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Tribal Council Holds Special Meeting

By Chris Jenkins

BIG CYPRESS — The Seminole Tribal Council met for a special session on the Big Cypress Reservation on Nov. 2. They passed the following resolution:

Approval of transaction documents to be executed in connection with the settlement, recapitalization and clarification agreement with Power Plant Entertainment, LLC; Approval of Indemnification of Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.; limited waiver of sovereign immunity.

Game On!



Chairman Mitchell Cypress (R) shakes hands with Governor Charlie Crist (L) after signing historic 25 year compact that paves the way for Class III Gaming on Tribal lands.

Gaming Compact Signed for Class III

By Chris Jenkins

TALLAHASSEE — It was another big day for the Tribe on Nov. 14, and just in time. Facing a Nov. 15 deadline, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the state of Florida, officials for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the federal government finally reached an accord.

The groups came to an agreement on a 25-year compact to allow the much-anticipated Class III Las Vegas-style slot machines, which were actually approved in 2005, and banked card gaming, including black jack and baccarat, at Tribal gaming facilities and on Tribal lands. The Class III provisions are limited to the seven existing Seminole Tribe casinos: Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tampa, Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood, Seminole Casino Immokalee, Seminole Casino Big Cypress, Seminole Casino Brighton, Seminole Casino Hollywood and the Coconut Creek Casino.

"This compact is good for the Seminole Tribe, the state of Florida and the people of Florida," asserted Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr. "This will provide income for the state of Florida without raising taxes for the citizens."

Osceola added that he supports Governor Crist's request to the Florida Legislature for the majority of the revenue to be allocated to education. Crist has asked that 95 percent be earmarked for education with the remaining 5 percent going toward local governments. Osceola applauded the Governor for working with the Tribe to achieve an agreement that has been in the works since 1991.

Executive Assistant to Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Fort Pierce Liaison S.R. Tommie said the progress has been worth the wait.

"I think this is just another milestone in the day in the life of our Tribal members," she said. "It

◆ See CLASS III, page 8



Chairman Mitchell Cypress (L) signs Class III Gaming Compact with Governor Charlie Crist (R).



Nancy Frank at the finish line.

Tampa Walks for a Cure

By Stephen Schwanebeck

TAMPA — It's 7:30 a.m., the sun is still rising and more and more people, including Tribal citizen Nancy Frank, are arriving. Frank and many others attended the American Cancer Society's (ACS) Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk on Oct. 27 in downtown Tampa.

Frank herself is a five year breast cancer survivor, who resides in Lakeland, Fla.

"I found out in August 2002, and I survived it," she said. "You may never know if you

have it, so that's why it is so important to get a check up. I go every three months now."

Also walking in honor of Frank was her niece, Myra Simmons.

"I walk for my aunt," she said. "This is my second year."

The event took place in downtown Tampa and the walk route included a trek down historic Bayshore Blvd. Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio kicked off the event with words of hope and awareness as she led the group in the walk.

◆ See WALK, page 14

A Rare Honor for a Lifetime of Work in Education FSU Honors Louise Gopher with Westcott Award

By James Faeh

TALLAHASSEE — Louise Gopher, director of education for the Seminole Tribe, was presented with the prestigious Westcott Award by Florida State University (FSU) President T.K. Wetherell during half time of the Florida State Homecoming game versus the Duke University Blue Devils.

While the annual festivities in Tallahassee during FSU's Homecoming Week consistently highlight both the unique heritage and tradition of the FSU Seminoles, Wetherell chose this occasion to underscore the strong relationship between FSU and the Seminole Tribe of Florida. During this special presentation, he honored Gopher with the presentation of this rarely granted honor.

According to FSU Vice President for University Relations Donna McHugh, "it is solely given at the decision of the president." McHugh added that FSU has not given the award to many people.

The ceremonial presentation of the award occurred on the middle of Bobby Bowden Field at Doak Campbell Stadium and took Gopher by surprise, as she was not informed ahead of time that she would be the honored guest of the night. Gopher, Seminole Brighton Tribal Council Rep. Roger Smith and President of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Richard Bowers led the Seminole delegation onto the field flanked on either side by hundreds of members of the FSU Marching Chiefs. A colorful collage of images of Gopher's work in education was plastered across the massive screen over the end zone as Gopher smiled at the 70,000 fans.

The day before the game,

Gopher and Tribal representatives were prominently featured in the Homecoming Parade that makes its way through downtown Tallahassee and up to the FSU campus. Leading the way as always was the iconic Chief Osceola riding atop his mount Renegade and adorned in his traditional regalia. Shortly following Chief Osceola were the Seminole Color Guard, the Seminole Princesses, Gopher, Smith, Bowers and others.

The President's Box at the stadium

◆ See GOPHER, page 10



Louise Gopher (C) is presented with prestigious Westcott Award by FSU President T.K. Wetherell (R) as Brighton Council Representative Roger Smith (L) looks on.

Photo Challenge



Tribune Archive Photo

Who are we?

Please see the December 14 issue of *The Seminole Tribune* for the answer.

Photo Challenge Answer



Brighton Day School 1949-50

Tribune Submission Form

Attention Seminole Tribal citizens and employees: If you would like to submit an announcement (birthday, new baby, marriage, etc.) or story idea to *The Seminole Tribune*, and to insure correct spelling, please fill out the information provided below. If you have any questions about deadlines, etc., please call *The Seminole Tribune* at (954) 985-5702, Ext. 2, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Our fax number is (954) 965-2937, or e-mail tribune@semtribe.com.

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The Seminole Tribune

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Issue: February 29, 2008
 Deadline: February 15, 2008

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Thanksgiving is Family Time

The Thanksgiving holiday is a time to spend with our families, to appreciate our children and to be happy being together. We have a lot of opportunities to be together on Turkey Day. We can enjoy eating with our friends at the church and community dinners, we can have fun with the seniors at Hot Meals and most importantly we can be with our families. We are lucky to have the opportunity to break bread with everyone. We must continue to say prayers for all the men fighting for our country. May they stay safe and come back home to their families soon. I want to wish all of you a peaceful Thanksgiving. This is the start of the Holiday Season, so remember, please don't drink and drive.

Let's look forward to a safe holiday filled with memories of being with family and friends.

Mitchell Cypress
 Mitchell Cypress, Chairman
 Seminole Tribe of Florida



Thank the Creator for our Blessings

Che hunt a mo,

As the Holiday Season approaches, let's all take time to thank the Creator for the blessings we have received from him throughout the year, and send our prayers to those less fortunate and to the soldiers away from home. Keep our hearts and minds open to those in need and make time to visit with elders or those who are homebound.

As we sit down to enjoy our Thanksgiving meals, remember as members of the Great Seminole Tribe of Florida, we must honor ourselves and each other and fight against the problems of alcohol and drug abuse which can destroy our peoples, especially our young.

Faate-empeeke-en-neetake
 Shonaabasha,

Richard Bowers
 Richard Bowers, President
 Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.
 Panther Clan (Koowaate)



Letters: Naak-enchaok-hocheshfeeke Nakhce Acentuthoyvt

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank the community for supporting the Trading Posts on your reservation. Have a wonderful, safe holiday season!

Blessings,
Tomie Motlow
 General Manager
 C-Store Operations
 President's Office

Dear Editor,

I want to say thanks to all departments that showed up for the Hollywood Preschool's Red Ribbon Walk. Even though the walk had to be postponed until this morning (Oct. 29), the crowd was bigger on the day of the walk than on the day it was originally scheduled for.

Another thank you to the departments that helped the Preschool raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. All monies raised will help children with cancer and other catastrophic diseases.

Again thank you and may God bless you all. In God we do trust.

Leona Tomie-Williams
 Preschool Director

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to say to all of the

Seminole people that you have truly inspired me and other Native people. Great job with the Hard Rock casinos!

I am of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and have worked for a Fortune 500 company for 20 years. As we look into the future of the companies at hand, diversity is a growing focus. It was through my frustrations of not having any information on our people in Corporate America that drove me to create a network for our people.

I subsequently founded the Native American Indian Diversity Network, and am also the president. I call the network RISE because it is time for our people to step up and not be silent any longer. To speak with one voice, we need to show Corporate America that we are here, and we are not going away. We get stronger everyday!

Wado,
Grace Panther

Dear Editor,

About two years ago I was diagnosed with breast cancer. My happy little world fell to pieces. My son, who was 12 at the time, was home when I received the call. Right away, I thought, "Don't let him see me suffer and please don't let me die. Yes, we are all going to go someday, but

not now... I have a son to raise." He picked me up, dusted me off and said, "We'll get through it, mom."

As I started my journey of doctors, testing, treatments and recovery, I found that we are so fortunate to have health insurance provided to Hard Rock employees by the Seminole Tribe at no monthly cost. I saw very sick people being turned away, waiting weeks for referrals, and ones that could not afford medicines because of high co-pays.

Cancer is anything but fun, but being totally stressed out because you can't afford proper treatment will kill you! I'm alive today because I was able to get the best care with our health plan.

I thank God for life, the Seminole Tribe for my job with great benefits, and my co-workers for their friendship and support. Enjoy every minute! Don't take it for granted and be thankful for what we have in this company.

We not only have a job but we also have benefits provided for us here at the Hard Rock. We are the lucky ones!

Happy holidays and God bless all of you,
"Cookie"
 Beverage Department
 Hollywood Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino

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Community News



Chris Jenkins

Hard Rock Café Sales and Marketing Manager Robyn Melvin talks about pin designs with the youth.

