI

Darlene T. Quinn



Call Anytime  
For  
Appointment

DODGE TRUCKS & DOOLEYS  
FORD TRUCKS & DOOLEYS  
CHEVY TRUCKS & DOOLEYS

WILL MATCH OR BEAT ANYONES DEAL

SUBURBANS  
TAHOES

Z71  
CORVETTES

CARS & TRUCKS AVAILABLE  
Chevy • Ford • Dodge • Mercedes • Toyota • All  
makes and models New & Used

8600 Pines Boulevard, Pembroke Pines, FL 33024  
Bus: (954) 430-2628 • Fax: (954) 433-7769  
Beeper: (954) 765-9018 • All South FL: 930-3200

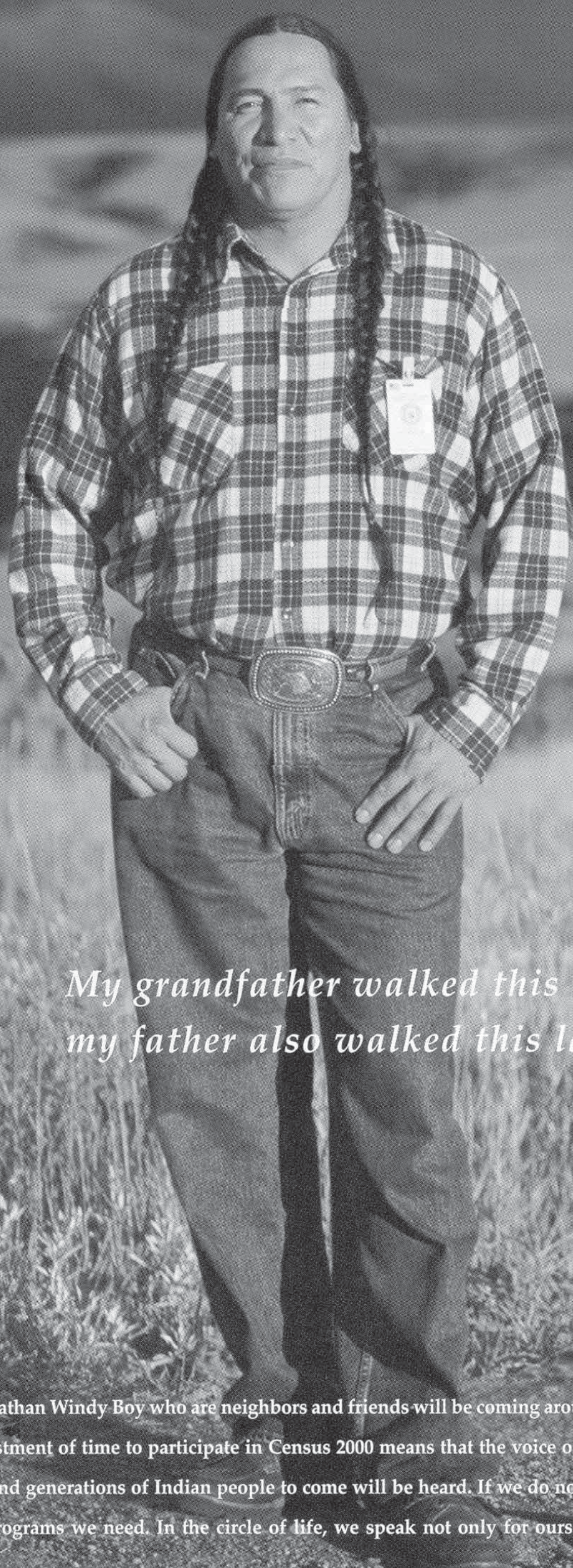
\$1,000.00 OFF

ANY CAR OR TRUCK PURCHASE WITH THIS  
COUPON

\*OFFER VALID THROUGH  
DARLENE QUINN ONLY!

