



Storytellers visit reservations, page 16.



Micco SP26 FAA certified, see below.



Hollywood Halloween, page 8.



# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

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## Tribe’s Micco SP26 Is Certified By FAA

**By Dan McDonald**  
**LONG BEACH, Calif.** — Perhaps it’s the extra horsepower, but the process for getting a type certificate for the Tribally owned Micco Aircraft Company (MAC) is definitely getting faster.

It took more than five years for Micco officials to comply with the rigorous Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations to get the type certificate — which allows the manufacture and sale of airplanes to the public — for the Micco SP20. It took slightly more than 10 months to get the certificate for the company’s second production airplane, the SP26.

The SP26 type certificate was presented to Tribal and Micco officials by FAA Administrator Jane Garvey before approximately 5,000 pilots gathered for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association conference Oct. 21, at the Long Beach Convention Center.

“The Micco Aircraft Company received the first type certificate of the new millenium for the SP20,” Garvey said in presenting the certificate. “It took a long time for the process to work.

“For the SP26, it only took ten months. Obviously, Micco officials are getting better, and the FAA is also getting better at streamlining the certification process. This is a big day for Micco officials, and I’m pleased to award this certificate.”

Accepting the certificate on behalf of the Seminole Tribe were Housing Director and Special Assistant to the Chairman Joel Frank, Tribal Ambassador Joe Dan Osceola,

See MICCO, page 3

## Tribune Wins Two Press Club Awards

**OCALA** — Competing against journalists and newspapers across the state, the *Seminole Tribune* received two first place plaques, Oct. 21, at the annual Florida Press Club (FPC) Awards Banquet at the Ocala Hilton.

*Tribune* design editor Melissa Sherman and contributing designer Brian Larney shared the first place award for “Excellence in Local Page Design.” The *Tribune* staff, including freelancers and contributors, were honored with a first place plaque for “Excellence In Photo Essay” for the *Tribune’s* ambitious “A Day In The Life Of Big Cypress” special issue last December.

More than 200 journalists and guests turned out at the Hilton ballroom for the FPC’s 50th Anniversary convention; guests included journalists, photographers and designers from across Florida. The evening began with an hour of live piano music and hors d’oeuvres in the Hilton main lobby; later, after dinner, guest speaker and legendary White House journalist Helen Thomas regaled the crowd with scores of anecdotes about past presidents she has interviewed.

Florida Press Club President Fred Bellet presented award winners with their plaques. Judges, comments were read for only first place winners. For Sherman and Larney’s efforts, judges said, “Exciting presentation of good photography in a high-impact format is difficult to achieve, but these pages are full of energy and probably a great deal of reader interest. Note that even routine photos are combined on these pages in this lively treatment.”

“We agreed that the *Seminole Tribune’s* effort in portraying ‘A Day in the Life of Big Cypress’ deserved

See AWARD, page 3

## Micosukee Man Found Lost In The ‘Glades

**By Colin Kenny**  
**EVERGLADES** — It was a dark and starry night. Only a sliver of moon cast a yellow sheen on the tips of the sawgrass. The path had disappeared and water was everywhere, waist deep and hiding deadly creatures. North and east felt like west and south. The world was abuzz with the sounds of mosquitoes, caked in communal masses in the eyes, ears, nose and mouth. Micosukee Indian citizen Tippy Cypress was lost, somewhere in the no-mans-lands near the Tamiami Trail, far away from his wrecked airboat, out where they say Jimmy Hoffa is buried, in the Florida Everglades.

Then the phone rang.

Seminole Tribal Aviation Director Peter Vedel was sitting at his desk, a hundred miles north of the wandering Tippy, at the Big Cypress Indian Reservation airport. It was early in the evening of October 18. He picked up the phone to find Micosukee Chairman Billy Cypress on the other end. Billy wanted help to look for his brother Tippy who had been missing since taking out his airboat two days earlier.

Pilot Vedel summoned his wife Mylyn, a registered nurse, and cranked up the Bell 407, taking off into the dark south towards the Tamiami Trail.

See LOST, page 3

## Alligator Bites Owl: Serious Hand Injury



DON'T FEED THE GATORS: Swamp Owl (l) and Chief Jim Billie compare Alligator wrestling injuries, standing by Billie Swamp Safari gator pit.

“Big alligator can be dangerous”  
— Chief Jim Billie

**By Colin Kenny**  
**FORT LAUDERDALE** — It may have been a wisp of wind on the pharynx. Or a micro-invisible bead of human hand sweat that splashed the gator’s tongue. It may have been the salsa band director around the corner who decided to strike up his band at that very moment. Or the generator humming nearby in a frequency that creates anxiety in reptiles. Or the snap of photographer Lucy Evanicki’s camera at an inopportune moment. Or something the beast ate for breakfast. Maybe the gator didn’t like its wimpy name.

Who can say why a gator chomps his mouth down upon a man’s right hand?

For the legendary Billie Swamp Safari guide Swamp Owl, the “why” is not as important as the “when.” When will he be able to regain the use of his hand, severely injured by a 10-foot

gator during an Oct. 27 exhibition at a private function here? “Doctor doesn’t know yet. He says I might still lose the whole hand,” says Owl, also known as Paul Morrison.

It was approximately 8:30 p.m. on that Friday when veteran surly saurian handler Owl, along with fellow Big Cypress swamp guide Jonathan “Cattail” Vasquez, lectured the crowd about the force of an alligator’s bite. To demonstrate, Mr. Owl tapped a one-eyed alligator — affectionately named “Bubbles” — to get the beast to open its jaws. Owl put his hand in the gator’s mouth and pulled his hand back out, fully expecting to have just missed being slammed by the 10-foot crocodilian’s jaws.

But the gator’s jaws remained a little less than wide open. Not quite getting the snap-shut reaction he was hoping for, Mr. Owl stuck his hand in a second time. This time the beast crashed its jaws — like a high-hat cymbal — and Mr. Owl found his hand stuck as the gator started to thrash

violently. “He slung me back and forth like I was a rag doll,” recounted Swamp Owl from his hospital bed.

“It was a bad scene — a really bad scene,” said Vasquez. Like the Oklahoma defensive line sacking a quarterback, Vasquez and two other Billie’s Swamp Safari employees — Keith “Beluga” Davis and Joshua “Big Bear” Parson — immediately gang tackled the raging reptile allowing Mr. Owl to slip his hand free leaving the inside of the reptile’s mouth three quarter’s full of Owl blood. If it wasn’t for his friends’ quick thinking, “I think I would have lost my hand,” said Swamp Owl.

Doctors at the Cleveland Clinic, along with first-hand eyewitness and marketing director of Billie Swamp Safari Evanicki, unanimously agreed with Mr. Owl’s assessment of his comrades’ heroic action. Evanicki credited their “keen judgment and fast response to stop the

See SWAMP OWL, page 3

## Agenda: Canoes v. Logging

### Tribes, State Confer: ‘A New Beginning’

**By Charles Flowers and Peter B. Gallagher**  
**TALLAHASSEE** — In a flag-bedecked room 19 stories above Florida’s capital city, representatives of Seminole and Poarch Creek Indian tribes heard conciliatory words — and promises for recognition and cooperation regarding Indian heritage — from more than a dozen state officials.

While the Nov. 6 meeting did not signal a sea change in the way business is done here, it is clear that Indians finally have a seat at the table when it comes to decisions involving their own historical and cultural resources. For the first time, the Tribal flags of the Seminole Tribe, the Poarch Creeks and the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) stood next to the State and U.S.A. banners in Secretary of State Katherine Harris’ conference room.

“I am satisfied that we have been able to talk through some serious concerns. We need a new beginning in the relationship between the Seminole people and the State of Florida,” said Dr. Patricia Wickman, the Tribal Director of Genealogy and Anthropology whose questions and concerns dominated the meeting of high and mid-level officials. “I am hopeful that the discussion will lead to far greater protection of Indian heritage in Florida and a greater understanding and appreciation of Florida’s Indian past for all of its citizens.”

The meeting — conducted by Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) ombudsman Benji

Brumberg — was sparked by concerns over administrative miscues that allowed the destruction of at least seven of 87 aboriginal canoes discovered while a DEP-permitted deadhead logger dragged heavy logs around and through archaeological sites exposed on the dry lakebed of Newnan’s Lake east of Gainesville.

The original Seminole name for the lake — *Pithlachocco* meaning “place of long boats” — was changed to Newnan’s in the 1800s to honor Col. Dan Newnan, an Indian fighter from Georgia.

See PITHLACHOCCO, page 7

#### BREAKING NEWS

### More Canoes Found

**PITHLACHOCCO** — At least a dozen more aboriginal canoes have been identified by experts in the same area where 87 ancient vessels — largest canoe find in North America — were discovered last May and June, the *Seminole Tribune* learned at presstime.

While state officials have not yet confirmed the new finds, archaeologist Ray McGhee, East Side High archaeology teacher Steve Everett and Newnan’s Lake resident Dale Crider came upon the “new” canoes while scouting the area for a planned visit by Seminole Chief Jim Billie and Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris. — *Peter B. Gallagher*

## Casting Call: Seminoles On Stage

The Vikings and the Seminoles are looking for native actors and actresses to perform in the Seminole-Viking stage production next summer in St. Paul, Minnesota and Ribe, Denmark. If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact Peter Vedel at the Tribal Aviation office by calling 863-983-7677 or e-mailing pvedel@semtribe.com. The casting call will be in Hollywood on Dec. 5 or 6.



**\*James E. Billie**

James Billie is one-half Seminole. God knows what the other half is. Caucasian, maybe. But I do have a clan. I speak my

— *James E. Billie is Publisher of the Seminole Tribune and Chairman of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.*

*Mitchell Cypress*

**tribune@semtribe.com**

I read your requirements on how to become a member of the Seminole tribe. Although I am 1/4 Seminole, I have no way of proving this. This is okay since I'm African-American and I'm very Afrocentric. The oral history that I have is very limited. All I know about my grandmother is that she had very long black hair that she could sit on and that she identified with the great cat of the swamp. She was from Florida, she married my grandfather who was an ex-slave. They worked as sharecroppers. Together they had 13 children, my mother was the last

My name is Debora Littlewing Moore and I am of the Powhatan Nation here in Virginia (Pamunkey Tribe). My Brother William Kirk Moore #125797, was incarcerated in 1981 for an unarmed robbery charge. He is still in jail. His parole eligibility date was November, 1986. Kirk is a traditional. He has spoken up for many Native American inmates in many Civil cases, and won. He has his own case coming up: Civil Action No. 3:

GRAMMA... CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

WOW IN THE LUCK AM I, CALLED 'OTTER'... I'VE NEVER FIGURED THAT OUT... IT SEEMS TO IMPLY A TOOTHY, LAZY, HAIRY LITTLE RODENT...

WELL... WE CAN CALL YOU WHAT YOUR MOM AND DAD ORIGINALLY CALLED YOU...

WOW... I BET IT WAS SOME COOL INDIAN NAME... LIKE, 'UH,

THUNDERING ELK...OR 'RUNNING BUFFALO'... SOMETHING DESCRIBING MY INTENSE PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS...

YEAH... 'RABBIT'...

K. Krueger © 2000



**Dear Editor;**

**Dawn Billie**

**Dear Editor;**

**Jessica Buster**

*Chairman Billie replies:*

***"I do not want to change anything. Nothing is being proposed. I am only asking Tribal citizens to think about and discuss this issue."***

**Editor:**

If the blood quantum and the clan issue ever does become a reality, that will not stop the intermarriage of outsiders, white, black, Hispanic, other native American tribes, etc., from becom-

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*Seminole Tribe of Florida*



Reflections By Patsy West

# A Man Called Horse: Freedom Fighter

*Note: Recently we received an e-mail from Dan F, who is enrolled in a college history class. He asked about locating information on John Horse. Historian Patsy West answers the question below.*

John Horse was not a “chief of the Seminoles” as your teacher assumed. But, he was considered a chief of Black Seminoles in Florida. He later assumed a major role as a leader of the Black Seminoles after their removal from Florida to Indian Territory during and after the Second Seminole War (1835-1842).

He also had several identities including John Horse (as he was known in Oklahoma), Gopher John (as he was known in Florida), and John Cowaya (Coheia, Caballo) as he became known in Mexico.

The Florida Seminoles resisted emigration to Oklahoma Territory 1835-1842. African slaves had escaped into Florida. Many became the slaves of the Seminole leaders, living in near-by towns. During the Seminole Wars, they fought alongside the Seminoles. These people, whether of Seminole blood or not, became known as Black Seminoles.

John Horse became a leader, a chief, of these people. In 1837, he was prominent in the important Battle of Okeechobee, the last pitched battle of the Second Seminole War. In 1842 he emigrated from Florida to Indian Territory and was a “zealous friend of the whites.”

In Oklahoma, he was decreed a freedman by the Seminole Council in 1843 after he aided in the emigrant Seminoles’ transportation needs to Indian Territory. He further transported Seminoles from Fort Gibson to Little River after the treaty of 1845. He was instrumental in establishing the Negro town near today’s Wewoka, Okla., and served as the chief of those people.

On the downside, in the new frontier of the Indian Territory he was in danger of being returned to slavery by Creek Indians and whites and some bitter Seminoles who resented the



Gopher John, interpreter, guide, chief of Black Seminoles in Florida. a.k.a. John Horse (John Caballo) leader of Black Seminoles who migrated from Oklahoma to Texas, and Mexico looking for a safe haven in which to live.

fact that he aided the emigration officers in removing them from Florida. John Horse’s life was in jeopardy.

Once, an attempt failed when his horse was shot from beneath him as he was riding. He went to Washington and petitioned the government to allow him to return to Florida to escape the constant threats of the emigrant Seminoles in Oklahoma. His request was denied.

His good and powerful friend was the major Seminole leader also emigrated to Oklahoma Territory, Coacoochee, or Wild Cat. In 1849, Coacoochee established a colony in Texas of Seminoles, Creeks, and Cherokees and a dozen Seminole Blacks under John Horse, with some Creek and Cherokee slaves as well.

They had established themselves in Mexico by 1850. There John Horse assumed a major leadership role with the Mascogos, as the Black Seminoles were known in Mexico. They were constantly beset by slave hunters, Mexicans, area Indian tribes, and the U. S Army.

They were also caught up in the frequent Texas/Mexico border disputes involving cattle. John Horse tried to uphold a policy of neutrality with the Mexicans. Coacoochee became known as Gato del Monte, while John Horse was called Juan Caballo. John Horse led a campaign against the Comanche.

In 1873, he made another trip to Washington to ask the president to aid his people in finding a safe haven. He lived through many campaigns and officiated in many negotiations for land and safety of the Black Seminoles. He died Aug. 10, 1882 having “constantly sought freedom for himself and his people.”

The most thorough source on this Black Seminole interpreter/guide/chief is Kenneth Porter’s *The Black Seminoles*, Eds. Alcione M. Amos and Thomas P. Senter (University Press of Florida 1996). Also Edwin C. McReynolds’ *The Seminoles* (U of Oklahoma Press 1957).

— *Reflections, Number 182.*

# Raining Memories

The recent rains that flooded Big Cypress caught everyone by surprise. I was staying with (my son) Big Shot and (his wife) Laquita, and the water flooded their yard.

Big Shot was out of town, and Laquita had her hands full dealing with the water. They lost several chickens and a pig that drowned in its cage during the night. And, their horses had wet feet from standing in water.

Two men came one day while I was sitting on the front porch of Big Shot’s house. They asked me what I thought of the water.

I said, “I think if Big Cypress people had better drainage, the water wouldn’t lie this long. It would go in the canal or into a river the same day as it hit the ground. Don’t you think?”

They said, “You’re right, you’re right.” I told them to speak to their Councilmen and Board Representative and tell them what you all think about the rain and how much it put a flood in their yards. “If the drainage were fixed better, it wouldn’t lay around for weeks.”

But, all the rain got me to thinking about how things used to be in the old days when we lived on the Dania (today known as Hollywood) Reservation. Back then, living with water was a common thing. We made the best of it.