Seminole Hard Rock, Boys & Girls Club Make Pinning History

By Chris Jenkins

HOLLYWOOD—One of the most notable items in the Seminole Hard Rock's memorabilia collection are its pins. On Nov. 5, a new joint project by the Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Hard Rock Café will add another pin to the vast and rare collection.

other individuals, because it is really about sharing," North said.

For more information contact Boys & Girls Club, Assistant Director Tommy Doud at (954) 964-5947 or (954) 410-0957.



Chris Jenkins

Boys and Girls Club Culture and Language Director Jo North (L) and Sales and Marketing Manager Robyn Melvin (R) show the Clan Wheel illustration by Erica North Deitz to the youth for pin ideas.



Chris Jenkins

Ryenne Pratt thinks of ideas for the pin.

Designing a new series of four youth-oriented pins, to be marketed at the upcoming Hard Rock Café pin exchange and fundraiser in January 2008, is the idea, according Hard Rock Café Sales and Marketing Manager Robyn Melvin. The fundraiser will also be held at the Hard Rock.

The designs will center on Native American culture and emphasize the Seminole Clans. They will be made in limited edition and be available in Hollywood and Alaska, as well as be sold at the Hard Rock Store inside of the hotel.

Proceeds from the sales of the pins will go toward both Tribal and non-Tribal clubs. All reservation youth are also still eligible to submit a design.

"It's a good thing for [the youth]," Melvin said. "It builds up their self esteem, gives them a project to do and has community involvement because it's a charity."

Boys & Girls Club Director of Operations and Development Robert North Sr. said exposing the Tribal youth to the importance of giving back or doing philanthropy work is also part of the major goal with the project.

"We want them to have the idea that it feels good to give and it is fun, and the earlier we start the more comfortable they are and more willing they are to share with



Chris Jenkins

Isabel Tucker (in red) sketches her pin's design.

Tribe Wins Top Award at American Indian Film Festival

Submitted by Seminole Broadcasting

SAN FRANCISCO —

The 32nd Annual American Indian Film Festival was held in San Francisco, Nov. 2-9. The Seminole Tribe of Florida walked away with top honors in the Industrial Video category with the entry *The Seminole Tribe of Florida: 50th Anniversary*.

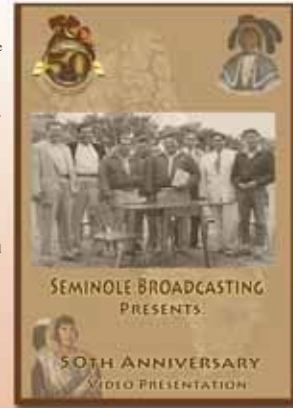
The video was produced by Seminole Broadcasting and originally shown on Aug. 21 at the Hard Rock Live as part of the Tribe's 50th Anniversary celebration of the signing of the Constitution and Corporate Charter.

The video documents the history of the Seminole Tribe of Florida from the early days of the Tribe in the Everglades to the forming of the Tribal Constitution, through today's success as an international presence in the hotel and casino industry — all without losing tradition or culture.

The history of the Tribe is documented in this video through the words of the Tribal citizens themselves. During the video's creation, Broadcasting Dept. staff members conducted 61 interviews on all the Seminole reservations, in English, Creek and Mikasuki, to formulate a history of the Tribe in the words of those who lived it.

The video competed against videos produced by the Native American Public Telecommunications, which entered *NAPT: 3 Decades*, and the National Indian Gaming Association, entering the film *A Defining Moment: Standing for Sovereignty*.

Tribal citizens interested in requesting a copy of the video can contact Seminole Broadcasting at (954) 985-5700.



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Community News

Tribe Opens Okeechobee Community Center

By Susan Etxebarria
OKEECHOBEE, Fla. — The Brighton area's non-resident Tribal citizens now have a place to call their own, the Okeechobee Community Center. The ribbon cutting ceremony for this facility took place on Nov. 1 at its location at 108 NE 7th St.

The newly remodeled interior has been transformed from a brightly painted game arcade to a comfortable, mellow and artfully decorated center for Tribal citizens. It is a place in which to hold meetings, conduct language and culture classes, tutor children and host celebrations.

There are approximately 220 Tribal citizens living in the Okeechobee region who can utilize the center between the hours of 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, all Tribal citizens are invited to drop by, make themselves comfortable, and use the services when they are in the area.

Many of the Tribe's older children cannot attend the Penamety Emahakv Charter School in Brighton since it only goes through the fifth grade. This center will be able to accommodate some of their educational and social needs.



Ribbon Cutting at Okeechobee Community Center: (L-R) Brighton Board Representative Johnnie Jones, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Education Asst. Director Emma Johns and Non-Resident Liaison Holly Tiger-Bowers.

For the youth there is a special entertainment/media room with DVDs where they can watch movies and a wall of computers for video games. This room has a different look, modern rather than traditional. Play Station also is available for children.

There is also an office.

There are tables for tutoring in the computer lab/study room.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress told the crowd gathered at the grand opening that the idea to create a special meeting place for non-residents began when someone suggested it while he was campaigning for his elected office last spring. He promised to do something about it if he was elected and as soon as he took office he told Holly Tiger-Bowers, non-resident liaison to get it going.

Tiger told Chairman Cypress she would have it done within six months, and so she did.

"I think almost all of the non-residents that live here in Okeechobee come from Brighton but we are scattered here and there," Chairman Cypress said. "No matter where you live, we are all one, we are the Seminole Tribe."

"The Tribe is growing and we have to think about the needs of everyone," he added. "I want to thank Holly [Tiger-Bowers] and her staff for doing such a good job."

Brighton Board Rep. Johnnie Jones also told the crowd it was a huge accomplishment.

"We grew up at Brighton but our lives pretty much revolved around getting to Okeechobee to shop, getting to school here, to the doctors," Jones said. "To get to school we were up at the crack of dawn and often not back home until 4 p.m. This is a perfect place for all those Tribal citizens and their families who live off the reservation to have meetings."

Tribal citizen David Nunez is an Okeechobee resident, who has older children in Okeechobee schools.

"Living at Brighton it is so far from the schools and it is foggy in the mornings," he said. "Our kids are in sports. On the rez kids would come home on a bus about 4 p.m. and then we would have to drive them back to town for practice and wait in town."

Nunez and his wife, Anita, have a house in Okeechobee now but they still want to be involved in Tribal events and Tribal education.



(L-R) Chairman Mitchell Cypress sits with Jeff and Jacoby Johns.

"I have lived in town for 15 years," said Salina Dorgan, who works at Brighton Recreation Department. "I think this is really nice for Tribal members who live in Okeechobee and I like the idea of tutoring available for my two eighth graders."

Tribal citizens were treated to a tour of the facilities and a luncheon where all sat at the dining room tables and enjoyed the atmosphere.

Wayne Clay of Affordable Art & Framing worked with Brighton resident Wendy Johns on the interior decorating. Clay described the interior decoration as "country eclectic" in the main room and "classic contemporary" in the youth areas.

"I wanted to achieve a restful country club atmosphere," said Clay.

In order to do the remodel the original arcade walls were gutted, floors and walls repainted. The building is owned by David and Anita Nunez and is being leased by the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Striking among the warm earth tones of the painted walls and carpet is the hickory-oak family-style tables and chairs, saddleback leather couches and



(L-R) Amanda Smith, Reina Micco, Alaina Micco, Mary Jo Micco, Jenny Johns and Noella O'Donnell at the center's grand opening celebration.

wingback chairs in the main room. The furniture is clustered so people can sit and talk undisturbed and privately, much like in a plush hotel lobby.

Here, eight paintings by artist Mike Moore adorn the walls and add a rich touch to the room. Moore is a popular painter among Brighton residents, where many of his works of fine art hang in their homes. His beautiful paintings of the historic, natural world of the Seminole are reminiscent of the Highway Man works of art but with a more contemporary look and his signature warm colors.

This room includes a large food bar with a counter where people can sit on bar stools. It will work well for serving snacks, beverages and dinners.

Cellular Phone Safety and Security Tips Offered

Submitted by SPD

There has been a huge growth in the number of cellular telephones being used in motor vehicles in recent years. Such cellular communication equipment can either be completely portable, mounted permanently in a vehicle (mobile) or a combination of mounted and portable.

Cellular telephones in motor vehicles may be for personal pleasure or convenience, for business or for the primary purpose of safety and security.

Every day there are examples of a vehicle breakdown or other personal emergency, to contact police and other emergency personnel, and to report drunk drivers, auto accidents and criminal activity.

The use of cellular telephones can also be distracting and be directly or indirectly the cause of motor vehicle accidents.

The following are a number of tips or recommendations for talking and driving safely:

Make sure your cellular telephone is positioned where it is easy to see and easy to reach. Be familiar with the operation of the telephone, so you are comfortable using it on the road.

It is best to dial the telephone when the vehicle is not moving, such as at a stop sign or red light.

Use the speed dialing feature to program in frequently called numbers. This enables the user to make a call by touching only one or two buttons. Most telephones will store up to 99 items.

Never take notes while driving. Pull off the road to jot something down. If it's a telephone number, many mobile phones have an electronic scratch pad that allows keying in a new number while having a conversation.

Let the wireless network's voice mail pick up calls when it's inconvenient or unsafe to answer the phone. You can even use your voice mail to leave yourself reminders.