\*NOT VALID ON ADD VEHICLE





*My grandfather walked this land,  
my father also walked this land, me I like to stroll.*

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

United States  
**Census  
2000**

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



Classified • Announcements

Happy Birthday



**Happy Birthday** to my one and only, **William Kenneth Osceola Jr.** May 4. Sweet 16 and never been kissed. Love you. **Mom.**

A **birthday wish** to our son! **Christopher L. Olivarez** on April 18. Hope you have a happy birthday, and we love you always son. Love **Mom** and **Dad.**

Special **Birthday** wish to **Heather Cypress** on April 22. Have a good one. Love you lots, **Valerie.**

**Happy Birthday** to my baby sister **Angela M. Nelson.** Finally 18 years old girl. You’ve come a long way and now you’re being blessed with a little one now. Remember be a better mother than what we had. Love & never turn your back on your child. I know you’ll be great. You deserve to be happy now; it’s your turn. Remember you’ll always be my baby Sis. Wherever you are remember I love you and I never forgot about you. **Love always, Carolee J. Nelson.**

**Happy Birthday** to my baby brother, **Jonathan W. Harjo.** I can’t believe it you’re finally 13 years old. You’re growing into a handsome young man. I hope you enjoy this birthday and may all your birthday wishes come true. I love you very much. Love your big Sis, **Carol Jeanette.**

**Happy Birthday** to **Spliff,** from all your homies in B.C. Have fun and stay out of trouble.

We’d like to wish **Pamela Jumper** a **Happy Birthday** on April 27. Hope you get what you want! Like that Banana Cream Pie! From the **Olivarez’s.**

**Happy Birthday** to my brother **Christopher.** From your little brother **B.J.** Have fun on your special day! I love you.



A big belated **Happy Birthday** to **Aaron** on April 16! Love, **Mom** and **Dad, Elliot, Michael, Kimberly,** big brother **Roy** and **Michelle, Jonah** and **Chelsey** and from everybody in the family.

**Happy Birthday** wishes going out to **Bonnie & Faye Frank** celebrating on April 17. I love you lots and miss you much! Love always, **Muffet.**

Memory

In Loving Memory of my Dad, Billy H. Jumper

**By Claudia J. Olivarez**  
It seems like only yesterday, you and I spoke to one another. Just sittin’ around on the back porch, or taking a ride somewhere.

We had our jokes, and our laughter, just watch fun! And doing the family times together. Yeah, we still do have family time together, but it’s just not the same. It always seemed best when you were here! But, I guess you grew tired, not of us, but of your illness. Not once did you alarm us of you being sick. But that was always your feeling pride, for not letting the worse get you down. But, you stuck it out for as long as you could.

But the good Lord above took you away, took you away from that disease they call diabetes. I just wished I could have been there, to say my good-byes. You and I share something so special. All they days we spent together. I hold that so dear to my heart. I know that someday we will see each other again.

As to why I’m sharing this with you? Father’s Day is coming up and so is Mother’s Day! To all who still have your mom and dad, tell them you love them. Because they are not always going to be here. Treasure every moment you have with your parents, or your whole family.



**A Father Is A Blessing**

*A father is a blessing  
He’s always there  
To lend a hand  
To give advice, to smile  
To comfort or encourage  
Or just be with you  
A while  
He’s a special man  
Whose love and caring  
Seem to have no end  
He’s a teacher and supporter  
He’s your father  
And a lifelong friend*

With love always to my father. You’ll be remembered and in my thought and in my heart. Love “Your Baby,” **Claudia J. Olivarez**

Jobs

**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  
**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:** Eeducation Preschool  
Hollywood  
**Opening:** February 29, 2000  
**Closing:** March 14, 2000  
**Salary:** \$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 benifits

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

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

Deadlines

Seminole Tribune

May 26 Issue • Deadline May 19

June 16 Issue • Deadline May 19

July 7 Issue • Deadline June 30

Congratulations



**Congratulations to Klair Bert,** 9, and a member of the Otter clan. Third grade teacher, Mrs. Barros of Driftwood Elementary, recognized Keifer. He received certificates for Student of the Month and for bringing up his grades.