When I was young, and it rained, the water would be knee high where the Tribe’s office building is located now. At the 7-11, the water would be up to your knees. People used to travel by boats.

I remember when it would rain and the water would be up and over Stirling Road. We used to wait for the water to go back and then go out and find fish on the road. Bream and catfish. We’d pick them up and take them home to eat.

Us kids would play around and hunt custard apples in the canals. We would borrow some of the Tommie men’s boats – Brownie and Frank and a couple of others I can’t remember. We would take the canoes and paddle in the canals

to find the custard apples.

When it rained hard, the canoes were fun to play in. The rain was always nice when you were sleeping under a chickee. Even though the huts were open, the chickees had a raised platform where we would sleep. They were very warm. It was always nice to be snuggled in your blankets while the rain was falling. It was very pleasant.

And, another thing about the rain, we would use the water for washing. The rain would come off the corner of the chickee. We would shampoo and use soap and take a shower under the rainwater. We also would put out big pails to catch the rainwater for washing clothes.

But, there was also danger. Lightning killed my grandfather, Tom Tiger, my mother’s father. He was outside building a canoe when he was struck. He’s the only Indian I ever knew who got killed by lightning.

My mother was the first Indian to purchase a car. It was a Model T, which was open on the sides. Whenever it would rain, she wouldn’t drive. If she were out, she’d find a place at a filling station to get under until it would stop raining. If she couldn’t wait, she had a couple of pieces of canvas to put over the openings.

But, generally, we wouldn’t go out in the rain. The fire would be going in the cooking chickee, and sometimes you would have to run quickly from the sleeping chickee to the cooking chickee. When it was raining hard, we would eat under the cooking chickee.

If it rained for a long time, us kids would all be put under a big chickee. We would play games, and tell stories. And, we would make dolls out of scraps of cloth and buttons. The boys would be chasing bugs and things.

Overall, I guess we’re much better off today than we were in the old days. But, seeing that water at Big Shot’s made me realize, you can’t argue with Mother Nature. Even today, when it rains, you’re going to get wet.



Betty Mae Jumper

# Carolee Nelson Famous Poet of 2000

By Libby Blake

**BIG CYPRESS** — Tribal Citizen Carolee Nelson was recently named a Famous Poet of 2000 by the Famous Poets Society for her August 2000 poem entitled “Memories.”

Ms. Nelson, whose poems have appeared in the *Seminole Tribune*, received the Prometheus “Museum of Fire” Trophy and a gold medal from the Society’s Dr. Kenneth Fan. Dr. Fan, who hails from the Peoples Republic of China, heads the Society.

The awards were presented at the 6th Annual Poetry Convention held Oct. 27-29 in Reno, NV. Ms. Nelson unfortunately did not attend and was therefore ineligible to compete for

a \$50,000 grand prize. Her trophy and medal will be sent to her.

Ms. Nelson is the daughter of the late Ricky Ray Baxley and Terry Jo Nelson. She has been writing poetry since the suicidal death of her father in September 1995.

“I write about my childhood growing up in an alcoholic and abusive home. My poems also help me deal with my father taking his own life and leaving me,” stated Ms. Nelson. She said her poems are a form of therapy to help her cope with the events in her life.

The *Seminole Tribune* would like to congratulate Ms. Nelson for being named a Famous Poet of 2000 and wish her continued success in her writing.

# Swamp Owl

Continued from page 1

gator from going into a roll” with saving Owl’s hand.

After being freed of the beast’s grasp, Mr. Owl walked over to paramedics already standing by who temporarily dressed the gator wrestler’s badly wounded hand. He then was taken by an Emergency Response Vehicle to the Cleveland Clinic Emergency Room and admitted at about 9:05 p.m. It was there that a hand specialist performed reconstructive surgery throughout the night and Mr. Owl was put under heavy antibiotics to fight any possible bone infection.

Gator teeth had pierced Swamp Owl’s skin and bored right into the bone leaving five precision drill holes on the back of his right hand. Because of extensive damage which included a separated knuckle and severed nerves and tendons, specialists performed re-constructive surgery long into the night.

“I ain’t never seen that gator like that,” commented Mr. Owl of the normally docile Bubbles. Jonathan Vasquez who sustained a bleeding gash to his eyebrow from a swinging gator snout while trying to

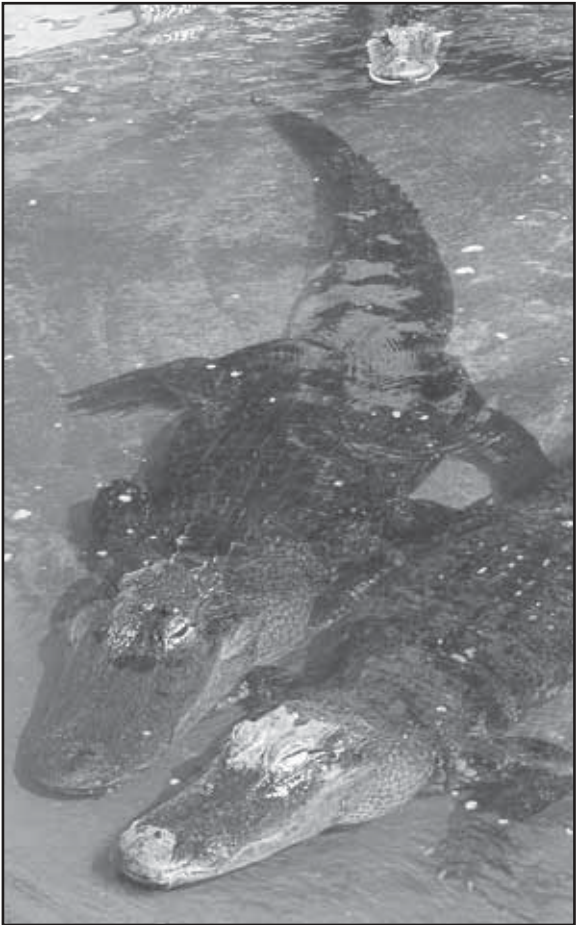
subdue the reptile called it “one of the worst thrash-arounds” he had ever seen.

Mr. Owl and Vasquez determined that the rumbling of the generator nearby plus the strange environment may have unduly agitated the beast into such an unruly state.

A baby was also crying nearby.

This was the fourth time Mr. Owl has been bitten by an alligator. The last time was two years ago at Billie Swamp Safari in Big Cypress. Mr. Owl was released from the Cleveland Clinic, and is back at his home in Big Cypress, reportedly in good spirits. Seminole Tribal Chairman James Billie who had his finger bit off by a gator earlier this year, had this to say: “That’s what happens when people put their hands in a gator’s mouth. People shouldn’t fool around with gators or they will get hurt. Look what happened to me.”

As of this writing there is uncertainty over the future of Swamp Owl’s right hand, but he can’t stop giving his friends credit for preventing his fate from being decisively worse: “Ol’ Keith and Jonathan and Joshua saved my bacon . . .”



“Bubbles” (l) bit Swamp Owl.

Peter B. Gallagher

# Micco

Continued from page 1

Miss Seminole Desiree Jumper and her sister/chaperone, Danielle Jumper.

MAC President F. DeWitt Beckett accepted the certificate for the company, which is based at the St. Lucie County International Airport.

“We’re really excited about having this new plane to offer the flying public,” Beckett said. “This allows us to offer another plane to satisfy the niche we’re

aiming at. It’s a great plane and we’ve already had a lot of interest from pilots.”

Essentially, the SP26 is identical to the SP20, with one big exception. The SP20 is a two seat, sports plane propelled by a 200-horse power Lycoming engine. The SP26 sports a 260 horsepower Lycoming engine, giving the 2,040 pound plane a top cruising speed of 165 knots, versus 145 for the SP20.

“We were very fortunate to have Jane Garvey personally deliver the type certificate in front of that group,” Beckett said. “It provided exposure that money

can’t buy. We were featured in almost every aviation publication.

“And, we lined up about 20 demo rides just from that one event. It was a great way to jump start sales of the new plane.”

The SP26 comes in two version – a visual flight model which costs \$195,000 each, or the Instrument rated model at a base price of \$225,000.

For more information call (561) 465-9996, or visit the company’s web site link at [www.seminoletribe.com](http://www.seminoletribe.com).

By Libby Blake

**BRIGHTON** — Tribal Elder Alice Snow will become a published author in May 2001 when University Press releases her first book, *Healing Plants and Medicine of Florida and the Seminole Indians*.

What started as a journal for her own family in 1982, will culminate with the release of the book. Snow worked with Susan E. Stans, Ph.D. and University Press for the past eight years compiling and editing the manuscript.

Dr. Stans lived with Snow while working on her thesis. She is the Program Director for Interdisciplinary Studies/Anthropology at Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, in the Brighton Reservation Summer Enrichment Program.

Snow, an advocate for education, has worked heavily with the program and the Seminole Education Department.

The book is about plants found in Florida used by Indian doctors to heal the Seminoles. Snow’s father, Charlie Micco, was an Indian doctor, “not to be confused with a Medicine Man,” according to Snow.

Snow, who was born and raised on the Brighton Reservation, started collecting plants as a young girl with her mother, Emma Martin Micco.

“People would need medicine and come to my father. He would tell my mother what plants he needed and we would go out and collect them,” said Snow.

“I wanted to pass the knowledge and tradition on to my family so I started keeping a journal. When I was working with the Indian medicine culture program I showed it to Susan. We showed it to Michele Thomas and she thought it was good and should be put into a book,”

added Snow.

“We then went to James (Seminole Tribal Chairman James E. Billie) and he thought it would be a good way to document our history and culture



Alice Snow has written a book on healing plants.

for future generations.”

Snow stated she does not feel she is “telling Tribal secrets to the white man.

“It’s important to pass the knowledge on before it is lost. The plants and herbs are used to heal people and are a part of the Seminole culture,” said Snow.

*Healing Plants and Medicine of Florida and the Seminole Indians* will be available for purchase at bookstores and on the Tribe’s website sometime in May 2001. It will also be available on the Reservations at the libraries and Education departments and at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki and Okalee Museums.

# Award

Continued from page 1

recognition for its scope and dedication. Simple in its approach, but ambitious in execution, the special tabloid section reflected diverse aspects of a community. As with all of the entrants in this category, more focus on editing could only have strengthened the package. We thought the portraiture was a highlight: nicely lit and also respectful,” commented the judges of this category.

“We don’t compete that much against newspapers outside Indian Country, so this is quite an honor,” said *Tribune* Operations Manager Peter B. Gallagher. “We’ve always known the value of our designers – Melissa, Brian and Vanessa Frank. But it is great to receive recognition from such a prestigious journalism organization.”

The evening concluded with live music and dancing in the ballroom.



Raiford Starke holds one of two FPC awards.

# Lost

Continued from page 1

When the Vedels were somewhere north of the Trail, the pilot saw the strobe lights of a helicopter about six or seven miles in the distance going around in small circles apparently hovering over something. Vedel radioed the ‘copter. A Miami Metro Police pilot told Vedel that he had just found the missing airboat but no missing person. The officer then told Vedel that he had to return to Miami to grab another pilot because regulations did not permit him to fly alone at night.

Vedel flew over to the capsized airboat and proceeded south; within minutes, he spotted a long-haired, middle-

aged man “walking in shoulder-deep water” about three or four miles north of the Trail, according to Vedel. It was Tippy Cypress, who just waved and went on his way. Since Vedel knew he would not be able to get Cypress safely aboard his helicopter, he flew to Miccosukee Tribal Headquarters to get brother Billy. Vedel returned and dropped Billy Cypress into the water to join his brother. Vedel hovered a hundred feet over the two brothers and shined a spotlight, lighting their way through the sawgrass, flying just low enough so the propeller’s wind could blow the mosquitoes away as the two brothers waded the remaining mile-and-a-half to the Tamiami Trail.

When Tippy Cypress’ airboat capsized the previous evening 10 miles north of the Tamiami Trail, he spent the

night in the overturned boat, weathering a constant onslaught of mosquitoes that “ate him up” according to Vedel. When daylight came, Cypress started “walking” in waist to chest-deep water cutting his hands as he grabbed hold of sawgrass blades to keep his balance on the slippery bottom. He walked six or seven miles in 14 hours until Vedel finally found him.

Vedel couldn’t get over the fact that, save numerous mosquito bites and cuts, Tippy seemed remarkably unfazed by the two-day ordeal. “The fact that amazes me is he walked that far and he was still mentally coherent,” said Vedel.

Neither Tippy Cypress or his brother, Chief Cypress, could be reached for comment.



Community News



Recent heavy rains left parts of Big Cypress Reservation struggling to cope with flood conditions.

Big Cypress Under Water

**By Tommy Benn**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Big Cypress received from 13-20 inches on various parts of the reservation within a 36-hour period recently, when it was found the drainage system just wasn't ready for such a traumatic deluge.  
Rains of this magnitude happen rarely, and with the retention ponds already filled to capacity there was nowhere for the water to go.  
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the Seminole Tribe have started to reevaluate the problem. Since approval of the original plans, several new homes have been built in the area. Dikes have to be realigned to protect them from future unpredictable happening.  
The community has to approve the new plans. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will have to go through mediation, and the SFWMD will have to be notified. Craig Tepper, water resource man-

er for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, has all these proposals in motion.  
Getting the pumping station and the SFWMD to respond quicker is another issue that has to be answered. It was several hours before they responded to the Tribe's request.

Two 36-inch pumps and one 18-inch pump have been pumping around the clock 24 hours a day to try to relieve the water levels. With the completion of the third and final phase of the drainage and retention areas, an additional two or three more 36-inch pumps will be installed as needed.  
Jacob Osceola has lost his pepper ranch. Cattle owners are watching their cattle stand on ditch banks to keep away from flooded pastures. The mosquito population will have to be handled, too — spraying has already started.  
Alan Huff has applied for emergency flood disaster funds from the USDA Farm Services Agency for the area and will be hearing on his request with in a couple of weeks.



Pumps, working around the clock, are reducing water.

Brighton Seminole Campground Prepares To Undergo Expansion

**By Libby Blake**  
**BRIGHTON** — Russ and Sunni's Brighton Camparine is no more. After 20 years of leasing and running the campground located on the Brighton Reservation, the Board took over operations and named Shirley Weeks the Park Manager.

"The Adams did a great job with the park and we're certainly indebted to them for their hard work," said Weeks. "With the Tribe taking over the operation, we now have more resources for improvement and expansion. I'm proud to be a part of the change."

Immediate improvements included remodeling of the convenience store, office, and bathroom. Future improvements will include the conversion of 10 additional acres into campsites, a boat dock, and renovations to the pool area, recreation room, and on-site laundry.  
The campground currently has 70 sites with

full hook-up and individual picnic areas. The 10-acre addition will have both full hook-up and primitive campsites. The area can support up to 25 acres of development if needed.

"It's certainly been a success and with the planned future expansion of the additional 10 acres it will be one of, if not the best, campgrounds around the state," stated Carolyn Billie, Executive Administrator in the President's Office.

The campground sits adjacent to Harney Pond Lake and canal, both of which are abundant with bass, catfish, and speckled perch. Because it is located on Tribal land, no fishing license is required to fish from the campsite.

Rates at the campground are \$20 per night, \$110 per week, \$365 per month, or \$1,725 yearly. Weeks is hoping to attract more overnights and to add to the number of "snow birds," who descend on the area each winter, staying at the campground.



SIGN OF THE TIMES: Brighton Resort getting facelift.

Desiree Jumper, Jo Jo Osceola Participate In FSU Homecoming

**TALLAHASSEE** — Desiree Jumper, Miss Seminole 2000, and Jo Jo Osceola, Jr. Miss Seminole were invited by Florida State University to participate in their homecoming activities on Oct. 14.

The festivities began when they rode in the FSU Homecoming Parade on Friday afternoon, where they represented the Seminole Tribe and the FSU Native American Student Association (NASA). Later that evening, they were invited to attend the Lock & Seal Banquet. This banquet was a very formal affair and our young princesses were praised for their elegant Seminole dresses.