Use the voice activated dialing feature, where available, to place a call so you don't have to dial. To use it, you simply have to say the name, such as "home" or "office" to be immediately connected to personal directory listings.

Be a "Cellular Samaritan" because dialing 911 is usually free for cellular subscribers. Use it to report crimes in progress or other potentially life-threatening emergencies, accidents or drunk driving.

The Seminole Police Department urges everyone to use safe and defensive driving practices. If we all do our part, the roads and highways will be safer for all of us to travel.

Holiday Season Shopping Safety Tips

Submitted by SPD

The holidays are a special and joyous time of year. It is also a time to be especially alert to the possibility of crime. As the holiday season draws near and our days get busier, we need to take extra care and precautions to avoid becoming victims of crime.

The holiday season should be a time of great joy as we celebrate and share gifts with our friends and loved ones. Unfortunately, it can be a time when crime becomes more prevalent. Criminals love the holidays as much as everyone else, but mainly because it's an opportune time for crime. Statistics nationwide reveal that people are especially vulnerable to burglary, theft and other crime during the hectic holiday season.

The Seminole Police Department wishes all a safe holiday season and would like to offer the following safety tips to help you and your family avoid becoming crime victims. Taking an extra measure of safety precaution could make this season of holidays safer and happier.

Holiday Shopping Safety

Stay alert to your surroundings. Walk confidently with your head up and stay in well-lit and well-traveled areas.

Pay attention to people walking in front and behind you. Particular attention is essential when you are in crowded areas, such as stores and malls that are filled with holiday shoppers.

Deter pickpockets and purse snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages.

Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps. Make sure purses are closed and fastened. Put wallets in an inside coat or front pants pocket.

Use caution using public washrooms and store dressing rooms. Avoid putting your purse on hooks or door handles.

Shop with a friend or relative.

Be as discreet as possible with carried cash. If you're shopping with kids, teach them to go immediately to a security guard if you get separated.

When arriving at the mall, attempt to park close to entrance doors and in a well-lit area.

When returning to your car, have your key ready; avoid fumbling with your packages.

Don't leave packages visible while shopping, cover them or lock them in your vehicle's trunk.

Use caution at ATM machines.

If You're Out for the Evening

Turn on some lights, a radio or TV so it appears someone is home.

Unplug holiday decorative lights before going out for the evening.

Lock all doors and windows when you leave, even if it's only for a few minutes.

Do not display gifts through your windows.

Drive with extra caution. Use designated drivers or call a cab, if you have been drinking.

Be cautious while walking or crossing the street. During the holidays more pedestrians are victims of traffic accidents than any other time of year.

Holiday Home Safety and Security

If traveling over the holidays, use automatic timers for lights and appliances to give the appearance of occupancy. Ask a trusted neighbor to watch your home, get your mail and bring in the newspaper.

Avoid displaying gifts and presents where they can be seen from the outside of your home. After presents are opened, don't let your outdoor trash receptacles announce your new acquisitions. Record serial and model numbers of gifts as soon as you receive them.

Be a good neighbor and call the police if you observe people knocking on doors in your neighborhood without legitimate reasons.

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Community News



Crime Prevention Officer Michele Daza

Submitted by SPD

Seminole Police's Crime Prevention Unit

Submitted by SPD

To support SPD's belief in community partnerships and pressing forward to create a strong and healthy relationship within the Tribe, the department has a Crime Prevention Officer assigned for each reservation. The Crime Prevention Unit's objectives are: to make the community aware of the misconceptions of crime through innovative programs, evaluate the effectiveness of these programs and make the department aware of any positive or negative feedback according to community interaction.

The Crime Prevention Unit serves as a liaison between the department and the community and assists other departments in many community events that take place.

Crime prevention officers hold programs for the Tribal youth pertaining to issues including bicycle helmet safety, internet safety and drug awareness. Crime Prevention Officers speak with Tribal youth about becoming positive role models

and peer pressure, among other issues.

The Crime Prevention Officers also serve as counselors, advisors or chaperones for summer programs including the Florida Indian Youth Program in Tallahassee, camping in Gainesville and the Youth Crime Prevention Summit in Orlando, and other community projects as needed. Not only does the Crime Prevention Unit assist the community in educating the children, but also by interacting with the community seniors. Programs for the seniors include lessons in preventing crime against the elderly, and going on trips or outings with them.

The Crime Prevention Unit strongly encourages the community to provide any suggestions regarding issues that hinder the safety or well being of its community and members. It is through positive relationships that progress and prosperity are attained. Let us remember that everyone shares a responsibility in making the community a safe place to live, work and play.

Crime Prevention Officers

Officer Michele Daza
Hollywood

Officer Michelle Clay
Brighton/Fort Pierce/Tampa

Officer Tom Faherty
Big Cypress/Immokalee

All crime prevention officers can be reached by contacting your nearest Seminole Police station.

SPD Thwarts Potential Burglary at Hard Rock



Submitted by SPD

Ski masks and gun were confiscated.

Submitted by SPD

Seminole Police Sergeant Thomas Hopkins supervises a squad of eight patrol officers and works the midnight shift at the Hollywood Reservation. On Oct. 22, at approximately 2:45 a.m., Sergeant Hopkins was conducting a surveillance of the Guitar Parking Lot at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Sergeant Hopkins watched as two men walked into the parking lot and hung around a white pickup truck. One of the men began to walk back and forth among the vehicles and went out of sight for a period of time. The man reappeared and was now carrying a black canvas bag as he walked back to the pickup. Sergeant Hopkins radioed for assistance.

Officers Jarrod Romanello and Jody Certain arrived to assist. Sergeant Hopkins and the officers made contact with both men.

They found that a Kia had been burglarized and the black bag had been removed from the vehicle. The owner of the Kia was located inside the casino who said they did not know the men and did not give them permission to enter the vehicle or have possession of the bag.

The two men were arrested for burglary, loitering and prowling. Further investigation revealed that the pickup truck belonged to one of the men and



Submitted by SPD

Officer Certain, Officer Romanello and Sergeant Hopkins

"I, along with the members of command staff and Seminole Police Department, wish to thank Sergeant Hopkins, Officer Romanello and Officer Certain for their exceptional performance. Their actions are in keeping with the finest traditions of law enforcement and reflect great credit upon themselves and the Seminole Police Department."

— Chief Charlie Tiger
Seminole Police Department

had a loaded 9mm firearm and two ski masks inside. One of the men gave a statement stating that they had planned to commit an armed robbery on someone later that evening.

Sergeant Hopkins was given an SPD commendation for his keen observation, quick thinking and dedication to duty. The sergeant's actions enabled the apprehension of a suspect for a burglary in progress and prevented a possible armed robbery. He was also recommended to receive the Seminole Police Department's In Progress award.

New Emergency Services Station Opens

By Brian Brown, Chief of EMS Division/PLD.

HOLLYWOOD — On Oct. 1 at 8 a.m. the Seminole Tribe of Florida Department of Emergency Services opened its newest EMS station, Station #108. The station is located on the southern border of the Hollywood Reservation, at the junction of 64th Ave. and Sheridan St. This station houses two brand new medium-sized International rescue trucks that will be utilized to cover the Hollywood Tribal communities and businesses, including the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

On Oct. 12, Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr. was given a guided tour of the new rescue trucks at the Tribal Headquarters in Hollywood. The crews of the new Station #108, along with EMS Director Chuck Lanza, Assistant Director John



Submitted by EMS Division

Battalion Chief Josh Bauer (R) showing truck to Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr. (L).



Felix DoBozz

One of the new rescue trucks for Station #108.

Cooper and Battalion Chief Josh Bauer, showed Osceola and other Tribal employees the state-of-the-art medical equipment purchased for the two new rescue trucks.

The purpose of the new EMS station is to give the Hollywood Tribal communities a private emergency service provider that is located directly on the reservation property. Being located on the reservation property will provide the Tribal communities rapid rescue response times, a personal emergency service provider based on the local Tribal customs and religion, and install the continuous independence of the Seminole Tribe of Florida communities and government.

The opening of Station #108 on the Hollywood Reservation is just a continued part of the department's mission to strive to provide the highest quality emergency care to the Tribal communities and its businesses.

Tribal CERT Program Holds Training Sessions

By Felix DoBozz

HOLLYWOOD — On Nov. 8, Tribal Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers attended a three day training course for emergency first responders. The volunteers consisted of about a dozen Tribal employees, all eager to learn how to help their community during a disaster.

Hollywood Council Rep Max B. Osceola Jr.'s office sponsored this training event, which was supervised by Emergency Services' Interim Emergency Manager Andrea Ward, FPDM, and Amy Howard, Emergency Management planner. The CERT trainers were certified firefighters and paramedics Alex Baird and Peter Berger.

They handed out participant manuals, displayed PowerPoint presentations and played firefighter/EMT training videos to help educate the



Felix DoBozz

FF/EMT and CERT trainer Peter Berger speaks to volunteers.



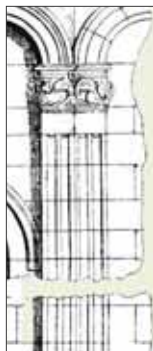
Felix DoBozz

Trainer Alex Baird makes a point while Peter Berger prepares to share some tips.

CERT volunteers. The two also demonstrated various tools and techniques that have proven to be life saving in a serious disaster.

"We give them basic training so that they can be more effective as volunteers," said Ward. "The first CERT class was held back in February in Big Cypress reservation with about a dozen volunteers. Our goal is to have this program held at each reservation but it's challenging to coordinate."