Keep up your good grades. We are very proud of you.  
Love: **Mom and Dad**

Thank You

Representative Mondo Tiger

**BIG CYPRESS** — On behalf of the students and staff of the Ahfachkee School, I want to thank you for being kind enough to have bought us tickets for the Shrine Circus performance held on April 12 in Fort Myers.

The staff and students had a great time. The students right now are writing stories about the trip to the circus, which reinforces their writing and reading skills. They are also excited to study about the animals they saw in their science classes. Please take care.  
— **Dr. Patrick V. Gaffney, Principal.**

Public Notice

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is applying for financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Indian Community Development Black Grant (ICDBG). The monies obtained through this grant will be applied to the construction of an Elder Care Facility on the Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation. Any questions or comments are welcomed and should be directed to the office of Joel M. Frank, Sr. in Hollywood at (954) 967-3804.

Don't forget to support our advertisers!

Poems

A Poem 4 my Pops

*He said, “Jus’ let me go  
Because forever my soul will be wit’cha ya know.”*

*Those words chilled my bones  
down to the marrow  
He closed his eyes, as I cried  
I said my last good-byes – well  
at least I tried  
A piece of me was about to die  
I felt somewhat lost inside  
My Pops — my friend – my joy and my pride*

*Gon’ to be with the Lord  
He took the long ride  
When you call on me – I’ll be there  
Tough I’ll be in Heaven – I’ll be there!*

*He said, “I’ve lived a good life,”  
– to him life was fair  
I honestly believed him – for some strange reason*

*My heart sunk down  
My temper the ceiling  
About four days later we laid  
him to rest  
For his eternal healing. I was sad, but never the less*

*He has now gone on – To be in the Holy Land  
I love and miss him much. He was a well-respected man*

*A member of the Bird clan  
A man of medicine, spirit and a marvelous plan*

*To be one with his tribe, as well as the land  
This poem is for you*

*Thanx for standing by me  
During those rough times I went through.  
— **Eli (Markell Billie)***

My Pride & Joy

*My pride & joy Momma this scribe goes out to you,  
There’s not enough words to express my appreciation for all you do.*

*Momma you’ve been blessed with strength that can withstand the test of time, there’s no other like You & I’m thankful that you’re mine.*

*You have kept the family together when other families  
Would fall apart, Momma you’re a real Seminole  
Woman who has much courage & heart.*

*Momma I think about you each & every-day, I know you’re  
Doing well I got much love for you in a Unconditional way.*

*Keep enjoying yourself & continue to teach your  
Grandchildren our native tongue, Momma just as you  
Are I know they’ll grow to be respectable  
Member’s of the Unconquered Ones.*

*I want to thank you for everything you have done & will  
Continue to do, I know I can speak for all our family “Momma we love you.”*

*My pride & joy ain’t no military secret about that,  
Momma you take good care Ike will see you when I get back.  
— **Ike T. Harjo***

Pow Wow

*I had a dream I walked in the forest  
The trees whistled like crickets  
The stars were falling like leaves  
When suddenly I heard and saw  
A sight which caught my eye  
My ancestors were dancing and singing.*

*I joined in and say they were spirits  
Then suddenly, they all turned to flames  
Rose up to the stars,  
And I realized that they may have fallen in battle,  
But that they were immortal.  
— **Written by Phillip D. Frank, son of Amos T. Frank of Hollywood.***

ME

*If only once again  
I could walk on top  
Of the rolling hills  
Of Maine,  
Where I know that the  
Wind and grass would  
Accept me for what I am  
Rather than what I should  
Try to be,*

*I know not whether I want  
To change myself just so  
I can be whatever people  
Want to see  
Or whether to be myself  
And hope that someone  
Will see me for what I am  
I would not want to change  
Me because I am what I am  
I’m only my mind and my soul  
I have nothing else to give  
I’m me!  
— **Carolee J. Nelson***

Notices

**11th Annual Protecting Mother Earth Conference** – June 14 – 17, in Brownsville, Texas. Hosted by: Casa De Colores, a 35 acre land-based Indigenous education center located on the banks of the Rio Grande River along the U.S./Mexico border. IEN toll free number: (877) IEN-2121, email: ien@igc.org.