On Saturday, our princesses began to prepare for the homecoming football game in which Florida State would take on Duke University. As invited guests, they were taken to the President's Box where they posed for photos and met many honored guests.

At halftime, Desiree and Jo Jo were taken to the field where they posed for more photos with the homecoming court. During the halftime break, the homecoming court and our two princesses walked down the 50-yard line where Desiree Jumper crowned the 2000 FSU Miss Seminole, while Jo Jo Osceola crowned the 2000 FSU Chief. This would turn out to be their most exciting moment of the trip not only because they were performing the homecoming coronation, but also they were crowning them in front of nearly 85,000 fans.

Many FSU alumni, students, and fans thanked our princesses for making the journey to FSU Homecoming 2000. The other Tribal delegates who made the trip with Desiree and Jo Jo would like to let them know they did an excellent job in representing the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Desiree Jumper (l), Jo Jo Osceola at FSU.

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# Billie Swamp Safari, Coca-Cola Form Marketing Partnership

**By Libby Blake**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — Billie Swamp Safari and the Florida Coca-Cola Bottling Company have joined forces to promote both entities via a marketing partnership. The campaign is tentatively scheduled to start with the grand opening of the new alligator island at the Safari in early 2001.

What does Billie Swamp Safari get out of the deal? Free advertising on Coca-Cola trucks as they travel throughout Broward, North Miami-Dade, and South Palm Beach counties and the Fort Myers area. Free advertisement on Coca-Cola product machines located in hotels and motels throughout the region letting tourists know they can bring a label out to the Safari and get \$3 discounts. Point of sale promos in convenience stores and gas stations on labels and bottle tops for \$3 off buggy tours or airboat rides, and “enter to win” day packages or overnight packages.

Coca-Cola will provide banners and other signage to promote special activities going on at the Safari or the Swamp Water Café. They will provide custom signage to be placed in the Café, at the Campgrounds, and in other areas as needed.

Billie Swamp Safari will be included in Coke’s prize pool for radio advertising i.e. “10th caller will win Billie Swamp Safari airboat ride for two” plus media and/or merchandizing campaigns with the Florida Panthers and the local media.

The Swamp Water Café will offer the “Two with Two Special” patrons who buy two buffet carry out meals receive a free two liter bottle of Coke or Sprite. They will also customize the advertising panel on their vending machines at the Safari to promote this promotion going on inside the Café.

“Both Billie Swamp Safari and Coca-Cola have the same goal: the Safari wants more advertising to drive more customers out to the park to make more revenue, and Coke wants to sell more product for more revenue – so it makes sense that they help us with advertising to make both of our numbers grow” says Lucy Evanicki, Marketing Director of Billie Swamp Safari.

What does Coca-Cola get out of the deal? Billie Swamp Safari will sell Coca-Cola products exclusively at the park, the campground, the café and other places around Big Cypress.

# Open Heart Purgery Performs At Brighton

**By Sandi McClenithan**  
**BRIGHTON** — Candle Light Vigil presented a group called Open Heart Purgery at the Brighton Field Office on Oct. 19.

Opening the meeting was a performance by Keyah Osceola who performed the Lord’s Prayer in sign language.

Candle Light Vigil is held monthly under the direction of Jenny Johns. The Victims Advocate meets with residents to help overcome and deal with abuse. This month a special performance was presented

using acting and dancing as a way to help the healing process.

Innermotion, Inc., is a non-profit corporation that travels around the state to help others in need. The show was very intense as these people showed you can go through and overcome extreme adversity. The night ended with a candle light vigil and prayers for all who are still getting abused.

Innermotion is based in Fort Lauderdale. They wish to thank Jack Smith Jr., Brighton Councilman and Community Action Agency.

# AIM Members Arrested

**By T. R. Benn**  
**DENVER**, — One-hundred-forty-seven American Indian Movement demonstrators were arrested in protest of the city’s Columbus Day Parade. Among those arrested was Richard Means, AIM activist.

Protesting that Christopher Columbus was a slave trader against the Native American people, Means and the other AIM demonstrators were arrested after a brief demonstration.

Denver police gave the Indians a choice of leaving or being arrested. Their choices made, those Indians will ask for individual jury trials.

AIM protesters were arrested on disorderly conduct charges, and face fines up to \$1,000 and or one year in jail.

The 2000 parade was to be the first since 1991, when Indian protesters clashed with members of the Sons of Italy The parade in 1992 was canceled moments before it was started due to concerns about violence.

The Native Americans and the Italian Americans had reached an agreement and not to protest if no mention of Columbus was made during an Italian Pride Parade, but several representatives of the Italian community later broke the agreement.

# Seminole Casino News

**IMMOKALEE** — Located at 506 S. First St., Immokalee, FL 34142. Phone: (941) 658-1313 or (800) 218-0007. Hours of operation: Matinees: Saturdays and Sundays at 11 a.m. Evening Sessions: Bingo — Mondays at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays at 7 p.m. Saturdays at 5:15 p.m., Sundays at 4:15 p.m. Poker and video gaming machine — seven days a week – 24 hours a day. (No bingo on Tuesdays).

All JPC members to receive a special Christmas Ornament on JPC Sunday, Nov. 12. The Bingo Hall will be closed on Saturday, Nov. 11, for a special dance. Don’t forget the special game piece that can be found in the Jackpot Club News newsletter.

We are giving away a boat, motor and trailer during our Super Saturday Thanksgiving Celebration on Nov. 25. Winning drawing tickets is easy! Machine players that win \$500 or more, Poker players with hands of four of a kind or better and tournament winners, along with Pull Tab winners of \$50 and up will all receive drawing tickets for the drawing on Super Saturday, Nov. 25. Winners must be present at the time of the drawing and have a valid photo ID along with their original Social Security card to claim their prize. Come join us for Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings for \$5.95. Start serving at 11 a.m. for as long as the old bird lasts. In November, you will receive a special drawing ticket. Bring your drawing tickets to the Matinee session on Super Saturday and you could be one of the 10 winners of a free admission to the \$100 Super Saturday evening session.

We’re adding packs and changing some games! Starting Nov. 1, we are adding our \$20 & \$25 packs to all of our \$15 session including Saturday and Sunday matinee sessions. You still have until Nov. 16, to qualify for the TV drawing. In November, you will notice some game changes in all of our programs.

Poker Tournaments: Nov. 14, 7 p.m. Texas Hold’em No Limit, Nov. 18, 4:30 p.m. Omaha Hi/Lo No Limit, Nov. 21, 7 p.m. Tahoe Hi/Lo No Limit, Nov. 25, 4:30 p.m. Texas Hold’em Hi/Lo No Limit, Nov. 28, 7 p.m. Omaha Hi/Lo No Limit.

There will be another Connecticut Getaway drawing. Winner will travel to the Mohegan Sun Resort and Casino! The trip includes airfare, airport transfers, room accommodations and \$1,000 in cash for two.

Start thinking of far away places and a new car because on New Year’s Eve we are giving away two trips for two, one to Monte Carlo and one to Hawaii as well as a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria.

**TAMPA:** Located at 5223 North Orient Road, Tampa, FL 33610, phone is (813) 621-1302. Open seven days a week, 24 hours at day. Closed Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. until Christmas Day reopen at 5 p.m. www.casino-tampa.com, www.seminoletribe.com. Don’t forget the call for Free transportation from all over the Tampa Bay area. For the very latest Bingo Jackpot information call our recorded Bingo Jackpot & Information hot-line at (813) 623-2239.

Congratulations to Louise Charette from Lake Wales, Fla. Louise won \$180,000 by playing the Do-It-Yourself bingo game on July 20, 2000.

We will be giving away a lot of turkey from November 12 – Nov. 18. There will be No Matinee Bingo sessions on Thursday, Nov. 23. The rest of the casino will be open. There will be Evening and Nite Owl sessions on this day. From Nov. 1 – Nov. 23, you’ll get a scratch-off. This will reveal a bingo number, and you should save all of them and bring to any or all-regular sessions on November 24. During the session you will be given a free bingo card for the special game.

To win a new car; be sure to play often in Nov. Every time you win any bingo game, you will receive a drawing slip. Win a \$1,200 or more Jackpot or special wins on a gaming machine, and you will a drawing slip. Be sure to be here on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2000 for the drawing. That person will have 10 minutes to come forward. If no

one come forward in 10 minutes, the ticket will be considered void and a new name will be drawn. We will follow this procedure until we have a winner.

**COCONUT CREEK:** 5550 N. W. 40th Street, Coconut Creek 33073, (954) 977-6700. Open seven days a week – 24 hours.

“The Happenings at Coconut Creek Casino”: Oct. 18, we hosted a “Power Business Luncheon” for the Broward County Chamber of Commerce, where Chamber members enjoyed an afternoon lunch and casino action. Oct. 26 – 30 we were participants in the 41st Annual Fort Lauderdale Boat Show. Oct. 29 “Halloween Hoorah,” we had musical entertainment and a costume contest with cash prizes for the best male and female celebrity look-a-likes, best duo, most humorous, best horror and most original costume. There was a Marilyn Monroe, Statue of Liberty, marionette, whoopi Goldberg, New Year’s baby, cave man, witches, angels, cereal killer (that is the guest had actual cereal boxes all over her body) and many more creative costumes. And, everyone was eligible at a chance to win a Bahamas cruise for two.

And more excitement is planned for November: The Fabulons will be making two appearances center stage. Doo-wop event with performance by Legacy and MC by Wolfman of WAXY.

**Brighton Seminole Bingo and Gaming:** Highway 721, Brighton Indian Reservation, Route 6, Box 611, Okeechobee, FL. 34974, 1-800-360-9875. Closed Mondays, Tuesday – Saturday at 6:45 p.m., Sunday Session at 2:00 p.m.

Marty Johns was presented with the Industrial Award from the Glades County Chamber of Commerce. Susan Smelley, director commented that “the Industrial Award is given to businesses over 5,000 sq. ft. that have made a significant contribution to Glades County. This is a wonderful asset to Glades County, and the contributions made by this multimillion dollar facility to the county include; increased employment opportunities, tourism, trade with local businesses, and community involvement through sponsorships and donations to local community events, schools and charities.”

The original Big Win Bingo Paddle is coming. If you are a Player’s Club Member and you used your card between Sept. 1 and Oct. 3 to purchase your bingo package, you will be receiving a Player’s Club Member Reward Certificate in the mail to claim your very own free Big Win Bingo Paddle.

Please remember the paddles are to be used to assist you in calling attention to where Bingo has been called in the Bingo Hall, they do not take the place of the individual player’s responsibility to call Bingo loud enough for the caller to hear it and stop the game.

Five winners will be drawn on each of November 15th and 17th and each winner will receive a \$25 Publix Gift Certificate and a \$25 Bingo Pass. (Passes must be used within 90 days and will not be accepted NCOP days.) by bringing in non-perishable and canned foods for the Thanksgiving Holiday Season.

The Josiah Restaurant will be serving a special Thanksgiving Day Buffet on Thursday, November 23rd from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. for only \$8.95 per person.

Reservations recommended and are now being taken. Please call (863) 467-9998 or (800) 360-9875 to reserve your seating today. Regular dinner menu will be available from 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Weekly No Limit Tournaments are played on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. and Special Saturday Night No Limit Tournaments are scheduled for Saturday, November 11th and 25th!

Big Bingo Winner: Congratulations to Eula F. Bush of Sebring, won the Progressive Jackpot of \$2,600.00.


## American Indian Outreach

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

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

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


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



Lee Tiger

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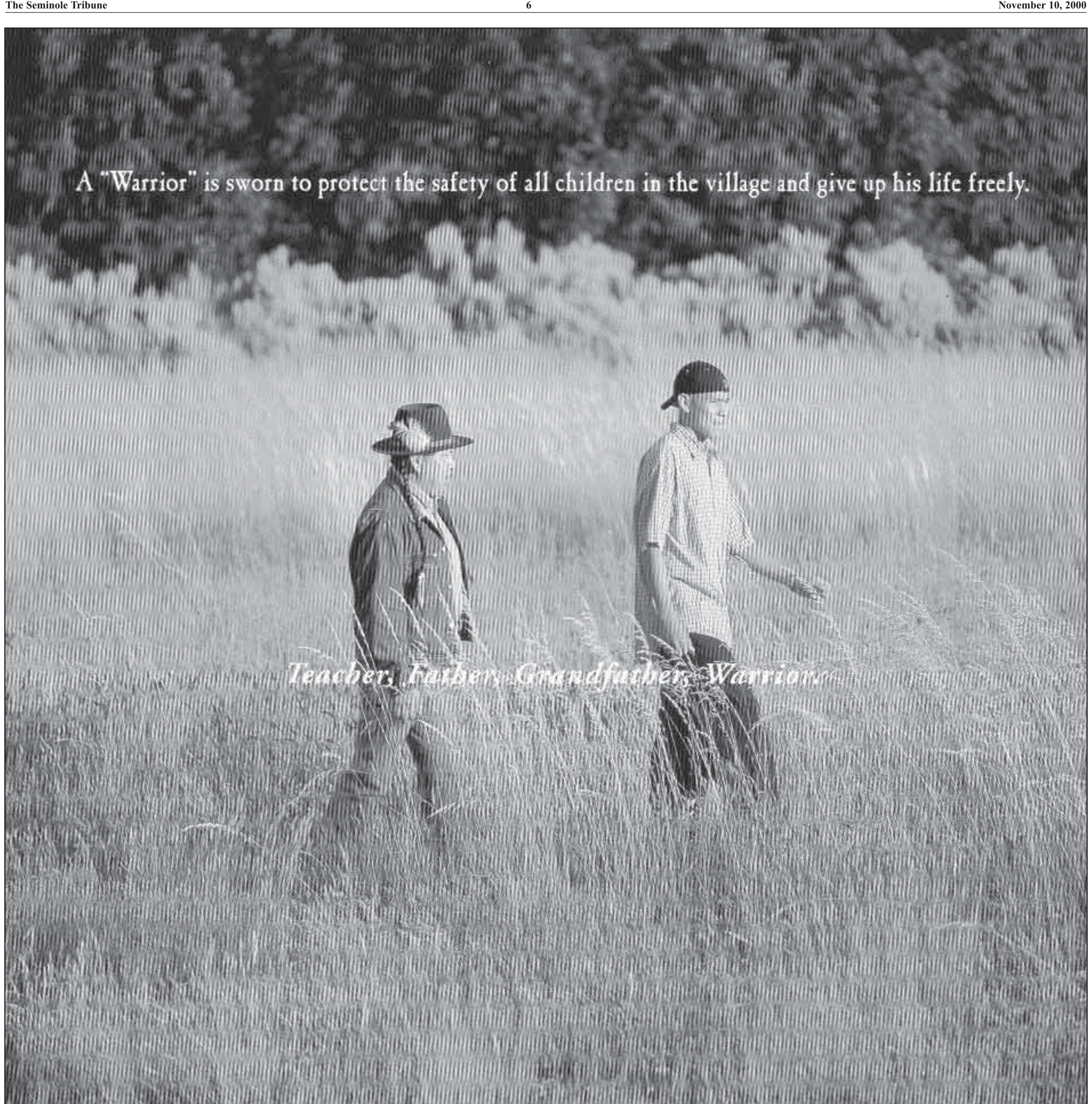
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# It’s All Right, Ma, I’m Almost Rocking

“Do you really have to go now, son?” my dear old arthritic mother, Attica, begged, the tears in her eyes dousing the cigarette dangle” from her mouth corner, her makeup smeared like Tammy Faye on a bad face day, her voice cracklin’ worse than my Aunt Yazoo’s throat talker.

“I’m sorry ma,” I said, “but duty calls.”

“But you’ve only been home for 15 minutes.”

I know, I know but here I am, Raiford Starke, supposed to spend a whole week with my sweet home mother and suddenly leaving her for reasons of rock and roll. It was Ken Crawford’s fault — the state Music Czar had just called me in desperation, begging me to dump my dear old Ma.