The 20 hour course was initiated by the city of Los Angeles Fire Department back in 1985. It proved effective after first responders were able to effectively handle the aftermath of the 1987 Whittier Narrows earthquakes, which ravaged part of Southern California.



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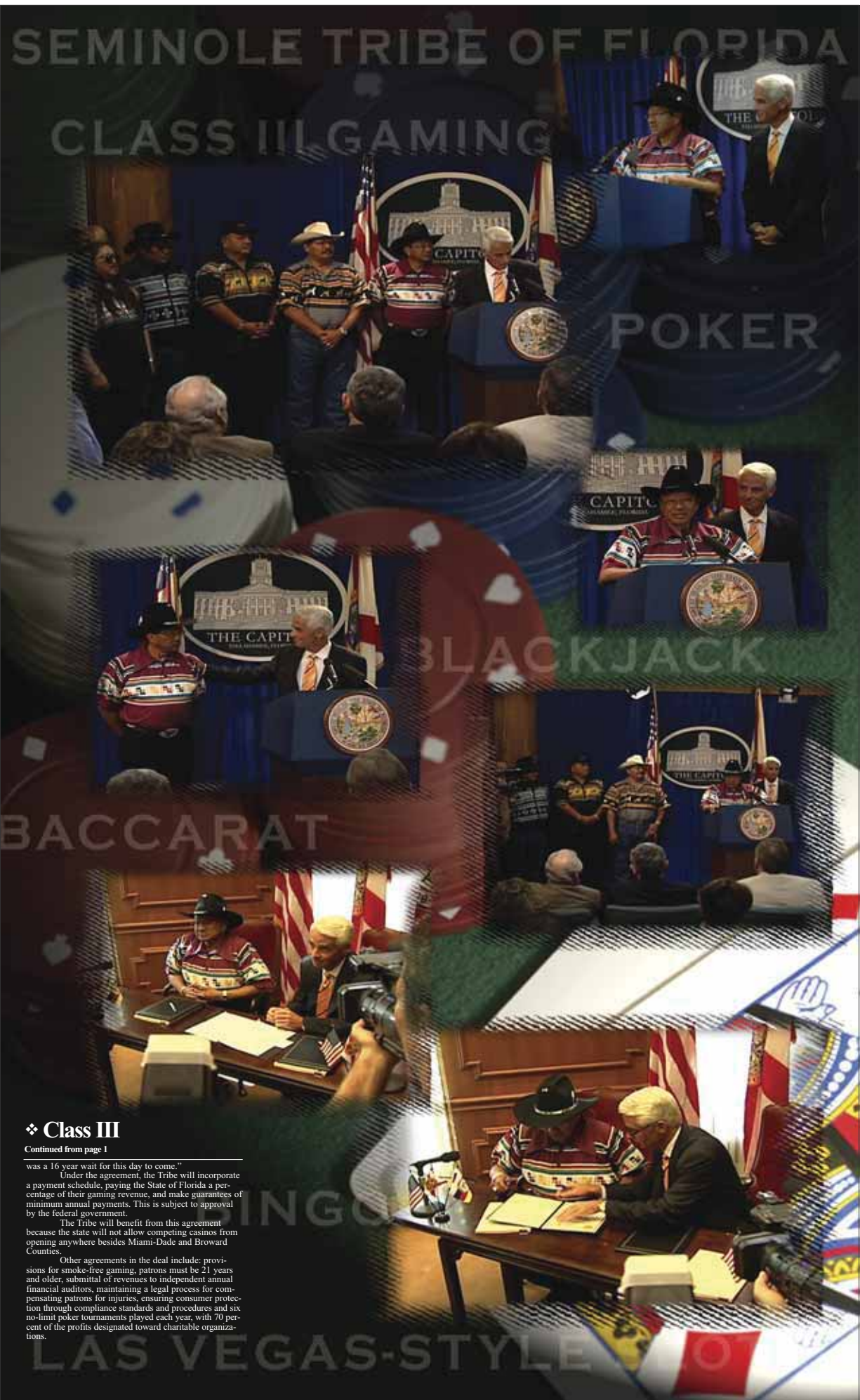


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www.seminoletribe.com/calendar





❖ Class III

Continued from page 1

was a 16 year wait for this day to come."

Under the agreement, the Tribe will incorporate a payment schedule, paying the State of Florida a percentage of their gaming revenue, and make guarantees of minimum annual payments. This is subject to approval by the federal government.

The Tribe will benefit from this agreement because the state will not allow competing casinos from opening anywhere besides Miami-Dade and Broward Counties.

Other agreements in the deal include: provisions for smoke-free gaming, patrons must be 21 years and older, submittal of revenues to independent annual financial auditors, maintaining a legal process for compensating patrons for injuries, ensuring consumer protection through compliance standards and procedures and six no-limit poker tournaments played each year, with 70 percent of the profits designated toward charitable organizations.

Education • Emahaayeeke • Kerretv

Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School Awards Recipients



Second Grade

Kindergarten Effort

Waylynn Bennett, Myron Billie, Keira French, Malcolm Jones, Aliana Micco, Sage Motlow, Madisyn Osceola, Marlee Osceola, Rubie Osceola, Julia Smith, Mallorie Thomas, Araya Youngblood.

Kindergarten Citizenship

Jaylen Baker, Katie Beck, Laila Bennett, Bevyll Billie, Santiago Billie, Edward Guncin, Alyssa Gonzalez, Donovan Harris, Jacee Jumper, Ozzy Osceola, Caillou Smith, Aleah Turtle.

Kindergarten Improvement

Jahbain Arnold, Jayton Baker, Dalence Carrillo, Hunter Howard, Tucker Johns, Jason Sampson, Tanner Shore, Dante Thomas.

First Grade Effort

J-Wayco Billie, Andrew Fish, Raclely Matthews, Aleina Micco, Kyle Palmisano, Kano Puente, Gage Riddle.

First Grade Citizenship

Blake Baker, Jarrett Bert, Keely Billie, Alicia Fudge, Conner Thomas, Aidan Tommie.

First Grade Improvement

Alyke Baker, Krysta Burton, Robert Harris, Lance Howard, Drake Lawrence, Caroline Micco, Mariah Smith, Luzana Venzor, Oscar Yates.

Second Grade Effort

Sunni Bearden, Michael Clark, Cheyenne Fish, Dymai Nelson, Layne Thomas, Aiyana Tommie.

Second Grade Citizenship

Jess Baker, Elijah Billie, Jalynn Jones, Morgan King, Cyrus Smedley, Camryn Thomas.

Second Grade Improvement

Chloe Chalfant, Dalton Clark, Joseph Osceola, Brady Rhodes, Jenessa Smith, Rylee Smith.

Third Grade Effort

Bethany Billie, Drayton Billie, Erik Garcia, Odessa King, Sean Osceola, Lanie Sedatol, Trevor Thomas.

Third Grade Citizenship

Erik Garcia, Rylee Osceola, Diamond Shore, Crysten Smith, Jerry Smith, Bailey Tedders.

Third Grade Bronze Award (3.0-3.4)

Bethany Billie, Drayton Billie, Peyton Bowers, Ruben Burgess, Robert Fudge, Erik Garcia, Odessa King, Joshua Madrigal, Crysten Smith, Diamond Shore.

Third Grade Silver Award (3.5-3.9)

Rylee Osceola, Trevor Thomas.

Third Grade Gold Award (4.0)

Sean Osceola, Jaden Puente, Bailey Tedders.

Fourth Grade Effort

Tamea Allen, Jaron Johns, Brydgett Koonitz, C.W. Ortiz, Imillakiyo Osceola, Royce Osceola, Yopakiyo Osceola, Jaycee Smith, Richard Smith.

Fourth Grade Citizenship

Tamea Allen, Tyra Baker, Thomas Bearden, Jonathan Boromei, Kailin Brown, Jaron Johns, Kalgary Johns, Lahna Sedatol, Rayven Smith, Melany Williams.

Fourth Grade Bronze Award (3.0-3.4)

Michael Garcia, Chastity Harmon, Elizabeth Johns, Harley Johns, Kalgary Johns, Keyana Nelson, Cheyenne Nunez, Trista Osceola.

Fourth Grade Silver Award (3.5-3.9)

Allison Gopher, Joshua Greenbaum, Zeke Matthews, Donovan Osceola.

Fourth Grade Gold Award (Straight A's-4.0)

Kailin Brown, Melany Williams.

Fifth Grade Effort

Korvette Billie, J.T. Smith, Jennifer Tommie.

Fifth Grade Citizenship

Daniel Nunez, Brooke Osceola, Delaney Osceola.

Fifth Grade Bronze Award (3.0-3.4)

Anthony Johns, Lindsey Sampson.

Fifth Grade Silver Award (3.5-3.9)

Bracceton King, Brooke Osceola, Layton Thomas.

Fifth Grade Gold Award (Straight A's-4.0)

Daniel Nunez.



Third Grade



Third Grade



Third Grade



Third Grade



Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade

Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School Students of the Week

Students Recognized for the Weeks of Oct. 15-19, Oct. 22-26

OCT 15-19

Kindergarten: Miss Robinson's class: Alyssa Gonzalez, Mrs. Webber's class: Bevyll Billie; 1st Grade: Mrs. Davis' class: Oscar Yates, Mrs. Ringstaff's class: Jarrett Bert; 2nd Grade: Mrs. Ball's class: Ives Baker, Mrs. Hudson's class: Dalton Clark; 3rd Grade: Mrs. Clements' class: Joshua Madrigal, Mrs. Pryor's class: Trevor Thomas; 4th Grade: Mrs. Tedders' class: Jaron Johns, Mrs. Williams' class: Rayven Smith; 5th Grade: Mrs. Finney's class: Layton Thomas; Mr. Tedders/Mrs. Hawthorne's class: Logan Ortiz.