**Title IV-E Conference** – June 7-9, at the Black Bear Casino & Hotel in Carlton, Minnesota. Gaining Equal Access: Making IV-E Work for Our People, a National Tribal Title IV-E Foster Care Conference. Call Coordinator Larry Douglas at (503) 222-4044.

**Turner Golf Scramble** – June 13, at Wekiva Golf Club. Benefiting Orange County Historical Society, Inc. Fees \$125 per person or \$400 per team. Info or to register contact Society at (407) 8897-6350.

**KITUWAH 2000** – October 13 – 15 at the university of North Carolina at Asheville campus in Asheville, N.C. For more info call (828) 252-3880 or visit at hca-cg@main.NC.US.

**FREE Financial Information Program** – May 16 to June 20. Workshop to be held at the Southeast Focal Point

Senior Center, 3081 Taft Street, Hollywood. Held each Tuesday from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. To register call Becca at (954) 370-3725 at ext. 251.

**5th Annual National Native American Resident Initiative Conference** – May 31 and June 1, Tropicana Resort & Casino, Las Vegas, Nev. For questions call (520) 871-2616/2615/2614/2618.

**Welfare Reform and Developing Self-sufficiency for Indian Families Seminar** – June 6-9 in Reno, Nev. Costs for seminar are \$300 if received by May 9. Call (541) 885-2296 or e-mail us at mazama@cvc.net.

**Music & Dancing Under the Stars** – May 9 – 31 at the Hollywood Beach Theater from 7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Call (954) 921-3404 for details.

**Police & Fire Appreciation Day** – Sat., May 13. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at David Park & 33rd Court. Admission is free. Bounce house; fire trucks, music, photos for kids, etc.

**Jazz at the Mangrove** – Sat., May 20 at 8 p.m. Anne Kolb Nature Center featuring Ken Shale & Her Trio. For ticket information, call (954) 779-

3032.  
**Tunica-Biloxi Pow Wow** – May 19-21, Marksville, La. For lodging and general information call 1-800-946-1946.  
**Your Own Web Site** – You build and maintain, easy as you think. Visit us at, www.skynary.com/mtrez. J. Pipe at (406) 653-3829.

**Critical Skills to be Successful in Securing Funding for Indian Families** – July 24 – 26. For information call 800-706-0102.

**105th Silver Spurs Rodeo & Kissimmee RibFest** – Oct. 6-8. Legendary bull riders and cowboys have been competing since 1944 in the rodeo, which is the largest in the eastern United States. Info on rodeo call 407-847-4052 and for RibFest call (407)-847-3174.

**Zellwood Sweet Corn Festival** – May 20-21. Join the more than 26,000 people who attend each year to consume more than 200,000 ears of corn. The festival offers family fun with contests, rides, games and popular country artists. Call (407) 886-0014 for more details.

**Florida Film Festival** – June 9-18. Many of the festival events are held at the Enzian Theater. Admission varies per

event. Call (407) 629-1088.  
**The Tribal Constitutional Symposium** – May 14 – 17 in Phoenix, AZ. “Laying the Cornerstone for Strong Nations.” Presented by the Falmouth Institute. To register please call 1-800-992-4489.

**Culture-Based Curriculum Development Workshop** – July 10-13, Warm Springs, Oregon. Sponsored by American Indian Institute. To register call Central Registration at (405) 325-2248 or 800-522-0772, ext. 2248.

**1st Annual National Native American Pool Tournament** – May 26-27. At the Hollywood Dog Track. Singles on May 26, \$10 per person. Teams will be on Saturday, May 27, \$40 per team. For more information call (954) 989-9457.

**Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Golf Tournament** – May 29, at Arrowhead Golf Club. Start at 8 a.m., entry fee \$50. 4-Person Draw – best ball. For more info call (863) 983-9659.

**5th Annual Seminole Tribe, Inc., Bowling Tournament** – May 25 – 29, Please call 1-800-426-8578 to make reservations.

**Native American Sports Assoc.**

**All Indian Fast Pitch Softball Tournament** – May 26-27, at Osceola Park (Seminole Recreation Department) in Hollywood, FL. Deadline to enter is May 12. For more info, contact Hollywood Recreation at (954) 989-9457.