“Blow her off, Raiford,” said Crawford. “I’m talking the Florida State Museum. Bo Diddley here. Dickey Betts. The Lynyrd Skynyrd wives!”

He swore the state needed a guitar player to play in some shin-dig in Tallahassee, honoring all the legendary Florida rockers.

“You’ll be playing with the back-up band, T.C. Gar and the Crabs. Here’s T.C.’s number. Be at rehearsal tonight,” said Crawford.

“Crawfish! Gar! Are all your friends named

## RAIFORD STARKE

after fish?” my mother screamed, when I tried to explain. “Oh , I give up. Go ahead, ungrateful son, but I’m calling Mr. Grupper the attorney and writing you right out of my will!”

Rock and roll is bigger than mothers or money and this could be my shot. So with heavy heart, I left for the airport.,, jumped on that big Air Starkansaw bird and flew all the way back to Florida.

Soon, there I was Raiford Starke shaking hands with The Legend. It was opening night at the Florida State Museum’s “Follow That Dream: 50 Years of Rock n’ Roll in Florida” exhibit. “Mr. Legend, sir,” I said, shaking, “I have always been a big fan of yours ever since I was in a teenager in Starkansaw I saw you playing on Don Kirschner’s Rock Concert with that V-shaped guitar . . .”

My friend Sunset Beach Pete told me later that Bo Diddley pulled his hand back and looked at me annoyed. “Son, you don’t know diddley,” he spat, walking away.

I was shocked. Pete explained it to me. “It was Albert King who played the Flying V, Bo Diddley plays the box-shaped guitar!”

Dang me! All these legends are starting to look alike. I ran after The Legend, reached over and

grabbed his hand again. “ I’m sorry Mr. King. I thought you were . . .”

The Legend swung his guitar at me like Mark McGuire but Pete pulled me out of the way. “Man, that dude has a weird style,” I commented. Suddenly, a crowd of reporters surrounded The Legend and he started doing the ham-bone and pontificating. “Listen to me now. I’m serious. Drugs are ruining our youth! We got to say ‘Kids, don’t do it . . . Kids, don’t do it!’ . . .”

All the stars were out at the Museum tonight, paying their civic duty. Sam Moore of Sam and Dave. Benji Brumberg of TK records. Dickey did actually show but the rest of the Allmans were not here. I looked to the left and saw Molly, but no Hatchett. I spied fiddle impressario Vassar Clements. Yessir, ol’ Raiford Starke knows his Florida music.

I wandered into the museum exhibit, and came across the Florida band that recorded the first 45 single that Raiford Starke ever owned — “Snoopy and the Red Baron” by that Ocala band, the Royal Guardsmen. I sang the chorus to myself “Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty or more . . . that bloody Red Baron was rollin’ up a score . . .”

Unfortunately, no Royal Guardsmen showed up to play this night. I saw The Legend get on stage with the museum back-up band, T C Gar and the Crabs. And lo and behold what did he have strapped on but that rectangular box shaped guitar. He started fram-min’ . . . chunk a-chunk a-chunk a-chunk chunk . . . and singing: “Bo Diddley Bo Diddley have you heard . . .”

I nearly fell off my chair realizing what a fool I was. I turned to Pete. “You %\$#@&!,” I said, “Why didn’t you tell me who that was in the first place?!”

Then Bo looked down at me at started singing a country song:

*You don’t have to call me Muddy Waters/ You don’t have to call me Charlie Pride/ You don’t have to call me Albert King/ Less you want to be on my fightin’ side . . .*

Then came the Classics IV doing “Spooky,” followed by Dickey Betts and son Duane playing “Southbound” and “Ramblin’ Man” then Artimus Pyle and the Skynyrd Wives on “Freebird.” Even T.C. Gar did a few of his own songs, like “Snappertime” and “New Dock, New Dock.”

Ol’ Crawfish came running up to me “Go get your guitar and be ready for the next song!” he said urgently.

Finally, fame came a-calling. So was nature . . . I ran to the men’s room but I couldn’t open the

door. I couldn’t figure out if it was locked or stuck. Then I heard a voice coming from behind me.

“Stand aside there, good buddy.” I turned around to see Dickey Betts. He took a running start and proceeded to ram and kick that dad-gum bathroom door until it finally splintered off the hinges.

He stood there looking rather disturbed with his face and neck all red. I didn’t know how to thank him. “Mr. Betts,” I said, “ you really didn’t have to . . .” He just flashed one of those cracker smiles and said, “Buddy, spare it . . . I’ve broken down a lot of doors in my day. It’s kinda fun!”

I came out of the men’s room, flew up on the stage and grabbed the first Telecaster I saw . . . but the show was over.

Crawfish came up to me. “Raiford I’m sorry man. I guess it wasn’t in the cards tonight.”



RAIFORD MEETS THE LEGEND: The Great Bo Diddley.

I looked down in despair when an attractive middle aged woman approached me.

“Excuse me,” she said, “Would you mind signing my program? I’m one of the Skynyrd Wives.”

“B-b-but I didn’t play,” I said.

“That’s alright,” she said, knowingly. “I know you’re somebody.”

Damn straight. I grabbed a-hold of her pen and signed : *I almost played, Raiford Starke.*

T.C. Gar walked by at that very moment: “Hey Raiford, sorry you didn’t get to play. But, hey, man, you still got to sign an autograph. Cool!”

And with that, me and Pete decided to ditch this shin-dig and go beyond the outskirts of town, somewhere between Tallahassee and Starkansaw to a little ol’ juke joint and bar-b’cue pit called Dave’s CC Lounge —where the meat melts off the ribs and the REAL legends are born . . .

— *Raiford Starke is a Ft. Lauderdale based bluesman. Part two of his column will be published soon as Dave books him at his CC Club.*

## Pithlachocco

Continued from page 1

The Seminole Tribe of Florida, alerted to the most significant find of its kind in history by folkshinger Dale Crider and other concerned environmentalists, began an investigation in July that led Gov. Jeb Bush to request a temporary ban of dead-head logging on Florida lakes. Another “summit” on the subject will be held with the Sierra Club, the Nature Conservancy and other environmental groups next week. The Cabinet is expected to meet later this year to formally discuss the lake moratorium and to hear demands to outlaw the controversial practice altogether.

Since December 1998, fewer than 30 applications to pull pre-cut timbers from Florida submerged lands have been approved by the DEP. The program, nagged by concerns over illegal logging, permit violations and environmental complaints, was suspended for four months earlier this year, then reinstated about the same time the aboriginal canoes began appearing on the drought exposed Newnan’s Lake bed. The canoes have since been radiocarbon dated to 3,000 B.C.

Fred McGhee, chairman of the Poarch Band of Alabama Creek Indians — which he said had about 600 Tribal members in Florida — thanked *Seminole Tribune* reporters Peter B. Gallagher and Charles Flowers for bringing the Pithlachocco canoe case to light, and then read a resolution passed at the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) meeting earlier this month.

The resolution said Florida had “failed to protect the material culture heritage of Florida Indian citizens, through the inadequate standards employed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in permitting the commercial process of deadhead logging.”

It also blamed Florida’s State Historic Preservation Officer — Division of Historical resources (DHR) Director Dr. Janet Matthews — for failing to “provide adequate educational resources and technical support for other Florida state agencies.”

McGhee set the stage for a wide-ranging summit meeting where — possibly for the first time — Seminole concerns about cultural resources were heard by policy-makers and administrators in the best position to do something about them.

Like the groaning engine that is Florida’s government in this election year, the change came haltingly, with squeaks and squawks from all concerned. The major consensus was that nothing like what occurred this summer at Newnan’s Lake (Pithlachocco) should happen again.

In that snafu, first reported by the *Tribune* on July 28, DHR failed to review a DEP deadhead logging application for Newnan’s Lake. Even when the canoes began appearing in late April and early May, DHR was slow to respond until their state archaeologist assigned to the lake, Melissa Memory, reported broken canoes and logging in restricted areas.

In one confrontation with logger L.C. Pinson, he informed Memory “God is in my back pocket,” referring to the DEP permit. Her call to Alachua sheriff’s deputies set off a chain of events that first stopped the logger, then allowed him to go back in. Finally, her DHR bosses ordered Memory — the only state monitor on site — to stay away.

When the logger was finished July 21, Memory returned to find more damage to canoes by heavy equipment. Environmental damage was also detailed. DEP, however, found the logger in compliance with his permit, denying any damage to the environment or historical properties in a widely-disputed post assessment report.

At the meeting, DHR state archaeologist Dr. Jim Miller blamed it all on an unprecedented “chain of circumstances,” and said he probably would have okayed the permit, anyway, if he had opened the letter — one of more than 7,000 such dredge-and-fill permit applications which pass through his office each year. That did not play well with Dr. Wickman, who pointed out that Newnan’s Lake has an international reputation as a valuable Indian cultural site “with continuous human occupation stretching back thousands of years.”

DEP officials, holding tight to the letter of what may be a “flawed” law, indicated their confusion was based on a conflicting situation: a logger in compliance with a permit, extremely weak on protecting historical resources.

Dr. Wickman, echoing Seminole Tribal Chairman James Billie’s displeasure with the damaged site, questioned the validity of any DEP or DHR action which did not include the concerns of Indians: “There is not a square inch of water or a square inch of land anywhere in this state that has not been used by the ancestors of today’s Seminole Indians,” she said.

“These are not archaeological sites,” she admonished Department of State lawyer Gerald York. “Archaeology is a tool. These are Indian cultural sites.”

State officials speaking at the meeting, stressed the uniqueness of the events at Newnan’s Lake.

“We know there’s always going to be the possibility for something that everybody overlooks. But I can assure you that the chances of it happening are much, much less than they were three months ago,” said Gordon Roberts, the DEP’s enforcement and compliance chief. “I can’t even envision that situation ever happening again.”

One of the first orders of business was getting all of the DEP officials — more than one-third of the group assembled by DEP ombudsman Brumberg — to agree exactly what caused the canoe damage, and why.

Despite extensive inter-agency communication, and video and still photographs of damage to the canoes caused by heavy equipment, several DEP administrators expressed skepticism that any of the damage was caused by the logger.

The meeting included several spirited exchanges between Gallagher and DEP officials regarding Pinson’s permit, which included a diagram of winching logs from underwater as the specified means of log removal. “He did not use a boat and a winch. He used a bulldozer and dragged the logs across the bottom — the permit conditions specifically forbade that,” Gallagher said.

“We were aware of what Pinson was going to do,” said DEP’s Mike Eaton, who said his agency has been mandated to assist the “Mom and Pop” operators, who may not totally understand the intricacies of the state application process. “We spoke to him and went out to the site with him.”

Permit reviewers from other agencies, however, are often forced to decide the merits of incorrect and incomplete applications. Eaton quoted a Florida Administrative Code rule which requires him to begin processing deadhead applications — even if they are incomplete — within three days of receipt.

Eaton and the other DEP officials also defended Pinson against charges that he was the cause — whether accidentally or intentionally — of the damage to the aboriginal canoes.

“What we can safely say is that we don’t know Pinson busted the canoes,” said Gordon Roberts, the DEP’s enforcement and compliance chief. “Because there’s been so much traffic on the lakebed since the water went down. I mean, there’s four-wheel drive trucks running up and down there all the time. I’m not saying that he didn’t. But we don’t have any ‘in-the-act’ evidence.”

Eaton echoed: “What we don’t find is the documentable evidence that that (damage to the canoes by Pinson’s operation) happened. When we go down there and look, we don’t find the specific violation of Mr. Pinson’s permit.”

Pinson, in fact, has alleged that broken canoes were “moved” into the furrows of his bulldozer path at night to make it appear he had caused the damage.

One discrepancy was time. The DEP conducted its post-assessment on Aug. 28. One week later, the DHR archaeologist Melissa Memory had completed her damage report and State Archaeologist Jim Miller submitted it to DEP. In the interim, the canoes — damaged and intact — had been covered over. The Santa Rosa Beach logger was also allowed to begin logging prior to receiving certification as a ‘master deadhead logger’ — a supposed requirement of the DEP permit. He took the one-day class on June 23, almost a month after he began logging Newnan’s Lake.

“Even if we had given the loggers instruction on identifying historic properties at the class, it wouldn’t have mattered in this case,” said Dr. Miller. “The guy had already logged through the site for weeks before he completed the class.”

DEP’s Frydenborg, who authored Newnan’s post-assessment report, stated there was no reason for him to investigate the canoe damage: “That report is designed to deal strictly with environmental issues.”

The DEP report, if it is not amended to include information from the DHR report and an investigation conducted by the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), could leave Pinson free to log again with a DEP permit. On Aug. 23, Pinson applied for another permit to log Lake Lochloosa in Alachua County.

Gov. Jeb Bush’s Cabinet Aide, Jose Boscan, does not think that Pinson’s return to any lake logging is likely. Boscan was most responsible for prompting Bush to issue the ban on lake logging. His recommendation, coupled with requests from Miller and Matthews, put Newnan’s Lake off limits.

Miller, for his part, took the heat for failing to respond to Pinson’s request during the comment period. Dr. Matthews agreed with Gallagher that the application contained an entirely different retrieval process than the one used.

Still, Miller promised, “We will now log in and review everything we receive. No one’s promising infallibility here. We’re simply saying we will never make the mistake again of not opening an envelope and assuming we don’t need to know what’s inside it.”

Among other changes agreed to and announced at the meeting were increased communication between DHR and DEP, including actual follow-up phone calls; routine checking of dredge-and-fill sites with the Florida Master Site File of historical properties; the removal of DHR categorical exclusions to reviewing DEP permits; greater involvement by DHR and the Tribes in the permitting process, and an expansion of Tribal involvement in all Department of State and DEP actions that impact Indian cultural resources. Both Dr. Miller and Dr. Wickman are now on the faculty for the next Master Deadhead Logging class, scheduled for Dec. 1.

Boscan likely spoke for the group when he summarized his feelings about the summit:

“I think we’ll get a lot accomplished just by talking about these things and realizing that programs need some change, and this is constructive. Both of these agencies (DEP and DHR) are working together.”

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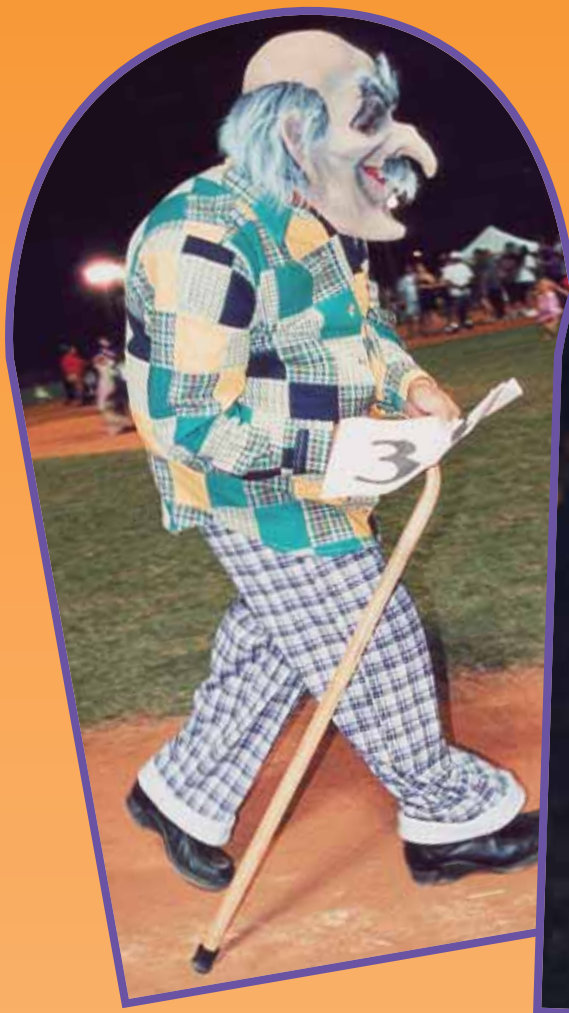
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# Halloween Horror Hits Hollywood

**HOLLYWOOD** — Pre-schoolers started the ghoulish morning of Oct. 31, by visiting the Hollywood Tribal Office. Dressed in their scariest attire they came for the promise of treats that awaited them in each office that they visited throughout the building.