OCT 22-26



Kindergarten: Miss Robinson's class: Tucker Johns, Mrs. Webber's class: Caillou Thomas; 1st Grade: Mrs. Davis' class: Alyke Baker, Mrs. Ringstaff's class: Aidan Tommie; 2nd Grade: Mrs. Ball's class: Aiyana Tommie, Mrs. Hudson's class: Jenessa Smith; 3rd Grade: Mrs. Clements' class: Lanie Sedatol, Mrs. Pryor's class: Jaden Puente; 4th Grade: Mrs. Tedders' class: Zeke Matthews, Mrs. Williams' class: Rayven Smith; 5th Grade: Mrs. Finney's class: Justice Baker.



(L-R, Bottom Row) Chloe Chalfant, Connor Thomas, Lanie Sedatol, Trevor Thomas, Alyke Baker, Josh Greenbaum, Aidan Tommie, Brian Bishop, Aiyana Tommie, Camryn Thomas, (L-R, Top Row) Mrs. Pryor, Mrs. Davis, Jaron Johns, Melany Williams, Josh Madrigal, Lahna Sedatol, Trista Osceola, Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Brown.

The Parent, Teacher, Student Organization, or PTSO, of the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School had a booth at the Brighton Halloween Carnival. The group would like to thank all the parents and staff who volunteered their time to work at our booth. The PTSO sold candy and Carmel apples, glow necklaces and had the hay ride, which went

to the haunted Red Barn.

PTSO agreed all fundraising monies will be donated to charities. The group feels they have been so fortunate at Pemayetv Emahakv that they decided to teach the children to give. In total, the PTSO raised \$935.75, all of which was donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

FSU Professor Gives Lecture on Seminole Tribe

By Robert Zerbe

TALLAHASSEE — On Oct. 30, students and museum-goers alike turned up for a lecture on the Seminole Tribe by Andrew Frank, Florida State University assistant professor of history. The lecture, delivered at the Museum of Florida History, coincided with the kickoff of the museum's "Seminole People of Florida: Survival and Success" exhibit, which opened on Nov. 15.

called "God forsaken country," Frank said. "They went there in large part because they knew U.S. soldiers weren't dumb enough, if you will, to follow them."

Another focal point of Frank's lecture was the "Seminole Renaissance." The term refers to gaming and other economic ventures and how they play a part in the modern Seminole culture. Frank also said that the media and other outsiders wrongly portray the Seminole Tribe's use of gaming as "the ends, rather than the means."

"What I want to suggest to you is that casinos, and gaming, and cattle herds, and all these modern innovations, and tourism, first and foremost has strengthened Tribal self-governance and self-reliance," Frank said.

Frank explained that these activities not only allow some Seminoles to escape poverty, but it allows them to do things to revitalize their culture, such as building the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School in Brighton.

Professor Andrew Frank speaks to his audience at the Museum of Florida History.

Frank's lecture was followed by another at the opening. He will also hold lectures on Feb. 21 and Apr. 17. The exhibit itself runs through June 1, 2008.

Frank's lecture dealt largely with the history of the Seminole Tribe and the Three Seminole Wars. He detailed to the listeners a series of wars that spanned five decades, battles that were "devastating" for the Seminoles.

"When the Third Seminole War ended in 1858, the Seminoles had been pushed from North and Central Florida, to a territory that Governor William Duval

Frank has taught history for the past 11 years at schools such as California State University at Los Angeles, the University of Massachusetts and Florida Atlantic University. During a phone interview after the lecture, Frank had good things to say about the Seminole lecture series.

"From my perspective it's great," he said. "The more people that are talking and having conversations on the issue, the better."

For more information please visit www.museumoffloridahistory.com.



Robert Zerbe

Education • Emahaayeeke • Kerretv

Charter School Games, Tournaments Promote Teamwork

By Susan Etzebarria

BRIGHTON — The Physical Education Department at the Pemaayevt Emahaky Charter School kicked off the first quarter of the 2007-2008 school year with a dodge ball tournament on Oct. 19. The third, fourth and fifth graders, and their teachers, met at the Brighton Gym for the tournament.

The single elimination tournament consisted of teams with six players, and required at least two girls per team. The tournament encouraged competitiveness and good sportsmanship among the Pemaayevt Emahaky students.

The students in each class were encouraged to form teams and come up with creative team names. "Kids made up creative names like the Miami Hurricanes," according to Michele Thomas, school administrative assistant; some other teams included: the Bench Warmers, Baby Phat Ribs, Hot Tamales, Brighton Kids,



Submitted by Pemaayevt Emahaky
Michele Thomas — staff team (Great Balls of Fire)



Submitted by Pemaayevt Emahaky
Brooke Osceola — 5th Grade Student

Terminators, Brighton Heat and Skinz.

There were staff and faculty teams as well — the Under Dawgs, Great Balls of Fire, SWAT and SoWhat. The administrative staff formed a team and competed against the faculty team. Then, the top winning student team went up against the winning staff or faculty team.

The student champions were the Skinz. On Oct. 26 the Physical Education Department organized the Survivor Day contests for each physical education class to see which class would become the ultimate survivor. During the class, students had to have a partner to form a team, with many students choosing a parent.

Special game stations were set up as challenges for the teams. Scores were recorded and the overall winners in each event received a certificate at the end of the day.

One fun event was the Shoe Kick, in which the student kicks off a shoe and the distance

is measured. There was a game called Running Man, a forearm rope winding game, in which fifth grader Bracton King and his dad, Gilbert, won first place.

Other first place contest winners included: fish throw: fifth grader J.T. Smith and partner, James Weiman; wild obstacle course: fourth grader C.W. Ortiz and partner, Gilbert King; cup stack: first grader Racley Matthews and mother, Pam Matthews; basketball challenge: Andrew Fish and partner, Tony Osceola; golf challenge: Drake Lawrence, Oscar Yates, Andrew Fish, Rylee Osceola, Marcie Osceola and Ruby Osceola.

Each team had 40 minutes to compete in Survivor challenges. The goal of Survivor Day was to help create family togetherness and exercise. Each team also created their own team T-shirts. Cheyenne Nunez won the Most Creative Team award for the best T-shirt for her team, the Supa Stars.



Submitted by Pemaayevt Emahaky
Imillakiyo Osceola — 4th Grade Student

♦ Gopher

Continued from page 1

Seminoles and Florida State, and those individuals who continue to perpetuate their ideals.

A lifelong proponent of traditional Seminole Indian culture and heritage, Gopher has been working to ensure more Tribal citizens have access to education at all levels, both within and outside of the Seminole Education Department. She herself was the first Seminole woman to earn a bachelor's degree, and spoke no English when first starting school.

Kyle Doney is one such graduate who benefited from the programming at the reservation. After getting his degree at FSU, he returned to the Brighton Reservation to work full time.

According to Doney: "FSU was my second home, and I loved it while I was in school. The relationship FSU has with the Seminole Tribe is really good ... [There are] no cartoon images or anything, it's all about respect."

Doney also spoke of the importance of preserving the traditional language and spirit of the Seminole people.

It is because of the efforts of dedicated educators such as Gopher that so many of the younger members of the Seminole Tribe are able to have the preparation they need to be able to pursue higher education. Indeed, Wetherell remarked that "she is a champion of education of all members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and a true friend and staunch supporter of this university."

All of the pageantry of the halftime presentation but the latest in an active schedule of events for Gopher, who has recently been busy with the

spite of the pressures of the modern homogenized world.

Opening its doors officially this fall to a sizable new class of students considering its young age, the new school has charged itself with reinstating a sense of cultural awareness in the younger generation of Seminoles by focusing not just on regular academics, but also on language skills that some say have been on the decline in recent years. Both Jennifer



FSU University Relations
Louise Gopher serves as Grand Marshal at the Florida State University homecoming parade.

Chalfant and Alicia Nunez, this year's Seminole Princess and Junior Princess respectively, were enthusiastic about the potential of the charter school.

"We were in danger of losing a lot of our language and heritage, but I think it's going to be better now with the charter school teaching people from a young age," said Chalfant.

Both Chalfant and Nunez, who started in traditional pageants at a young age, are from the Brighton Reservation. The two said they are both very pleased with the image and portrayal of the Seminoles by FSU.

"It's represented very well, and it's exciting to see all the people and all the spirit," said Chalfant.

President Richard Bowers also spoke of the importance the new Charter School will play in the future of the Seminole Tribe. While remarking that the erosion of the traditional Seminole culture "has been occurring for the past 500 years," Bowers went on to express optimism about the school's opening.

"The future looks bright because we have the ways and means to succeed, and the resources and focus of language that this school will bring plays a big part," Bowers added.

It is large events such as the FSU Homecoming Game and Homecoming Parade that serve to remind the students, faculty, and members of the community of the rich heritage FSU possesses thanks to the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and to highlight those individuals who are doing all they can to keep it going. Gopher herself was quite modest about the award, and commented that "I am just enjoying all the festivities and am glad to be here."