**The Miami/Bahamas Goombay Festival** – June 2 – 4, in Coconut Grove. Phone (305) 372-9966 or fax (305) 372-9967 for further information.

**7th Annual Seminole Wellness Conference** – July 17 – 21, at the Marco Island Hilton. Deadline for applications is June 9. For further information call (954) 962-2009.

**Native American Heritage Days** – May 12-13, Moundville Archaeological Park, Ala. For more information call (205) 371-2234.

**Albuquerque Indian Market 2000** – June 1- 11, New Mexico State Fairgrounds. For information dial (505) 836-2960 or via e-mail to painter60@aol.com.

**18th Annual Traditional Pow Wow** – May 27 – 29, Fort Hayes Educational Center, Columbus, Ohio. For information NAICCO at (614) 443-6120.





## Gathering

Continued from page 1

Marco Island also joined the Chief on stage. Suraiya Youngblood competed with 24 young women for the title and the honor of representing the national Indian nations. For her talent Suraiya explained and demonstrated the making of turtle shell rattles used by women in the Green Corn dance and other traditional ceremonies and dances. Hollywood celebrities and Native Americans Michael and Sandra Horse hosted the contest.

Chief Jim Billie performed again on Friday morning to officially open the Powwow. His performance was followed by the Grand Entry where over 500 dancers and singers competed in 28 categories for \$100,000 in prize money. Competition continued over the two-day event with the announcement of winners on Saturday night. The Colorado Gator joined the Chief at this show, as well, which was held on the floor of the famous basketball arena "The Pit."

After the performance, the right-foot gator was hoisted up to the upper level of the arena and placed on display at Chief Jim Billie's vendor booth. There, amazed adults and children alike were able to "pet" the beast and get an up close view of the prehistoric saurian. (Following the show, the Chief and band flew to Wilkesboro, N.C. to perform for two days at the Merlefest festival.)

Beautiful Lillian Sparks (Rosebud Oglala Lakota) was crowned Miss Indian World. Sparks, who is studying law at Georgetown University, hopes for a career in politics to further Indian issues.

The 33rd Annual Native American Bowling

Tournament was also held during the weekend activities. Twelve teams from the Tribe bowled in competition for \$1000 1st place money. The bowlers also competed in doubles, singles, and masters' events.

Top place among the Seminoles was a 20th place finish in the team event by the Seminole Strikers with a combined score of 2356. Other teams, along with their scores, placed as follows: 28th - B.C. Recreation 2318, 55th - Seminole III 2225, 75th - Florida Gators 2176, 77th - Seminole I 2170, 80th - Brighton Seminole Allstars 2154, 89th - Florida One 2129, 90th - Florida Seminoles 2127, 96th - Brighton Seminole Strikers 2083, 99th - Seminole II 2077, 104th Micco and Osceola 2025, and 105th - South Florida Seminoles 2010. 106 teams competed.

In the other events, Patricia Wilcox and Blake Osceola placed in the money. Wilcox took 1st place in Women's Scratch with a 241 game, 2nd place in Women's Handicap with a 259, and tied for 3rd in Handicap Series with a 660. She also came in 4th place in Women's Masters Sweeper, a four game no-tap event.

Blake Osceola tied for 2nd place in the Men's Handicap with a 278 game. Doubles and Singles event winners were not available at press time and will be posted in the next issue.



Photos by Libby Blake and Peter B. Gallagher



# Chief Jim Billie Plays Merlefest



Chief Jim Billie and his band had the crowd rocking at the 13th Annual Merlefest music event held at Wilks Community College on April 28 - 30, in Wilksboro, N.C. The chief and his group, Raiford Starke, Dave Shelley, J. Robert, Bob Taylor, Robert Parker and Jeff Renza. It was the second consecutive year that Chief Billie played the event which honors Doc Watson's late son Merle who died in a tragic farming accident.