Office employees and Seminole Seniors also took time out that morning to participate in the ghoulish fun by dressing up for a chance at cash prizes awarded for the most scariest, the ugliest and prettiest costumes.

As the sun went down, ghouls and youths of all ages wandered their way to the Hollywood Recreation area, where departments from the Hollywood Tribal Office had sat up a cake-walk and ring tossing booths for the

Wanda Bowers 4th Judee Belan.

## Pumpkin Carving Contest Winners

**Youth Division** — 1st Place Ashley Harjo, 2nd Nicole Osceola, 3rd Tyler Harjochee. **Adult Division** — Natoshia Medaris, 2nd Trish Osceola, 3rd Marcy Osceola. **Senior Division** — 1st Jimmie Smith, 2nd Maggie Osceola, 3rd Cornelia Osceola.

## Costume Contest Winners

**(0-2 Years) Scariest** — 1st Lorenzo Jones, 2nd Tyson Osceola, 3rd Kyrell Josh. **Most Original** — 1st Kian Madrid, 2nd Tameron Wilcox, 3rd Rhett Young. **Prettiest** — 1st Elizabeth Frank, 2nd Kiauna Martin, 3rd Rebecca Vazquez. **King** — Maurice Billie. **Queen** — Mi-Lyn Williams **(3-5 Years)** — **Scariest** 1st Neko Osceola 2nd Uly Jim, 3rd Clarissa Jumper. **Most Original** — 1st Joseph, Elizabeth and Calab Wolf. **Prettiest** — 1st Alisia Billie 2nd Isabel Tucker, 3rd Alexis Jumper. **King** — Trevor Cypress. **Queen** — Kaylan Osceola. **(6-9 Years) Scariest** — Trent Osceola 2nd Audrey Osceola 3rd Taylor Osceola. **Most Original** — 1st Jordan Osceola, 2nd Kristen Billie, 3rd Kendra Frank.

**Prettiest** — 1st Brody Billie 2nd Tianna Young 3rd Charlie Osceola. **King** — Joshua Cypress. **Queen** — Laurie. **(10-13 Years) Scariest** — 1st Casey McCall, 2nd Josh Osceola, 3rd Bobby Frank. **Most Original** — 1st Chelsea Mountain, 2nd Bobby Osceola 3rd Nick Jumper. **Prettiest** — 1st JoJo Osceola, 2nd Talena Castillo 3rd JoJo Osceola. **King** — Spencer Battiest. **Queen** — Krystte Young. **(14-17 Years) Scariest** — 1st Caitlin Jim 2nd Stephen Billie 3rd Josh Sneed. **Most Original** — 1st Christine McCall 2nd Phalyn Osceola 3rd Austin Billie. **Prettiest** — 1st Sherri Micco 2nd Jessica Buster 3rd Mercedes Osceola King — Josh Fish. **Queen** — Angel Young and Tacey Thomas. **(18-49 Years) Scariest** — 1st Ricardo Hernandez 2nd William Cypress 3rd John

Billie. **Most Original** — 1st Disqualified 2nd Holly Tiger 3rd Natoshia Medaris. **Prettiest** — 1st Melissa Osceola 2nd Francine Osceola 3rd Vince Motlow. **King** — Nathan Doctor **Queen** — Scarlett Jumper. **(50 & Over) Scariest** — 1st Jack Motlow 2nd Dorothy Tucker 3rd Leoda Osceola. **Most Original** — 1st Joe Dan Osceola 2nd Juanita Osceola 3rd Betty Jumper. **Prettiest** — 1st Carol Cypress 2nd Frances Willie 3rd Annie Jimmie. **King** — Max Osceola. **Queen** — Maggie Osceola.

Holiday fun.

In addition a catered dinner and a costume contest was also made possible by Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola and Representative Carl Baxley. Below is a list of Costume Winners throughout the day.

## Tribal Office Seniors Costume

### Contest Winners

**Scariest:** 1st place Jimmy Hank, 2nd Dorothy Tucker, 3rd Dan Osceola.

**Ugliest:** 1st place Johnny Tucker, SR, 2nd Leoda Osceola, 3rd Jack Motlow, Sr.

**Prettiest:** 1st place Annie Jimmie, 2nd Winifred Tiger, 3rd Betty Mae Jumper.

## Tribal Employees Costume Contest Winners

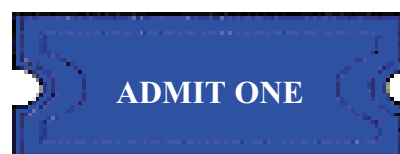
**1st Place** Mike Nadeau 2nd Allan Jumper 3rd



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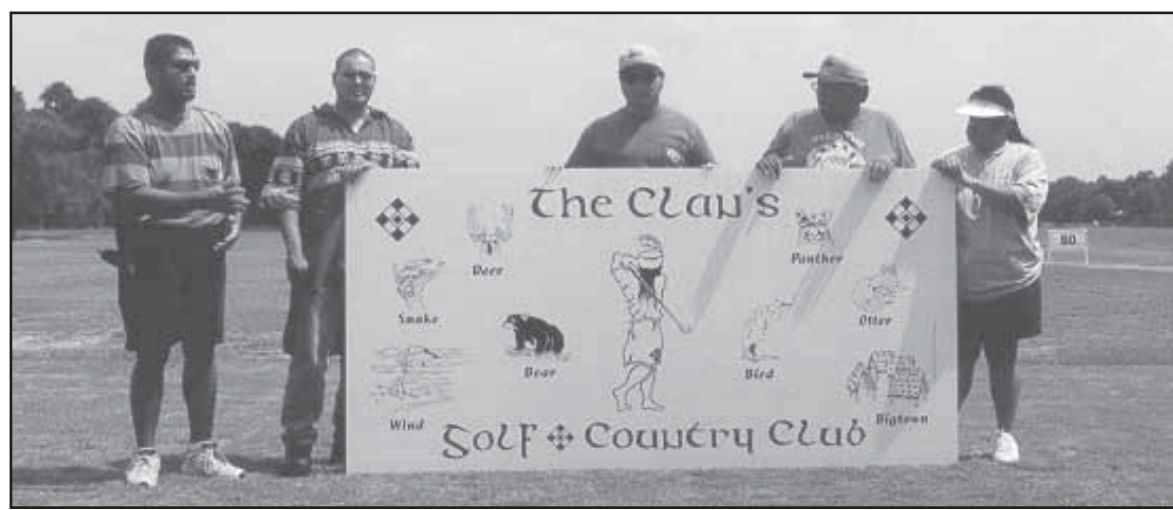
- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ⌞ Marilyn Manson            | ⌞ Juan Gabriel      |
| ⌞ WWF Smackdown             | ⌞ Creed             |
| ⌞ K.D. Lang                 | ⌞ Deftones/Incubes  |
| ⌞ Bryan White               | ⌞ Limp Bizkit       |
| ⌞ Temptations/<br>Four Tops | ⌞ George Carlin     |
| ⌞ Dolphins                  | ⌞ David Copperfield |
| ⌞ Panthers                  | ⌞ Heat              |











(L-R): Allen Huff, Vince Osceola, Alex Johns, Jack Smith, and Debbie Carter gather for dedication.

## Brighton Dedicates Golf Course

By Sandi McClenithan

**BRIGHTON** — Brighton residents gathered for dedication of new golf course "The Clans Golf Range" and putting green. The new course, located on the Brighton Reservation, will be approximately 200 acres with an 18-hole course. The site is approximately ½ mile past Tribal offices on Harney Pond Road on the left-hand side of road. Allen Huff who oversees this project stated this golf course will be unique in that it will not look like other courses and there is no altering the land it is on. We used our own natural state. Allen thanked Wonder Johns for letting them use a portion

of his pasture for our project.

Allen introduced Vinson Osceola, son of Virginia Mitchell, who used his artistic ability to come up with a name and sign for the new course. Vinson showed his art of the Clans Golf Course and everyone loved it.

Brighton Officials Jack Smith Jr. and Alex Johns were on hand to celebrate the new course.

Allen Huff thanked the officials for all their support and stated the course is expected to be finished in less than a year. Vinson Osceola ended the ceremony by putting his signature on the new sign.

## Tommies Win Golf Tournament

**BELLE GLADE** — Jason and James Tommie took the top spot when the Big Cypress Recreation Department hosted a golf tournament Oct. 14, at the Belle Glade Golf Course. Jason and James Tommie won with a combined score of 170 on the Par-72 course. Second place went to Ray Yzaguirre and partner James with a 173. Others placing in the money were third place Mike Micco and John Madrigal, 175; fourth

Charley Cypress and Marl Osceola, 176; fifth Marcy Osceola and Malissa Osceola, 180; sixth Scott Gorton and Tom Gunsey, 183; seventh Lawrence Osceola and Allen Huff, 185; and eighth Bo Young and Harry Kennedy, 192. Closest to the pin winners were Bo Young (on two holes), James Tommie, and Jason Tommie. Most honest score went to Bobby Frank and Joe Frank.

## Bowling Tourney Results

By Libby Blake

**BELLE GLADE** — An All-Indian Bowling Tournament was held Oct. 14 at Sugar Cane Lanes. The Big Cypress Recreation Department hosted the event. Entry fee was \$40 and \$2,000 was added to the prize fund. The bowling got under way at 6 p.m. with the two person teams competing in regular, 3-6-9, no tap, and scotch doubles games. The winners with their scores were as follows: Regular: 1st place — Denise Moran and Rodney Moran, 375; 2nd place — Mary Jo Micco and Joey Micco, 361; 3rd place — Patricia Wilcox and Philmon Bowers, 355; 4th place — Sarah MacDonald and Oliver Wareham, 354; 5th place — Mary Jumper and Delwin McCowan; 6th place — Mitch Osceola and Monica Cypress, 339. 3-6-9: 1st place — Alfreda Muskett and Philmon Bowers, 489; 2nd place — Symphoni Jones

and Mary Osceola, 458; 3rd place — Amanda Smith and Oliver Wareham, 424; 4th place — Jenny Johns and Chris Osceola, 417; 5th place — Sarah MacDonald and Sampson Gopher, 411; 6th place — Mary Jumper and Johnny Jones, 406. NoTap: 1st place — Farrah Jones and Mark Osceola, 498; 2nd place — Sarah MacDonald and Bobby Frank, 448; 3rd place — Gail Cypress and Toby Johns, 444; 4th place — Denise Moran and Philmon Bowers, 443; 5th place — Jenny Johns and David Jumper, 437; 6th place — Terry Frank and Cicero Osceola, 430. Scotch Doubles: 1st place — Alfreda Muskett and John Madrigal, 232; 2nd place — Mahala Madrigal and Elbert Snow, 222; 3rd place — Monica Cypress and Bobby Frank, 205; 4th place — Mable Osceola and David Jumper, 202; 6th place — Patricia Wilcox and Weens Buck, 197.

# Pool Tournament Results

By Libby Blake

**IMMOKALEE** — Sharing with the community was the theme for an open pool tournament held Oct. 20 — 21 at the Immokalee Pool Center. Nearly 100 men and women turned out to try their luck in Scotch Doubles, Eight Ball, and Nine Ball events. Tribal Vice-Chairman and President Mitchell Cypress co-sponsored the games along with Big Cypress Council Representative and brother, David Cypress and Big Cypress Recreation Department. In total, \$11,000 was up for grabs in the three events.

"The Tribe has benefited by the communities around the Reservations with their support of our casinos and other businesses. We want everyone to know that we appreciated the support so by having events like this we can give back something," Mitchell said. "We (the Tribe and the Reservations) are separate, but still a part of the communities around us. You have been good to us so we just wanted to show our appreciation in some way," he added.

The action started Friday night with the youth in an Eight Ball event sponsored by Immokalee Recreation. The top five places received gift certificates with first place winners also receiving pool sticks with cases.

Ray Yzaguirre III took first place in Youth Boys. Tony Sanchez III, Anthony Hernandez, Benny Hernandez, and Roy Garza Jr followed.

Among the Youth Girls, Phalyn Osceola came out the winner. Second through fifth place went to Karen Cypress, Bonnie Billie, Deidra Hall, and Laci Sanchez.

Adult Scotch Doubles got underway at 7:30 p.m. Big Cypress Rec. Asst. Director Jack Gorton ran all the events, which were played under B.C. rules. \$3,000 was up for grabs among the top nine couples.

First place went to O.B. Osceola and Nicole Tucker. Other finishers were as follows: 2nd place — Peggy Nunez and Danny Meara, 3rd place — Virginia Billie and David Billie, 4th place — Charlene Haynes and Corey Penrod, 5th place — Deono S. and Elaine, 6th place — Laura Clay and David Cypress, 7th place — Cindy and Ray Gibson, 8th place — Carlene Osceola and Bronson Hill, 9th place



Scotch Doubles winners (l-r): O.B. Osceola, Nichole Tucker, Peggy Nunez and Danny Meara.

— Moke Osceola and Alvira Muskett.

Saturday's events started with Eight Ball men and women's divisions. The top eight places in each division split \$5,000. Winners were as follow: Men: 1st place — Neal Martin, 2nd place — O.B. Osceola, 3rd place — Mark Boshears, 4th place — Mike Dewitt, 5th place — Elrod Bowers, 6th place — David Cypress, 7th place — Abel Salgado, 8th place — Lance Ellison.

Women: 1st place — Theresa Nunez, 2nd place — Charlene Haynes, 3rd place — Virginia Billie, 4th place — Arica Buck, 5th place — Maria Billie, 6th place — Peggy Nunez, 7th place — Susan Davis, 8th place — Alvira Muskett.

The Nine Ball tourney followed with a \$20 entry fee and \$3,000 added money. The men's division paid the top seven places while the women's paid the top four.

Winners were as follow: Men: 1st place — Corey Penrod, 2nd place — Danny Meara, 3rd place — Raymond Mora, 4th place — Woody Wilson, 5th place — O.B. Osceola, 6th place — Neal Martin, and 7th place — Big Bob.

Women's top four were 1st place — Elisha Hudson, 2nd place — Charlene Haynes, 3rd place — Connie Williams, and 4th place — Peggy Nunez.

## Rodeo Queen Contest Open

**HOLLYWOOD** — If you are interested in competing for the title of 2001 Seminole Rodeo Queen please complete an application available at the following locations: Hollywood President's Office, Big Cypress Cattle & Range, Brighton Chairman's Office, Brighton Cattle & Range Office and the Immokalee Field Office.

Completed applications can be mailed or hand delivered to: Seminole Rodeo Queen Contest, Brighton Chairman's Office, Route 6 Box 666, Okeechobee, FL 34974.

For more information or if you have any questions, please call Michele Thomas or Rita Gopher at (863) 763-4128.

Deadline for applications is Jan. 12, at 5 p.m. (completed applications only).

## Athletes Wanted

Team Florida is looking for athletes to compete in the 2002 Indigenous Games in Winnipeg, Canada. For more information contact one of the following:

Hollywood and Fort Pierce: Bo Young or Steve Young at (954) 967-9457.

Big Cypress and Immokalee: Jack Gorton or Cicero Osceola at (863) 983-9659.

Brighton and Tampa: Kevin Osceola at (863) 467-3630, Parker Jones at (863) 763-3866 or the Chairman's Office at (863) 763-4128.

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Kristicia Tommie holds award presented by Mitchell Cypress (l) and Joe Quetone.

## Fort Pierce Students Honored

**By Tommy Benn**  
**FORT PIERCE** — The Seminole Tribe honored the youth of the Fort Pierce community with the End of the Year Incentive Awards held at the Raddison Resort on Hutchinson Island Oct. 23.

These awards recognize the student's grades, classes — advanced and honors programs — improvement on grades, and atten-

high standards. He praised the parents for their participation in helping their children achieve these high goals.

Keynote speaker for the evening was Joe A. Quetone, Executive Director of the Florida Governor's Council on Indian Affairs. A member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Quetone is also a member of the Gourd Clan and of the Black Legging Society (a Kiowa warrior or veteran).