FSU University Relations
Brighton Council Representative Roger Smith and President Richard Bowers Jr. applaud as Gopher receives her award.

opening of a new Charter School on the Brighton Seminole Reservation. Named Pemaayevt Emahaky, which means "Our Way," the new institution is intended to preserve the Seminole heritage and tradition in

Native Book Review

By Ramona Kiyoshk

[Editor's Note: Ramona Kiyoshk is a freelance writer and member of the Ojibway First Nation of Walpole Island, Ontario. The opinions she expresses are her own. She can be reached at satin.moccasins@gmail.com.]

Who would have thought that a postcard bought for a few cents on a Florida holiday in the 1930s would become a powerful monument to a people's past? The packrat who stashes away postcards and letters or the collector who spends hours at dusty flea-markets going through old photographs and letters might one day be credited with preserving potent monologues from history.

Emmett H. L. Snellings Jr., a Sarasota, Fla. writer with a passion for Native American history, Seminole culture in particular, is a postcard aficionado. His collection of Seminole postcards includes some entries that are more than 100 years old. Snellings' wife, Louise, grew up with a love and fascination for Native American lore, and was a close personal friend of the Seminole people. This unique book is dedicated to the late Louise Snellings.

Postcards and personal interviews with members of the Seminole Tribe who share their memories, make for a fascinating journey through a tumultuous epoch, tracing the stages of a people from innocents in The Garden to the most sophisticated entrepreneurs in the world. Each one of the 18 chapters is dedicated to an aspect of Seminole life.

Rise in detail, and warmly echoing the voices of elders and other Tribal members, *Seminole Views* provides a quick reference on history, economics, religious customs, medicine, art, fashions, traditional food, ceremonies, child-rearing, tourism, legends, life-ways in the Everglades, but mostly it documents change. The postcards, photos, essays and interviews trace the roots of the Seminole nation, from prehistory to their encounter with murderous white settlers and subsequent wars to the death for survival. The tone is sympathetic and respectful.

Idyllic aspects of earlier Seminole life include long days of poling cypress canoes through

the crystal waters of the 'glades, hunting plumes and hides to trade and celebrating the sacred Green Corn Dance. Elders were honored, children treasured, family was sacred and life was good. The changes came hard and fast with unstoppable urban sprawl.

The chapter on transportation discusses the draining of the Everglades. This would prove nearly as devastating to the culture as the 40 years of conflict in the preceding century. Cultural sicknesses would include alcoholism, as the men, once proud hunters and providers, were forced into idleness by their disappearing way of life.

Christianity would displace the religious beliefs. Many of the families would become permanent fixtures in amusement parks. While this did much to preserve the culture and educate the public, it was a shameful substitute for the chickee camps in the freedom of the Everglades.

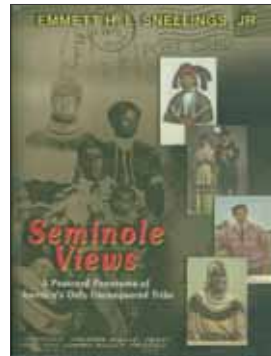
Strong matriarchal leaders took the reins. The likes of medicine woman Annie Tammie and educator Betty Mae Jumper would lead their people along the treacherous and difficult road from desperation to prosperity. Ever enterprising and determined, the spirit of the people would not be squelched.

Cattle and citrus became new livelihoods. Gaming would be added to the Seminole business ventures. Today the Seminole excel in sports, the arts, technology and their youngsters are taking advantage of educational opportunities.

One remarkable thing about this journey is that it can be told through old postcards, bought as souvenirs. The Seminole subjects are depicted in fashions of the day, living in the camps of the time and carrying out daily routines. The collection is a treasure that we are fortunate to share.

Another remarkable thing is that the Seminoles allow their voices to be heard, their words to be recorded. This act of trust says much for Snellings, as a writer and a friend.

I hope wordsmith Snellings is still collecting postcards — for the next generation.



Title: *Seminole Views*
Subtitle: *A Postcard Panorama of America's Only Unconquered Tribe*
Author: Emmett H. L. Snellings Jr.
Pages: 220
Photographs: 206
Hardcover with jacket: Coffee-table style, glossy, full-color
Price: \$49
Publisher: Rainbow Books, Inc., Highland City, Fla. (RainBooksInc.com)

Postcards From The Edge Of Seminole Land

[Editor's Note: This is a re-print of the article and photos that appeared in the Oct. 9, 1998 issue of The Seminole Tribune, when writer Emmett Snellings Jr. began work on his now-completed book.]

Writer Emmett Snellings Jr., with the cooperation of the President's office, is working on a book tentatively titled, *Florida's Seminoles: A Postcard History*. Snellings has over 300 postcards capturing almost all phases of 20th century Seminole life.

"The earliest I have is 1903," said Mr. Snellings. "I'd like to try to find out as much information as possible about each of the cards. That's why I need the help of the elder Tribal members."

"I want to fill in the blanks that exist about a lot of these cards. These cards are a slice of history that I'm trying to fill in."

Collecting the Seminole postcards, which are very hard to obtain, started out as a hobby. Initially, Snellings began collecting antique Florida postcards until he noticed the unique Seminole postcards. He now acquires them by attending post-



Snellings Collection
Seminole Child with Medicine Pouch.

card shows in the Southeast or having them shipped to him from personal contacts around the United States.

During the next few months you will likely see Emmett and his wife, Louise, who will be visiting the reservations and interviewing elders, Tribal officials, and other Seminoles to gather information about his extensive Seminole postcard collection.

These cards are visual insights into various aspects of Seminole life. Names are being put to faces where possible and any Tribal member is welcome to contribute information about these scenes.

This project, which has the approval of the President's office, will result in a book that contains what the Seminoles have to say about their way of life, their customs, and their history that's portrayed in these postcards.

Past books and articles about Seminoles have sometimes been composed of text containing little or nothing about what the Seminoles themselves have to say.

In Mr. Snellings' book, most of the information will come from the Seminoles — not non-native commentary.



Snellings Collection
The Old Seminole "Chief"

Health: Chah-nee-ken chao-ke: Evfekknetv onakv

Ask The Counselor

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Dear Counselor:

My wife is angry at me because she wants me to do more around the house. I believe my 40 hours at work is enough. I believe house work is a woman's responsibility. I believe a man's home is his castle and that makes him a King. Kings do not do house work, they rule. I know as a counselor you are going to disagree, but I promised my wife that I would write and get your opinion.

Signed:
The King.

Dear King:

I see from your letter that all clowns are not in the circus. It does not matter if you've been married to your wife for six months or six years, she still needs to be reminded that you appreciate her.

Most women feel overwhelmed, overburdened and unappreciated. Many times resentment doesn't come from their workload or responsibility, but from feeling as if they're not valued or appreciated by the man in their lives.

You can show your love and appreciation

by preparing her dinner. If you happen to be a little lacking in the kitchen, have her favorite restaurant cater. Give her a facial and foot massage. Rejuvenate her weary eyes with the sight of a sparkling clean house. Give her a thank you gift. Purchase a romantic card and hide it somewhere in the house and/or find a term of endearment that only you know and call her when the time is right.

Showing the woman in your life that she's loved, honored and appreciated has its just reward. Not only will she experience the unconditional love and happiness that only you can give, she will return the favor and make you feel like a king.

King, here are words of wisdom from the Counselor - The measure of a HUSBAND IS NOT WHO THEY ARE WHEN COMPANY'S AROUND, BUT RATHER WHO THEY ARE MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY.

Signed:
The Counselor

Dr. Brian C. Rush

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Defining Domestic Violence

Submitted by SPD

Domestic violence is more than just a "family problem" — it's a crime. The Seminole Police Department recognizes that domestic violence is a major problem on Tribal lands, surrounding jurisdictions and throughout the U.S. Each year, more than two million women are victims of domestic violence, and one million children are physically abused.

In Florida, it's a crime for any person to threaten, assault, beat, sexually assault or harm another person, even if they are married. Batterer is not exclusively a crime against women, but they are the majority affected. One of every two families in the U.S. is involved in domestic violence at some time. Domestic violence is a repetitive pattern in people's lives. Victims or witnesses of domestic violence in childhood are most likely to repeat such behavior as adults.

Domestic violence can take many different forms, but its goal is always the same: batterers want total power and control over their partners. They do this by regularly abusing them physically, emotionally and psychologically. Abusers are very much in control — they hit when they want to and stop when they are ready.

Here are some types of physical abuse:
Physical Abuse: Slapping, kicking, pushing, hitting, choking and punching.

Verbal Abuse: Constant criticism, name calling, shouting, making humiliating remarks and mocking.

Isolation: Not allowing the victim to see friends and relatives, monitoring phone calls, controlling where the victim goes, taking victim's keys and/or locking the victim out of the house.

Intimidation/Threats: Making the victim feel guilty, pushing the victim into decisions. Manipulating the victim and other family members, always insisting on being right, making up impossible "rules" and punishing the victim for breaking

them, threatening to harm the victim, children, family members and pets, keeping weapons and threatening to use them, following or stalking, humiliating the victim in public, constantly checking up on the victim's whereabouts and/or extreme jealousy and possessiveness.

Domestic violence cannot be tolerated. Too many women are beaten. Too many children are being abused. Too many homes are battle grounds. There is a way out.

If you are a victim of domestic violence, female or male, adult or child, now is the time to think about your safety. Calling the police, telling a friend or family member, or making contact with a shelter is the first step. Please don't wait until it is too late.