Louise Jones, Jo Leigh Johns and Jenny Shore from Brighton Reservation's Education and Culture Department's Helped with the presentation of the awards, which are as follows:

Kindergarten for all "A & B's" Marisa Stockton, Second Grade Lavontae Tommie "B" average. Third Grade Tomasina Gilliam "B" average and Perfect Attendance. Fourth Grade Marty Tommie "B" average, Dean Stokes Jr. Improved Grades and Perfect Attendance.

Sixth Grade Rollie Gilliam III "B" average and Perfect Attendance, Tatiano Gomez less than 3 days absence all year, Celeste Stockton "B" average, Kristicia Tommie "B" average.

Seventh Grade: Gabriel Stockton Improved Grades, Travelis Timothy "A" average and less than 3 days absent all year, Karissa Tommie "A" average.

Eighth Grade Derrick Timothy "A" average and less than 3 days absent all year.

Ninth Grade, Hope Sneed "B" average, Honors Classes, and less than 3 days absent all year. (Miss Sneed had the highest Grade Point Average of all the students on the Seminole Reservations.)

Tenth Grade, Antonio Timothy, "A" average. Eleventh Grade Onesimus Stockton "A" average.



Marty Tommie Jr. holds up his award.

dance for the entire school year. Moses Osceola shared the blessing, while Sally Tommie host the evening's festivities.

Seminole Tribe President Mitchell Cypress addressed the young audience and their parents, recognizing the hard work brought forth by the students to obtain these

## Brighton Incentive Recipients 1999 - 2000

**Kindergarten** — All A's & B's: Stevie Brantley, Christain Buck, Austin Fisher, Sheila Jones, Minnie Starr Osceola, Quinton Tiger, Alexander Buck, Dalton Bert, Reese Bert, Jr., Tommie Jackson, Stormin Youngblood.

**Straight "A's" 3.8 – 3.99 GPA:** D'Anna Osceola.

**"A" Average:** Danette Bowers, Lysandra Osceola, Keyah Osceola, Peter Hahn, Heather Peterson, Stephanie Johns.

**"B" Average:**

Ashton Baxley, Terrence Billie, Brandon Terrence, Troy Billie, Justin Chalfant, Ariana Cypress, Kyle Doney, Hillard Gopher, Ethan Gopher, Bradford Gopher, Andrea Holata, Mary Huff, Shelby Huff, Melanie Jones, Jordan Jones, Farrah Lytle, Jenna McDuffie, Reba Osceola, Tallbird Pewo, Hayden Roberts, Eric Robinson, Jacob Robinson, Brittany Smith, Ceejae Smith, Nikki Urbina, Daylon Youngblood, Amber Craig, Ynez Gonzalez, Alicia Nunez, Wesley Bishop, Timothy Nulan Gopher and Ty Huff.

**Advanced Classes Bonus:** D'Anna Osceola and Keyah Osceola.

**Honors Classes Bonus:** Tanya Huff

**Improved Grades:** Randel Osceola, Kristina Osceola, Marcus Robinson, Zena Simmons, Jarrid Smith, Jose Snow, Dixie Tommie, Jennifer Chalfant, Jeffery Osceola, John Gore, Tanya Huff, Samantha Jimmie, Derrick Smith, Patty Snow, Audrey Snow, Kimberly Arledge, Bryan Arledge, Cierra Baker, Damen



Brothers Terrence, Shaun, Troy and Brandon Billie show off their incentive awards.

Bert, Rachel Billie, Jewel Buck, Courtney Cypress, Stephanie Dixon, Joshua Girtman, Nathan Gopher, Patricia Gore, Missy Huff, Kimberly Huffman, Jodi Huffman, Pierson Hunsinger, Jill John, Holly John, Shyla Jones, Megan Jones, Ginger Jones, Johnnie Jones, Alyster Loudermilk and Dexter Loudermilk.

**Perfect Attendance:** Tallbird Pewo and Kerwin Miller.

**Absent three days or less:** Damen Bert, Brandon Billie, Troy Billie, Hosea Girtman, Mary Huff, Melanie Jones, D'Anna Osceola, Jennifer Chalfant, Heather Peterson, Peter Hahn and Shaun Billie.

**GED achievers:** Vinson Osceola and Jack Billie.



Cultural class performs Pledge of Allegiance in Creek language.

## Emerging Native Leaders Sought

Recruitment is underway for the 2001 class of the American Indian Ambassadors Program, sponsored by Americans for Indian Opportunity (AIO), to nurture a new generation of Native American leaders. AIO is conducting an extensive national campaign to enlist America's brightest and most promising emerging Indian and Alaska Native leaders between the ages of 25 and 36. Only a select group of 16 individuals will be chosen to participate. To be considered for the highly competitive program candidates must submit an official application and two nominations by Dec. 15, 2000 to AIO national headquarters on the Santa

Ana Pueblo Reservation in New Mexico.

A prestigious group of Advisors and the AIO Board of Directors established the Ambassadors Program to rekindle dormant vision, refresh current leadership and empower emerging leaders to create avenues for Native Americans to express their cultural values in all arenas of contemporary life. Since its inception in 1993, more than 100 young Native leaders have successfully participated in the Ambassadors Program and are now part of a national network of cross-disciplined young professionals, well-connected to each other and to

Indian and non-Indian national decision-makers. The 2001 Class, to be selected this winter, will join a growing group of emerging leaders who have a global perspective and a commitment to make positive contributions to their communities.

Applications must be received by Dec. 15, 2000. AIO is not responsible for applications lost in the mail. Americans for Indian Opportunity and the selection committees will keep all applications confidential. If you have any questions, please call Laura Harris, Program Director, at (505) 867-0278.

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# Johns, Thomas Address Rotary

**By Tommy Benn**  
**OKEECHOBEE** — Brighton Reservation’s land usage manager Stanlo Johns and Chairman’s assistant Michelle Thomas address the Okeechobee Rotary Club recently, giving them an education on Seminole Country.

Johns enlightened the guests of the many projects involved with the natural resources programs. The Seminole cattle operation is one of the largest in the state and is rated 12th largest nationally. The cattle operations are growing with the newly acquired St. Thomas ranch that adjoins the Brighton Reservation, and another group of brood cows may be added to the Tribe’s cattle roll, although the use of this property has not been decided.

Johns also told about the Tribe’s sugarcane plantation, turtle farm, citrus groves, shell rock, fill dirt and sand mining. He also mentioned the RV Park and camp grounds with its new facelift, Youth 4 -H programs, youth rodeo and the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association.

When asked about the Dream Catcher theme park Stanlo quipped, “you get your information the same way we do, from the Okeechobee News.”

Michelle Thomas, the Okeechobee High School Home Coming Queen in 1985, is daughter of Connie Johns Whidden, who had also been Okeechobee High School’s Home coming Queen in the 1960s.

Michelle explained the many programs set up for the Seminole elders, including health programs, hot meals and culture. She also said education is a big concern to the Indian community as



Rotary’s Marie Gilbert (l) with Michelle Thomas, Stanlo Johns.

well. Indian children can go to either Glades County or Okeechobee county schools.

Michelle invited the guests to come and visit the reservation whenever they can, explaining they would be most welcome.



Darryll Davis, who works in Florida, gives address after his election to top law enforcement position.

## INS Inspector President Of NNALEA

**LAS VEGAS** — Darryll Davis, an Inspector with the U.S. Immigration Service at the Sanford International Airport was elevated to President of the National Native American Law Enforcement Association (NNALEA) at their eighth annual conference held in Las Vegas, Oct. 19.

The NNALEA was founded in 1993 to address the unique concerns of law enforcement in Native communities and to promote and foster mutual cooperation between Native law enforcement officers, their agencies and departments, tribes, private industry and the public at large. In addition to providing a media for exchange of ideas and new techniques, the NNALEA provides a network for technical and investigative assistance to its members. The membership is comprised of officers and agents from federal law enforcement agencies, state, county and local police departments, as well as many tribal police departments.

Darryll is a 20-year employee of the Immigration Service (INS) and transferred to the Sanford Airport two years ago. Darryll is a native of the Six Nations Indian Reservation in Ontario, Canada, but grew up in nearby Buffalo, NY. He has served in various law enforcement positions with the Service since beginning his career with INS in Buffalo. His federal service began in 1976 with four years in the Marine Corps.

Darryll’s work on the northern land border lead him to become acutely aware of the problems facing the Native American community. In the last 14 years, he has been active in a variety of advocacy issues and worked closely with organizations like the Indian Defense League and the American Indian Law Alliance. He was also previously an executive committee member of the North American Iroquois Veterans Association and for four years wrote, produced and published their quarterly newsletter.

## Screwworm Scare Revives Memories For Cattle Industry

**By Tommy Benn**  
**LOXAHATCHEE** — Veterinarian Dr. Bob Smith of Loxahatchee was called out to treat a newborn calf suspected of being infected with screw-worm larva. Six months earlier, Dr. Paul Wollenman had been call upon to examine an unusual discharge from the penis sheath of an imported Argentine bred polo pony gelding.

The deadly screwworm infestation is what nearly caused the demise of the Florida cattle industry. Florida ranchers and cowhunters fought the deadly pest statewide from the mid 1930s until it was eradicated in the early 1960’s.

When Smith examined the calf’s navel, he found it was infected with larvae (maggots). Smith removed the infestation, and doctored the calf; the Hereford calf is now recovered.

Smith, as instructed, sent the larva to the USDA Animal Health Laboratory in Ames Iowa, for evaluation. Tests results determined the larva found on the newborn Hereford calf were those of the Green Bottle Fly and not those of the dreaded screw-

worm.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida, being one of the nation’s largest beef producers, can not take these scares lightly. Costs to eradicate the potential problem could cost an estimated \$750 million nationwide.

Screwworms are native to tropical climates of both North and South America. Screwworms lay their eggs on the open wounds of warm-blooded animals. Larva develops, feeding on the living flesh for seven to ten days. Then mature larva burrow into the ground where the larva turns into pupae, hatching flies in approximately ten days. The flies live for about 31 days mating to continue the cycle again. If left alone the screwworm larva will kill its host by eating its way to the host animal’s vital organs.

Just how serious are screwworms? Ask some of the older Seminole cowhunters, like Stanlo Johns, Howard Micco, Jack Smith Sr., Jack Motlow, Joe Osceola or Jonas Cypress about doctoring the vast herds of Florida cattle when screwworms were prevalent

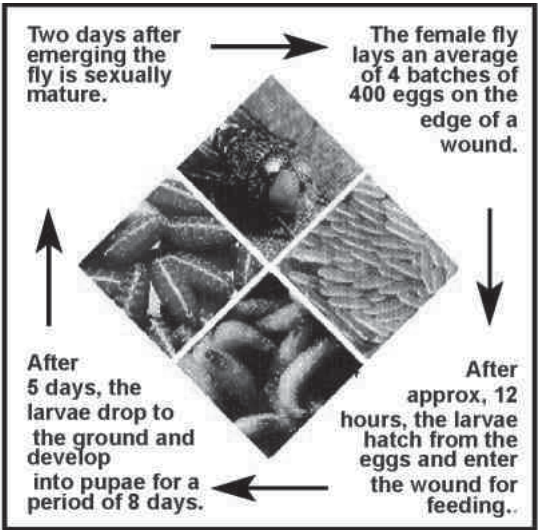
In those days, every Florida cowhunter car-

ried a tin of SMEAR-X and a dauber in his saddle pocket. During this time of open range it didn’t matter whose cow or calf you rode upon, if it had an open sore you doctored the animal because it had to be done. Before Smear-X, cattle were treated with Benzadrine, a clear liquid treatment done in the same fashion.

It was the daily routine of doctoring cattle for screwworms that introduced the Florida cowhunter to the rope. Unlike the Florida cowboys of today who dally their ropes to the saddle horn after they catch, the old timers tied off hard and fast to their saddles. The catch rope became the secondary tool of the Florida Cowhunter, second only to the cowwhip.

Both Dr.’s. Smith’s and Wollenman’s actions and knowledge in handling this serious situation were credited with averting a crisis. The Florida cattle industry owes them a sincere thanks for quick action in handling what could had been a very costly project had it got out of hand.

If you find any suspicious larvae in an open



Life cycle of the screwworm.

wound of an animal contact a state veterinarian at (877) 815-0034, or the USDA veterinarian in-charge at (800) 342-0395.

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- u NAIL ART & AIRBRUSH
- u SKIN ANALYSIS & FACIALS
- u MAKE UP
- u HAIR REMOVAL

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## Seminole Foster Care Parents Needed

**HOLLYWOOD** — There is a certain pride, dignity and feeling of belonging among Native children who grow up in the tradition of their Tribal culture. The gift and right of tradition for Seminole children is important for their culture to survive. Some Seminole children in need of foster care are denied that gift.

Sometimes, due to child abuse or neglect, children need to be placed with families other than their own. One of the goals of the Family Services Program is to place Indian children with Indian families, so that they can remain among Tribal members in their own community/reservation.

Each reservation houses numerous Tribal members who are raising strong and healthy children, rich in cultural beliefs and traditional values. Some of these families have opened their doors and hearts to other children in need of

their strength and guidance, and given these children the chance to share in the traditions of the Tribe. It is a lot to ask, but remember how the elders have taught us to give back some of our knowledge and strength of caring, to stand firm in what we believe in, to help one another. The love for our people has been rekindled.

This can be the most meaningful and rewarding contribution you could ever make!

Please call now. Family Service Programs – Hollywood at 954-964-6338; Yvonne Courtney is the Tribal counselor. Big Cypress call 863-983-6920 and speak with Jane Billie. Brighton Reservation call Emma Johns at 863-763-7700. Immokalee ask for Billie Napper-Bodway at 941-657-6567. Tampa reservation call 813-628-0627 and speak with Tom Ryan, counselor.



# The Ability To Live A Balanced Life

**By Nery Mejicano**  
As I have written a few articles on substance abuse and alcoholism, I felt the need to also write a more positive view in what I consider one of the most important areas of mental health: the ability to live a balanced life.

There are many negative emotions attached to labels, names and terms. The term "mental health" is one. I guess it is because we usually associate the term with treatment and by association with "mental problems." Mental health is as important as physical health and it can not be separated from it.

If we have a physical ailment, we go to a medical doctor. When we have an emotional ailment, we seek the help of a psychiatrist or psychologist. When we have an spiritual problem, we entrust ourselves to the preachers, ministers, or rabbis. When we have a family or social problem, frustration can many times result in a continuous imbalance in our being.

In contrast, most indigenous people see the individual as a whole being, and healing involves healing the whole rather than its parts. Most healing aims at restoring the individual to a balance. Mainstream society has a term for that balance. They call it homeostasis. That means to be in a state of equilibrium.

When that equilibrium gets disrupted, the result is illness or disease. The approach to healing, however, is very different. Healing in the mainstream means treating the parts, in Indian country it means restoring the individual to a balance, by addressing the whole. The Medicine Wheel best illustrates this balance.

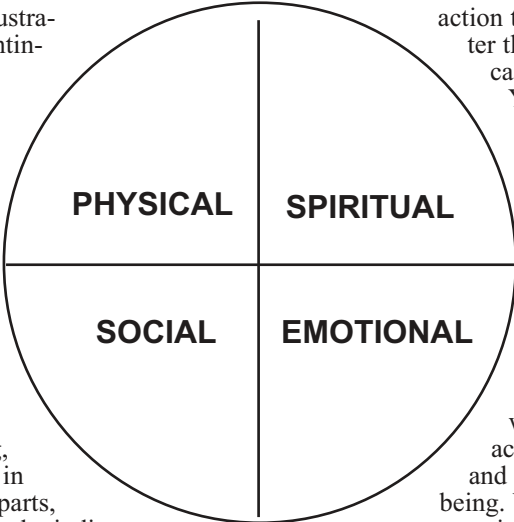
The Medicine Wheel teaches us we have four aspects to our nature. Each of these aspects must be equally developed in a healthy, well-balanced and happy individual. We can not neglect any area of our being without impacting the whole.

Taking care of our "selves" involves looking at achieving a balance in all "aspects" of our individuality. It means arranging or re-arranging our priorities. It means asking some tough questions about our lifestyle, about what is important, about what changes are needed, about our relationship with others and our relationship with ourselves, about our role in the universe and our relationship with the Creator, about how we treat our environment, and about our contribution to the well being of others. Being in balance means being able to be at peace with ourselves, and the world. It does not mean, however, that we will not have any problems. Problems are part of the package that comes with being alive and are opportunities for learning and growth. They are the motivators that keep us moving and the forces that help us appreciate our potential for growth. They are life's way of keeping us moving and changing.

How do you take care of yourself? When was the last time you treated yourself for doing something good? One of the most valuable commodities today is time. Time is also a non-renewable resource. We often say in response to the above questions, "I just don't have the time" or "I am too busy." If you do not take good care of you, who will? And if you do not take care of yourself, you certainly may not be able to take care of anyone else, especially those you love. Self care is an art, an art that you can learn and develop, it is an invest-

ment that pays multiple benefits and is never too late to learn. The greatest saying in a license plate that I have seen reads: "It is never too late to have a happy childhood." Great words of wisdom.

So let's look at the wheel. You take care of your physical being by providing it with the proper fuel for optimal performance, by exercising and by getting proper rest and sleep. Your physical being, just as your car needs periodic checks and maintenance. Part of this proper care and maintenance is prevention. Part of prevention is being as your car needs periodic checks and maintenance. Part of this proper care and maintenance is prevention. Part of prevention is being aware of your body and being in turn with its working. You should be able to listen to your body. Pains, fevers and other dys-



functions are your body's way of getting your attention. The earlier you listen and take action to correct the dysfunction, the better the chances of bringing your physical being into balance and health. Your body may also speak through your emotions, when things are out of balance and not well in your body; it often surfaces in our emotional being. Tiredness, depression, exhaustion, insomnia, confusion may be signals that all may not be well in our physical health.

Just as our body speaks to us in its language of symptoms, so our emotional being lets us know when it is time to take corrective action, so that tranquility, happiness and well-being can be returned to our being. Warning signs of a dysfunction in our emotional state often come from our body. Such physical problems as ulcers, elevated blood pressure, back pains and headaches may be signaling that our emotions need attention and correction.

Negative emotions that are not addressed, such as anger, resentment, jealousy and unresolved grief, often result in equally negative physical symptoms. Once we are able to successfully deal with those painful and negative emotions, our physical being return to a healthy state.

Mainstream doctors in their hurried pace and singular view of the person may not have the time or make the effort to understand the important connection between our selves. The most timesaving and often used solution is the prescription of chemicals that will take care of the symptoms. This approach is effective in symptom relief, but does not address the root or cause of the symptoms. Indigenous approaches, instead, attempt to address both the symptoms and the underlying cause. They are holistic and aim at achieving a balance. It is interesting to note that holistic healing approaches are becoming popular and accepted by the mainstream society, such things as herbal medicines, Eastern meditation, massages, yoga, etc. are now becoming a part of the healing arsenal of the larger society. Given both approaches to healing, we will do well by making sure to obtain the best of both worlds.

Next time I will address the social and spiritual aspects and what we can do to enhance them and get them in balance with the rest of our being. I am also inviting you to send your questions and comments regarding this article to me at the newspaper or e-mail me at: nmejicano@hotmail.com

— Nery Mejicano works for Family Services.



Jessica Novak of the Tribal Health Department leads children in the pumpkin decorating contest.

## Halloween Treat — Better Health

**IMMOKALEE** — "Trick or Treat for Better Health" was the theme of the Health Fair held at the Immokalee gymnasium on Oct. 17.

The gym was filled with spooky decorations, healthy treats, and a whole lot of pumpkins. The fair, hosted by the Health Department and led by Health Educators Toni Taglione and Jessica Novak, was open to all community members and deemed a success as over 70 community members participated in the day's events.

This year's theme stems from the recently published statistic that 55 percent of the U.S.

population is overweight and 22 percent are obese. Obesity is a major risk factor for diabetes and diabetes has reached epidemic proportions among Native Americans. Complications from diabetes cause death and a large percentage of the health problems prevalent in most Native American populations.

Thus, it is obvious why the health department is so dedicated to increasing diabetes awareness among the Seminole communities. President Mitchell

Cypress, the fair's special guest speaker, addressed the community and spoke of his experience with diabetes and encouraged the members to make healthier choices and to become more involved with fitness and well being.

In addition to diabetes, several other topics were addressed including dental health, (Seminole Health Dept. and Dr. Earl Edwards of Clewiston) nutrition, (Seminole Nutrition program) STD's and Maternal Child Health (Collier

County Health Department) environmental health (Seminole Health Department) and domestic violence (Naples Domestic Abuse Center).

Many participants were able to obtain some important numbers as the Collier County Health Department offered blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol screenings. The Collier County Public Library was also present to provide information on its programs and activities as well as to emphasize the importance of reading and learning new things.

Upon entering the fair each participant was given a trick or treat bag which they were quickly able to fill as each presenter gave out a healthy treat.

Although the fair focused on issues that were serious in nature, the Immokalee community members were also able to engage in some more festive activities as well. Children ages 5 – 11 displayed their artistic abilities in the pumpkin decorating contest. At the end of the contest, each pumpkin had taken



These children learn to keep healthy teeth.

on its own identity and the two winners received a large dancing Frankenstein. The adults entered into a raffle, and four gifts of \$50 each were awarded.

The Health Department would like to thank Elaine Aguilar and the Immokalee Field Office, President Mitchell Cypress and all Immokalee community members for helping to make this event a success.

## Hollywood Blood Drive Successful

**HOLLYWOOD** — More than 30 individuals stopped by the blood drive coordinated by the Health Education Department on Oct. 26, at the Tribal Offices in Hollywood.

This blood drive was also a mini-health fair and representatives from health education, nutrition, and Avon cosmetics were on hand to talk about health issues. Medical staff from the Hollywood clinic were also on hand to check blood pressures, blood sugar levels and administer flu shots. Attendees also registered to win a free gift basket worth \$200 from Avon.

Blood drives are very important because so many people will require the lifesaving gift that these donors make. Giving blood is simple and safe as trained health care specialists help you through the donation process. All in all, it takes about 45 minutes.

Have you ever tried it? Some haven't because they are a bit nervous about the procedure. There is no need to be! Here is what happens:

First, a few minutes are spent registering you as a donor and filling out paperwork. Next, you get a "mini" physical to check your temperature, pulse, and blood pressure. They also check to make sure you do not have an iron deficiency. Next, they will collect a unit of blood

(about a pint), which takes about 10 minutes. You will feel a slight pinch when the needle is inserted, but this feeling lasts for only a second. Overall, the procedure is painless and harmless.

Blood is fragile and usually must be used within 35 to 42 days. Each pint of give may help four or more patients. Whole blood can be used to replace blood lost by patients who are suffering from massive bleeding. Blood can also be separated into components that are then used individually. Plasma, the yellow liquid portion of blood, is a source of proteins that stop bleeding by forming blood clots. Patients such as hemophiliacs, whose own blood does not clot properly, need these proteins.

Platelets, which also aid in blood clotting, are fragile blood cells that leukemia and other cancer patients need. They must be transfused within five days of donation. White blood cells are given to help patients, including newborn infants, fight severe infections. Red blood cells help treat anemia and increase the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood during surgery.

Look for another blood drive in the spring and continue to think about being a donor for the gift of life.

## Re-Using Insulin Syringes Not a Good Idea

A shot in the arm may have been given to the millions of Americans who have insulin-dependent diabetes and millions more who will some day. It's not necessary, desirable or even healthy to re-use syringes and health officials are urging people to stop.

Maybe you remember the old days when patients injected insulin using glass syringes with detachable needles. The user had to boil the needles between uses, and soak them in alcohol to sterilize the needles. To make the pain of injections more bearable, users spent hours sharpening their needles on a stone between uses to try to remove burrs that would develop from repeated uses.

Over the years, manufacturers have made dramatic improvements in the comfort and convenience of insulin injections. With the introduction of disposable, single-use insulin syringes with attached needles, users were freed from the tasks of boiling, soaking and sharpening.

When insulin needles are reused, the tip dulls, twists and can break off inside the skin. A used needle can tear the layers of the skin and slow the healing process. This is especially true if you are injecting into the same site repeatedly, a practice that is also not recommended.

The consequences of re-using syringes could include: Tissue microtrauma, resulting in bleeding or unsightly bruises at the injection site; breaking off of the needle causing it to become embedded in the skin; and a greater incidence of lipo-dystrophy, where local growth factors are released and join with insulin to form lumpy nodules called "lipodystrophy."

Steps are being taken to educate people about the issues associated with needle re-use including warning labels in packaging. Consult your local health center on this topic.

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## AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO AMERICAN INDIANS

**BALLOTS FOR THE USDA'S  
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WILL BE MAILED NO LATER THAN  
NOVEMBER 24 ,2000**

The USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is conducting its annual election for seats on their county committees. These committees perform an extremely important role in programs and services of the FSA to land owners and agricultural producers in your county. USDA programs, such as farmer loans, price support loans, land conservation programs, disaster programs, incentive and indemnity payments, and other programs and services are overseen by these local committees.

Historically, American Indians have been under-represented on these committees, thus, our distinct issues and concerns have been ignored due to this lack of representation on the committee. The time has come for American Indians to exercise our rights and Vote for an American Indian to sit on the FSA County Committee. If you are a member of a Federally Recognized Tribe with Trust property, then you should receive a notice of election by November 24, 2000 and the ballot must be returned to the county office by December 4, 2000.

If you are eligible to vote and have not received a ballot from the county office, please contact your local USDA county office and request a ballot. The term of office for newly elected County Committee positions is 3 years.

**PLEASE FOLLOW ALL LABELED INSTRUCTIONS  
ON THE BALLOT TO INSURE YOUR VOTE  
COUNTS**

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# Classified • Announcements

## Happy Birthday



Surprise! **Happy Birthday** to my wonderful, sweet, little sister, **Pauline Willie Mae Billie**. You don't know how much you mean to me. I love you forever. I hope you have a happy day and I pray that God will bless you with many years to come. Have fun, go crazy and eat your boogers. With a lot of love, your nutty sister, **Harvey, Hillary**.



**Happy Birthday to Dorian Jumper.**  
**Happy Birthday to Egoosh Cheyanna**, we love you. From **Dom, Denise, Marlon, Letitia, John John & Mom**.  
**Late Birthday wish to Kim Osceola**. We love and miss you, **Letitia, Dom, John John, Denise, Marlon, Mom & Cheyanna**.



To **Brittany Yescas**. **Happy 15th Birthday** on Nov. 29. We hope you have a wonderful day. We love you lots. **Mom, Dad, Megan and Cuauhtemoc**.

**Happy Birthday Bobby Yates**. To my husband. My Love, My very best friend. I can't begin to tell you how much it means just to know you're there to be with, to talk with and to make new memories with. Always caring, always sharing, always everything, a husband could be. I can't begin to tell you just how special you are to me. **Happy birthday with all my love, your wife Louvella**.

**Happy Birthday to my Mom, Louvella**. Mom we love you so much, have a very happy birthday. Love; **Katrina, Myra, Megan, Kane, Isaac Jr.**

**Happy Birthday to Uncle Ira**, have a good one. Love; **Katrina, Myra, Megan, Kane, Isaac Jr.**

**Happy Birthday to Troy Tiger**, much love. From, **Egoosh Doris, Cheyanna, Marlon, Letitia, Dom, John John, Denise**.

**Happy Birthday to Aunt Sheen**, we love you. From, **The Otter Gang**.

**Happy Belated Birthday to Jolene Cypress**. Born Oct. 12.

**Happy Birthday to Bobby Yates**. Have a great one! From your crazy little gang in B.C.

**Happy Birthday to Aunt Jolene**. Sorry it's a little late. **Katrina, Myra, Megan, Kane and Isaac Jr.**



**Happy 1st Birthday Dasani Cian Cypress (Ketayye)** on Oct. 7. We love you Baby Girl! Love **Momma (Danielle)** and **Daddy (Charles)** and all your family in Florida and Oklahoma.

**Happy 15th to Jena Christine Osceola**, born 10/22/85 – Bird clan. You are a sweet and loving person. You're our "Fudge." You have the family curse of being headstrong. Many debates are probably ahead. Enjoy these younger years — don't run through them, enjoy them. Remember we love you and will be there for you. From: **Mom and Dad, Lea, Lory, Mad Bear and Migathe**.

**Happy 12th to Saundra Lory Osceola** born 11/12/88 – Bird clan. You're so full of spunk and silliness, we love you with all our hearts. You're our special "little bird," whose wings will take you far. Enjoy being 12. Don't try to be 13 too fast. Always know we love you and will be there for you too. From: **Mom and Dad, Lea, Jena, Mad Bear and Migathe**.

**Happy Birthday Marlene** born on Nov. 12. I won't say how old you are, but I will say I'm glad you made it this far. You're a good sister, loving mother and probably a good "old lady" if you had someone worth marrying. Keep it on the straight, take each day's bumps, don't ever think you're alone – we've got your back. Love your sisters, **Deb and Cass**

**Happy Birthday Myra and Megan**. It doesn't seem like it was nine years ago that God sent two of the most precious little girls to me. But here you two are turning 9. I hope you two have fun on your birthday. Love **Mom**

**Happy Birthday Myra and Megan**. Love you so much!!! From all of us; **Katrina, Kane, Isaac Jr. and Bobby**.

## New Kid



A little piece of heaven fell from the sky... **Caitlyn Sara Billie**, born Oct. 2, 2000, at 1:35 p.m. 7 lbs. 13 oz., 19 inches, **P.F., Dana & Peter**.

## Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the friends and relatives that sent the flowers to my son, **Malcolm's** funeral:

**David Cypress** and **Staff**, **Secretary and Treasurer Office, B.C. First Baptist Church**, **Wanda and Steven Bowers**, **Vera and Christopher Joe**, **Mary Jumper**, **Cecilia/Sonny**, **Public Relations, Operations and Compliance**, **Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Staff**, **Howard Truax**, **Carl Baxley**, **James E. Billie**, **Gaming Dept.**, **Betty Tigertail**, **Jonah/Sandra**, **President's Office**, **Max and Family** and the **Marina Family**.

I would also like to thank all the visitors and friends that came to say good-bye to **Malcolm**. The family appreciates it very much. Even though you may not realize it, you all being here helped ease our pain and helped a lot.

Thank you very much.  
**Minnie and Family**

## I Miss You

**Dear Sigmund – Merle Hank Buster**  
**Sigmund**, this year will be the fifth Christmas, since our unexpected farewell.

I've come to realize more, today, that you won't be home for Christmas and I've learned to accept it and I've learned to be strong. I still miss you everyday and I will until the day God says otherwise.

It's football season now, but somehow I don't have the enthusiasm that I once did.

I just don't seem to get excited about it anymore. I still go to **Clewiston games**, but not as often as I used to. When I do go I usually go to count the memories.

I'm just writing a few lines to kind-of update myself and say something that I'll make me feel as if you were still here. I will see you soon one day, until then I will say bye.

Tell **Grandma and Grandpa** and your lil' uncle, **William Hank Buster** that I'm coming too.

Bye Dad.  
**Paul Buster**

**Malcolm:**

No matter where you are we love you very much. It is very hard not to have you here with us physically, not be able to hear you laugh, talk, and joke around, but we know that you are here with us spiritually. We thank god for sharing you with us for those 25 wonderful years, and we loved every minute of it. This world is not our home and you are home now and I know you love it there.

Some day the family will be together again and our little circle will be unbroken once again, but this time it will be forever. Good-bye for now my son and brother.