Many studies have shown that an uninterrupted cycle of violence only worsens over time. Hotlines and shelters are there to be used and counseling is available. It's as close as a phone call and it's free.

Please call or visit the Seminole Police Department nearest you in the event of domestic violence. The main number for Hollywood, Seminole Police Department is (954) 967-8900. By calling this number the operator can transfer the caller to the closest Seminole Police Station or send immediate assistance.

In addition, the organization Women in Distress provides information, a safe shelter, crisis intervention, education and advocacy services. Contact them at (954) 761-1113 or womenindistress.org.

The Family Services Department also provides services for those affected by domestic violence. They can be contacted during regular business hours at any of the Seminole reservations. After hours and on weekends you may call the nearest Seminole Police Department who will in turn be able to connect you with a member from Family Services.

Let's Talk About Asthma

By Carter Elbon, Environmental Health Assistant Program Manager

Asthma or other difficulty in breathing conditions may be an indicator to an indoor air quality problem in a home and/or office.

According to the Office of Healthy Homes, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, more than 20 million people in the country suffer from asthma, and of those, 6.3 million are children under the age of 18. There are 75 percent more cases of asthma in 1994 than in 1980. And asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization in the U.S.

Now what exactly is asthma? Basically, it's a lung disease. It causes people to wheeze, cough, be short of breath and sometimes even die. People with asthma can suffer from frequent periods of difficult breathing called asthma attacks. During an attack, the airways swell, the muscles around them tighten and the airways produce a thick yellow mucus.

Asthma is not contagious, but it does run in families, so if parents have asthma, their children are more likely to have it, too. Children, particularly those living in urban areas and crowded or unclean conditions are especially at risk for developing asthma.

Each person is different, but many things called asthma triggers can cause asthma attacks. These can be found both outdoors and indoors and include: cold weather, pollen, exercise, stress, dust and dust mites, cockroaches and their cast skins, mold, pet dander (skin flakes), rodents and rodent droppings, tobacco smoke and perfumes and air fresheners.

The next question is what can we do about it?

Because there is no cure for asthma, it important to know how to control the triggers and this can prevent the attacks.

There are three major categories of prevention:

Keep a clean home: Make sure that your home is free of dust, mold, smoke, and other potential triggers; vacuum often using a cleaner that has a High Efficiency Particulate Air, or HEPA, filters because they remove dust best; keep foods stored in tightly sealed containers to avoid attracting cockroaches, ants and other vermin; clear crumbs, drips, spills and dirty dishes immediately; and identify and quickly fix water leaks in your home.

Keep people with asthma away from dust, dust mites, and smoke: Use zippered, allergen resistant mattress and pillow covers to keep dust mites out of sleeping spaces; keep pets outdoors or away from sleeping areas and clear hairs from carpet and furniture; quit smoking, or smoke only outside your home and car. Always keep tobacco smoke away from children; and change bed sheets often.

Get medical advice and follow the doctor's instructions: Get medical attention for breathing problems; get emergency medical care for bad attacks of shortness of breath or wheezing; take all prescribed medication, either to prevent attacks or to lessen the symptoms; and find out what allergies you have so you can avoid these potential asthma triggers.

For more information regarding asthma and indoor air quality, please call the Health Department at (954) 962-2099; and ask for Carter Elbon in Environmental Health.

The Healthy Senior

By Fred Cicetti

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

Q: Can eating oatmeal really lower your cholesterol or are the cereal companies selling us a story?

A: The short answer is yes, oatmeal can lower your cholesterol. Now for the long answer.

There are two types of fiber, soluble and insoluble. Soluble fiber is acted upon by the normal bacteria in your intestines. Insoluble fiber is not digested by the body and promotes regularity and softens stools. Wheat bran, whole grain products and vegetables are good sources of insoluble fiber.

Soluble fiber appears to reduce your body's absorption of cholesterol from the intestines. Oatmeal contains soluble fiber that reduces your low-density lipoprotein (LDL), the "bad" cholesterol that can increase your risk of heart attacks and strokes. This type of fiber is also found in such foods as kidney beans, Brussels sprouts, apples, pears, barley and prunes.

The American Dietetic Association recommends a healthy diet include 25 to 35 grams of fiber a day, including both soluble and insoluble fiber. (Soluble fiber should make up 5 to 10 grams of your fiber intake.) However, Americans only consume about half that amount.

There are other foods that work against cholesterol.

Soy protein, found in such products as tofu, soy nuts, soy milk and soy burgers, can help lower blood levels of LDL cholesterol, particularly when it's substituted for animal protein. Ingesting 25-50 grams of soy protein a day lowers LDL cholesterol by four to eight percent. That's a lot of soy! People with the highest cholesterol levels seem to benefit the most from soy protein.

Women with breast cancer or who are at high risk of breast cancer should consult with their doctors before eating soy because it is not clear how these plant estrogens might affect them.

Studies have shown that walnuts can significantly reduce cholesterol levels in the blood. Rich in polyunsaturated fatty acids, walnuts may also help keep blood vessels more healthy and elastic.

When walnuts represent 20 percent of the calories in a cholesterol-lowering diet, they reduce LDL cholesterol by 12 percent. Almonds appear to have a similar effect. All nuts are high in calories, so use them as replacements for high-calorie foods with high levels of saturated fats.

Omega-3 fatty acids in fish are noted for lowering triglycerides, another form of fat in your blood. They also benefit the heart in other ways. The highest levels of omega-3 fatty acids are in mackerel, lake trout, herring, sardines, albacore tuna and salmon. Other good sources of omega-3 fatty acids include flaxseed, walnuts, canola oil and soybean oil.

Some foods are fortified with plant substances called sterols, or stanols, which are similar in structure to cholesterol; this helps them block the absorption of cholesterol in the intestines. Margarines and orange juice that have been fortified with plant sterols can help reduce LDL cholesterol by more than 10 percent.

The American Heart Association recommends foods fortified with plant sterols only for people with high levels of LDL cholesterol.

You may want to try eating more soluble fiber, soy protein, walnuts and fatty fish. The next step would be the addition of foods fortified with plant sterols. Eating a combination of these cholesterol-lowering foods increases the benefit.

Of course, if you're a senior and you plan to make a change in your habits that could affect your health, it is recommended that you consult your physician first.

Health · Chah-nee-ken chao-ke · Evfeknety onakv

Tribal Youth Celebrate Red Ribbon Week with Daily Activities

By Felix DoBoz

HOLLYWOOD — Each year for the past 22 years, Red Ribbon Week has been celebrated in communities and schools throughout the U.S., to become the largest and oldest drug prevention campaign in the country. The ultimate goal of the campaign is the creation and preservation of a drug free community all across the country.

On Oct. 22-29 the Seminole Tribe's Hollywood Reservation commemorated Red Ribbon Week with several fun activities.

On the first day, Oct. 22, the Boys & Girls Club members had fun making colorful posters with anti-drug messages to go on Red Ribbon T-shirts. Family Services' Department Intervention Specialist Julie Bennett emceed the event.

On the second day, Oct. 23, the kids watched a video called Natural High, which highlighted the accomplishments of several young star athletes who succeeded without using drugs. Bennett held a question and answer session with the kids explaining some of the dangers of drugs. The kids also enjoyed a chance to make their very own pizza in a quesadilla maker.

On the third day of Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 24, the kids got to go out and enjoy some supervised field activities. Some of the games they played included a modified program called Natural High Fear Factor — modeled after the popular NBC show of the same name. Some kids tried climbing the 25-foot rock

wall while others enjoyed the sponge throw event, in which one person threw a sponge over a seven foot sheet wall and tried to land it in a bucket on another kid's head on the other side.

The following day, Oct. 25, was a little different at the Boys & Girls Club. The kids of all ages got to decorate the outside of a potted plant to be given to the senior citizens the following day. The plant symbolized each child's commitment to remain drug free.

The Youth Performance Night & Dinner was held the evening of Oct. 25 at the Hollywood Tribal Auditorium. Family Services' Eric Bricker, addictions program administrator, did a tremendous job as emcee. He introduced all the talented youngsters and kept things moving along smoothly while keeping a light banter with the audience.

Tribal President Richard Bowers was very happy to welcome all the parents and children to the evening's festivities. President Bowers discussed the importance of growing up drug free. The night's entertainment, however, came from some of the preschoolers, who sang songs in Mikasuki.



Young children show their Martial Arts skills during Youth Red Ribbon Talent show.



Gordon "Ollie" Wareham enchants the audience with his mesmerizing native flute tunes and folk story.



Neko Osceola is all smiles.



Young Mariah Bowers age 8 smiles holding her newly decorated flower pot for the Seniors.

Bennett then spoke to the audience about the meaning and history of Red Ribbon Week. Award certificates were handed out to the students who attended and participated in the week's activities. She thanked all the departments that provided support and participated in making this event a big success, especially Hollywood Board Rep. Gloria Wilson's office for providing all T-shirts with the "Look at Me I'm Drug Free" slogan.

A kung-fu demonstration was next. The martial artists performed routines exhibiting their skills to the delight of the audience. Bricker then introduced Deila Harjo, who sang a solo rendition of "Nobody's Perfect" from the Hannah Montana 2: Meet Miley Cyrus album. She then joined Isabel Tucker for a duet of the Avril Lavigne song "Sk8er Boi."

The final act of the evening's performances was from Gordon Oliver Wareham, who dressed in traditional Seminole regalia. He told an old Seminole legend and then played a tune on his wooden flute, mesmerizing the audience.