## Poems

### Friends

*Sometimes I sit and my mind goes back  
Recalling times now gone mostly  
The memories bring warm feelings for I think of all the good times we had  
Now as we are all getting older  
Many friends are gone and the memories bring much water to my eyes  
Then I start remembering those of us that are still here  
Then my heart fills to overflowing to know we are not all gone  
Tho I notice the letters are few and far between  
Then I will receive a letter from a special friend  
And my heart overflows with happiness when I read the words  
Then I thank our "Grandfather" in heaven for old friends such as these  
— **Miyakhota***

## Deadlines

### Seminole Tribune

December 1 Issue  
Deadline November 17

December 22 Issue  
Deadline December 8

January 12 Issue  
Deadline December 29

## To My Precious Granddaughter My Baby Kirsten

*Pretty baby, the most beautiful baby,  
You re the most precious little child,  
You are the most beautiful little angel,  
I love your little sounds and sweet smile.*



*My precious baby you can sleep in my arms,  
My little angel, you can lay on my shoulder;  
I want to listen to your little baby sounds,  
I'll be your warmth and comfort when the days are colder.*

*I'll write poetry and songs and sing for you,  
Lay down your little head and go to sleep,  
When you wake up I'll be here,  
I will hold your hand when the steps are too steep.*

*Birds in the trees are looking at you  
And they are singing happy melodies just for you,  
You are my special angel that makes me glad,  
Your presence radiates sunshine, yes you do.*

*Now I know what Hank Williams meant  
"There's nothing as sweet as my baby,"  
Your sweetness is sweeter than honey,  
You are my happiness, you are my dearest lil' lady.*

**Granddaddy**  
**Paul "Cowbone" Buster**

## Missing Person

I am in search of my nephew, **Darryl W. Phillips**. He is from the **Mohawk Indian Territory** in **Kahnawake, Quebec**. **Darryl** has been living in Florida for many years now and I understand from his mother that he frequents your territory and may be known at the **Seminole Tribal Office**. **Darryl's D.O.B.** is **Aug. 7, 1968**, he is tall and a handsome young man. His father, my brother, is very sick and **Darryl** can either contact me or have him call his father in the **Doncaster Indian Territory**. It is extremely important for **Darryl** to get this message. Any help you can provide through your network will be helpful and I will be grateful.

**Alex Phillips MA DPA**

## Employment

**Job Title:** Assistant Cook/Janitor  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Nutrition, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$8.73 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Cashiers  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Smoke shop, Coconut Creek  
**Salary:** \$6 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Cashier  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Smoke shop, Coconut Creek  
**Salary:** \$7 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Counselor  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Family Services  
**Salary:** \$37,000 w/benefits

**Job Title:** Enviro. Health Tech./Sec. I  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Health Dept., Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$8.50 per hour w/benefits.

**Job Title:** Library & Computer Aide  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Education, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$10 per hour w/benefits.

**Job Title:** Maintenance Worker  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Maintenance, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$7 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Nutritionist  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Health, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$30,000 annual w/benefits negotiable

**Job Title:** Payroll Assistant  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Payroll, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$10.58 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Secretary  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Risk Management, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$22,000 annual w/ benefits.

**Job Title:** Survey Tech/ Instrument  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Surveying & Mapping, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$10-13 negotiable w/benefits

**Job Title:** Telecommunications Clerk  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Information Systems, Hollywood  
**Salary:** \$11 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** Site Manager  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Family Services, Hollywood  
**Salary:** Salary Negotiable

**Job Title:** Direct Care Aid

**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Family Services, Big Cypress  
**Salary:** \$10-15 per hour w/benefits

**Job Title:** VE Teacher  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Ahfachkee School, Big Cypress  
**Salary:** Negotiable w/benefits

**Job Title:** Maintenance  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** AH-TAH-THI-KI Museum, Big Cypress  
**Salary:** NA

**Job Title:** Site Manager  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Nutrition/Trans., Big Cypress  
**Salary:** NA

**Job Title:** Patient Services Clerk  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Health/ Managed Care, Big Cypress  
**Salary:** \$9 per hour w/ benefits

**Job Title:** Patient Accounts Coord.  
**Open Date:** Oct. 17, 2000  
**Close Date:** Until Filled  
**Location:** Health/ Managed Care, Big Cypress  
**Salary:** \$9.55 per hour w/ benefits

## Notices

**13th Annual Thanksgiving Indian Festival** – Nov. 15 – 19, at **Bobby's Seminole Indian Village**, 5221 N. Orient Road, Exit #5 on I-4, just north of Florida State Grounds, Tampa. For info call (813) 620-3077, vendors contact Joanie at (813) 246-5554 or (813) 404-7652. E-mail: **CHIPANOLE@CS.COM**.

Anyone who suffered damages in the October storms till has time to register for assistance. Call the **FEMA** toll-free teleeregistration recovery number at 1-800-462-9029 or, for speech or hearing impairments, 1-800-462-7585. Lines are open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week.

**Christmas Program** – Dec. 21, at **Ahfachkee School**. Dinner 5:30 and show at 6:30.

**Charlie Daniels** comes to Florida, Nov. 11 to perform concerts at 1 and 3 p.m., at **Cypress Gardens**. Call (800) 282-2123 or (863) 324-2111.

**ITT Technical Institute**, Fort Lauderdale, has begun enrolling, students in two new associate's degree programs – **Computer and Electronics Engineering**, **Technology (CEET)** and **Computer Drafting, and Design (CDD)**. Beginning at Dec. 4, at 3401 S. University Drive. For info contact **Bob Bixler** at (954) 476-

9300 or visit the web site **www.itt-tech.edu**.

**4th Annual Lauderdale-by-the-Sea Festival** – Nov. 18 - 19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free, located at **Commercial Blvd. and A-1-A**. Call (954) 472-3755.

**19th Annual "Protecting Our Children" National American Indian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect** – April 22-25, 2001. "Building A Spirit of Cooperation to Protect Our Children", conference in Anchorage, AK. For more conference information contact **Kim Just** at (503) 222-4044, ext. 113 or **justkim@nicwa.org**.

**Holiday Show** – Nov. 18 - 19 at the **Broward County Convention center**. Adults \$7, children \$4, 18 mos. & under free, (800) 244-8447, **www.sfparenting.com**.

**Caring for Aging Parents Seminar** – Nov. 15, at 7 p.m.. **North Park, A Classic Residence** by **Hyatt**, call (954) 963-0200 or (800) 989-9159 to register.

**National Association of Native American Studies National Conference** - Feb. 12 – 17, 2001 in **Houston, Texas**. Abstracts, not to exceed two pages. Should be submitted which relate to any

aspect of the **Native American experience**. Postmarked by Nov. 17. Call (606) 783-2650, **www.NAAAS.org**.

**4th AAAA Winter Gathering** – Nov. 18 - 19. Call **Brandy** at (760) 775-5566, ext. 124 or **Aaron** at ext. 103, **www.spotlight29casino.com** for more info.

**Seminole Okalee Indian Village** is currently accepting applications for; **Ticket Booth Cashier**, **Snack Bar**, **Tour guide** and **Maintenance/Janitorial positions**. Open **Wednesday – Sunday**. If interested please call (954) 792-1213 and ask for **Alexandra**.

**Car & Boat Auction** – Nov. 18, 2000. 1901 W. Broward Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale. For more information call (954) 463-3725.

**Turkey Shoot** – Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the **Hollywood Gym**. Gift certificates for 1st through 3rd each division. For info call **Steve** at (954) 989-9457.

**Festival and Pow Wow** – November 17 – 19 at the **Georgia National Fairgrounds** in **Perry, GA**; (912) 869-0462 or (912) 787-5180; **native-way@mindspring.com**.





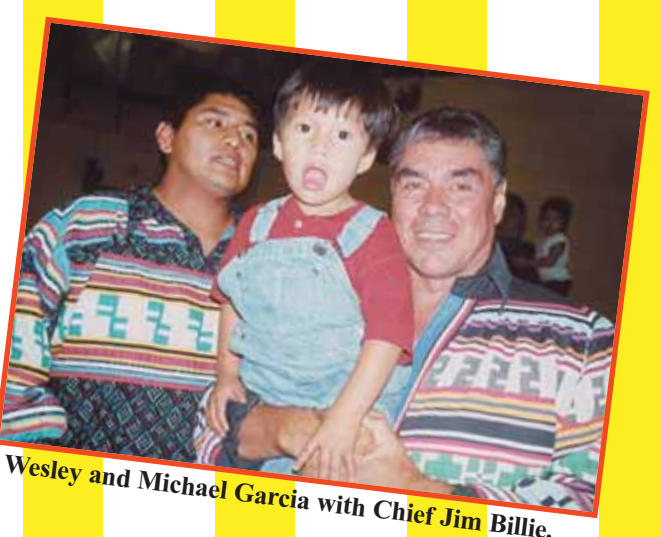
Tucumah Robbins with Will Hill.



Malari Baker is proud of her Chief Billie CD's.



Storyteller Gennine Washington.



Wesley and Michael Garcia with Chief Jim Billie.

# Chiefs Magical Musical Storytelling Tour



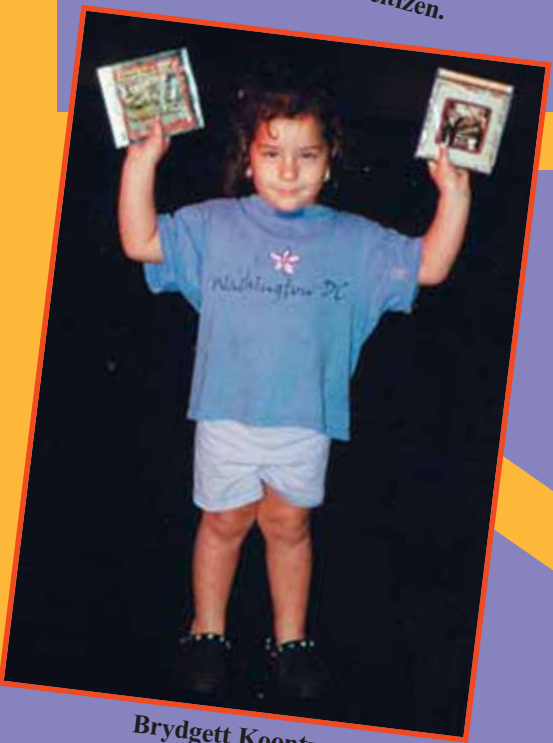
Victoria Hernandez and "Henson".



Shana Banana tells a gator tale.



Chief Billie signs a CD for Miccosukee citizen.



Brydgett Koontz

More than a thousand Seminole and Miccosukee Tribal citizens — many of them children — were treated to a fabulous Seminole cultural presentation, recently, when Chief Jim Billie brought his *Shah-who-pah-ye-ke* music and storytelling tour to South Florida Indian reservations.

Oklahoma Seminole storytellers Will Hill and Gennine Washington, joined the Chief and his band and national children's entertainer Shana Banana for an hour of cultural fun for shows at Immokalee, Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood and Miccosukee.

Hill and Washington, whose Mahawendose theatre group has won national acclaim for American Indian cultural shows across the country, presented theatrical versions of Seminole legends such as "Why The Possum Has a Pouch" and "How The Rabbit Got Its Floppy Feet," complete with vocal impersonations and acrobatics.

Radio Disney artist Shana Banana (a.k.a. Shana Smith of St. Petersburg) used puppets and her guitar to perform interactive musical stories with audience children, including a fun-filled ballad that identifies the parts of the body in the Miccosukee language. She was joined on stage for several shows with young Kowoko Billie of Big Cypress, a Seminole Tribal member who is one of the stars in a recent TV pilot and video — "Shana Banana's Music and Fun For Kids" — produced at Tampa Digital Studios.

Chief Billie's band, with guitarist Raiford Starke, performed many of the Chief's signature songs such as "Big Alligator," "Sawgrass Flower" and "Take Me Back To The Swamp." Children at each reservation were familiar with the music and sang along from the audience. The Chief also gave out more than 1,500 copies of his two SOAR Records CDs, "Alligator Tales" and "Seminole Fire" to Tribal members.

Councilwoman Elaine Aguilar of Immokalee and Councilman Jack Smith Jr. of Brighton each sponsored community dinners prior to the shows on their reservations. Miccosukee Tribal Chairman Billy Cypress treated schoolchildren and the cast to a grand catered buffet lunch during the show at the new Miccosukee gymnasium and presented Chief Billie with a patchwork "long shirt."

Ahfachkee principal Dr. Pat Gaffney brought his entire school across the street to the Big Cypress gym for that show and Public Relations director Maureen Vass put out a buffet of snacks and drinks for attendees at the Hollywood show in the Tribal auditorium. The show was produced by Pete Gallagher of Tribal Communications; sound and lights were provided by Absolute Production Services, Orlando.

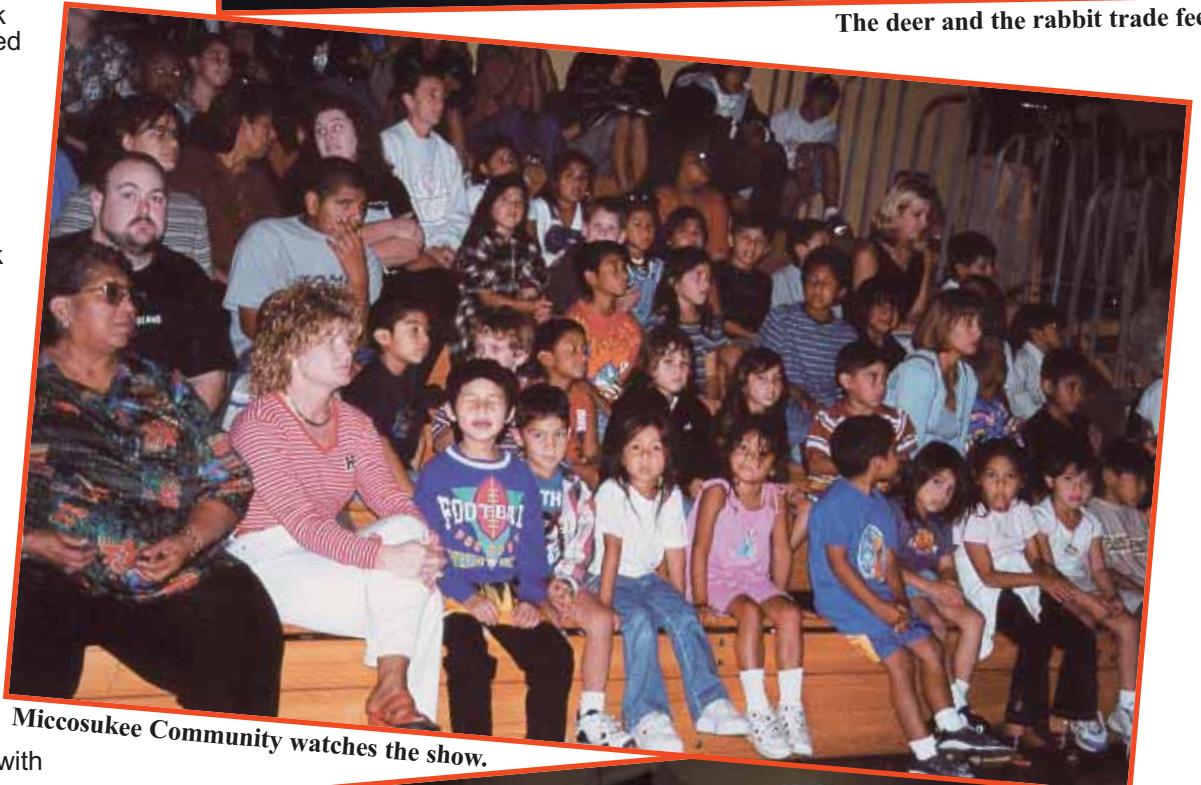
"Well, I've wanted to do something like this for our own people ever since I saw Will and Gennine at Red Earth," said Chief Billie, who was very pleased with the success of the small tour. "Now, I'd like to take this show to the Florida public schools."



Immokalee children have fun.



The deer and the rabbit trade feet.



Miccosukee Community watches the show.



Raiford Starke, James Billie, fiddlin' J. Robert, Robert Parker and Dave Shelley.

Photos By Peter B. Gallagher