The Preschoolers' Red Ribbon Walk, originally scheduled for Oct. 26, had to be postponed due to inclement weather. It was rescheduled for Oct. 29, which was actually a blessing in disguise according to Preschool Director Leona Tommie-Williams, who said there was a bigger turn out on the 29th than there would have been on Oct. 26.

The preschoolers and chaperones, both dressed in red shirts, joined anti-drug icon McGruff the Crime Dog for a brief walk around the Hollywood Reservation. The route began at the Preschool, went north around the block to 64th Ave., ending up back at the Preschool.



Pre-schoolers sit down holding banner at the senior center and deliver the message "We Plant our Promise to live Drug Free."

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SPD Chief Charlie Tiger stands on a T3Motion machine leading pre-schoolers and staff members on a Red-Ribbon community walk.

SPD Attends Red Ribbon Community Walk

Submitted by SPD

HOLLYWOOD — On Oct. 29, the Seminole Police Department (SPD) participated in the annual Red Ribbon Week community walk on the Hollywood Reservation.

Red Ribbon Week is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. It serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of their children through a commitment to drug prevention and education. Red Ribbon Week also promotes a personal commitment to live drug free lives with the ultimate goal being the creation of a drug free America.

SPD is committed to the children of each Tribal community. The department is happy to play a leadership role in drug abuse resistance education and other valuable educational opportunities offered to Tribal youth.

Chief Charlie Tiger and several members of the police department accompanied SPD mascot McGruff the Crime Dog — AKA Hollywood's own Crime Prevention Officer Michele Daza — in the annual Red Ribbon Week community walk. It began at the Preschool and continued north around the block, ending back at the Preschool. Several community members and their children walked alongside SPD officers and employees for this worthwhile cause.

At the walk, the police department introduced and showcased a T3 Motion Series Electric Mobility Vehicle, a three wheel vehicle the department is testing for possible purchase. The T3 Motion Series would provide enhanced visibility of the neighborhood police officer which would allow



McGruff waves to the kids.

them be more accessible and approachable to Tribal citizens.

A decision will be made on the purchase of the T3 Motion Series after additional testing and community comments have been received.

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Red Ribbon Week at Brighton

By Susan Etzebarria

BRIGHTON — After it was all over, the organizers of the busy Red Ribbon Week at Brighton came up for air and had a chance to sum up the results.

"The participation was great and we had lots of support," said Jodi Clay King, Community Liaison for Family Services, of the weeklong Red Ribbon events.

The full week of activities depended upon participation by most of the Tribal departments, especially the Recreation Department and the Brighton Council Office, Seminole Police Department (SPD), Seminole Fire Rescue and many others volunteering to make it a terrific week.

Brighton Red Ribbon Week Contest Results

Best Decorated Door: 1. SPD, 2. Fire Rescue, 3. Cattle & Land, 4. Treasurer's Office, 5. Council's Office.
T-Shirt: Ages 18-29: 1. Jenny Tuberville, 2. Nicki Osceola, 3. Suraiya Smith, 4. Amanda Smith, 5. Clarissa Randolph; Ages 30-39: 1. Elizabeth Martinez, 2. Jo "Boogie" Jumper, 3. Jolene Burton, 4. Rita McCabe, 5. Edna Tommie; Ages 40-49: 1. Joyce Piz, 2. Salina Dorgan, 3. Robin Hayes, 4. Jennifer Fish, 5. Danny Harmon; Ages 50-59: No entries; Ages 60 and Older: 1. Josephine Villa.

red ribbons on phone poles, street signs and mailboxes along the way.

The Brighton preschoolers were gathered with their teachers and aides on one corner where they sat in the shade waiting for the parade. The tiny tots were showered with red ribbons, balloons and treats when the paraders marched past.

An hour later, an emotional and reverent Remembrance Ceremony took place at the newly-planted laurel oak tree beside the Brighton Field Office. After a prayerful moment of silence, those participating took turns placing paper stars on tree branches. Each star had the name of a relative or friend written on it who was lost from the effects of alcohol and drugs.

The significance of the tree is for it to grow and become a tradition and every year we will do something different here in memory of those we love who died from drugs and alcohol," said King, Brighton's Red Ribbon Week Coordinator.

At the close of the ceremony, King announced that the tree can be a special place for anyone who wishes to remember a loved one who passed away from the effects of drugs and alcohol. She told attendees that they may place a star on the tree at any time, not just during Red Ribbon Week.

At noon, the community gathered under the shade trees by the gym and ate a delicious catered lunch.

The featured speaker was the dynamic Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson, a linebacker for the Dallas Cowboys from 1975-79. In these years Hollywood earned this

"Sobriety is an option," said Henderson.

He told the children they would be better off if they choose never to take that first drink, and never experiment with drugs. He said most Native Americans are allergic to alcohol and that any child of Indian descent should not even start drinking alcohol because of the chance of triggering the disease of alcoholism.

Henderson told the audience how he won the Texas \$28 million Lotto jackpot in 2000. With his earnings he started a charity called East Side Youth Services & Street Outreach and has made major donations to the East Austin community where he grew up. He currently gives motivational speeches and sells videos of his anti-drug seminars.

The Dallas Cowboy also co-wrote an inspiring book about his drug free life entitled *In Control: The Rebirth*



Susan Etzebarria

Brighton Board Representative Johnnie Jones rings the cowbell given to parade walkers as he walks along with others.



Susan Etzebarria

CCE float in the Red Ribbon Week parade.

"I think the Red Ribbon Week was a very positive experience for the community and the children," agreed Family Services Coordinator, Valerie Marone. "It was a chance for Family Services to get out to the community and get the word out about drug and alcohol prevention."

Red Ribbon Week started Oct. 22 with a community parade. After participants signed up at 8 a.m., they received this year's red and white "Look At Me - I'm Drug Free" T-shirts and black visor hats. The parade wound through the Brighton neighborhoods for 3.1 miles.

Despite the humidity, enthusiastic walkers followed fire trucks and floats and posted



Susan Etzebarria

Alice Sweat wins "Trick Your Ride" contest



Susan Etzebarria

Davin Buck holds fire hose with firefighter Chad Meeks

nickname because of his showmanship style that landed him on the cover of *Newsweek* in 1979.

Henderson played in three Super Bowls before drugs and alcohol destroyed his marriage, his career and his life. His message was a powerful reminder of how devastating drugs and alcohol can be. Henderson was arrested for smoking crack cocaine and spent eight months in court ordered drug rehabilitation, as well as two years in prison.

The once-famous NFL star told the audience that Hollywood died on Nov. 8, 1983. That was the date he reclaimed his life and sanity by choosing a new drug free life. He has remained clean and sober ever since, he said.

Talking to the youth who sat in a row of chairs before him Henderson urged them to never drink alcohol, never pick up that first drink.



Susan Etzebarria

Chastity Harmon with pumpkin.

of an NFL Legend. He brought along two boxes of books and gave them out to an appreciative audience.

On Oct. 23, the Brighton seniors took part in the Trick Your Ride Contest, in which they decorated their different transports with anti-drug messages. First place in the trike category was Alice Sweat who covered her three-wheeler with slogans like "Be In Control, Just Say No."

Virginia Tommie earned first place in the wheelchair category and Josephine Villa won first place in the four-wheeler category. Judges were staff of Seminole Fire Rescue.

Throughout the week the SPD and Seminole Fire Rescue lent a hand at many events. It was an opportunity for these dedicated community services to get out among the residents and support the goals of Family Services to create a drug-free community.



Susan Etzebarria

Billie Tiger places star on the Laurel Oak at the Remembrance Ceremony.



Susan Etzebarria

Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson with kids.

tiveness. It also tells the miracle of their recovery from drugs beginning with the "intervention" process.

After the movie there was some sharing by recovering members of the Tribe about how their lives have changed since becoming drug and alcohol free. There were productive conversations among Tribal citizens about addressing the needs of the community. King was one of those who offered testimony, telling the audience how she struggled with addiction and how her life now has meaning and purpose since she quit drugs.

King said she wants to reach out to the community and help others so she plans to get a degree in addictions counseling. She said Family Services has many informational movies like these and will be glad to show them to the community anytime they ask.

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Immokalee Community Commemorates Red Ribbon Week

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — Taking advantage of a free school day, the Family Services Department met with the children of the Immokalee Community at the Library on Oct. 22 for Red Ribbon activities, beginning at 10 a.m.

Marie Ascension read from the book *My Body is My House* and talked with the youngsters at length about various forms of substance abuse and the toll they take on families and individuals. Linda Freeman, in an effort to arouse interest in the drug free program, helped the children create posters for the contest.

This year's theme is "Look at Me, I'm Drug Free." Using an assortment of art supplies, the children were encouraged to express themselves on the topic. The contest winners were: 1. Lily Mora, 2. Aaliyah Mora, 3. Joseph Walker, 4. Jacob Walker.

Moving to the Gym, everyone enjoyed a luncheon of pizza and wings, before taking part in a fast paced game of dodge ball organized by the Recreation Department. A clown entertained the children with face painting and balloon characters, while Family Services' Fred Mullins organized games which teach the benefits of teamwork and healthy relationships.

Laying a blanket on the floor, the children sat down and listened as Mullins played the guitar and talked to them about peer pressure, healthy minds and

bodies and family values.

Moving outdoors, the Recreation Department assisted Freeman with an egg and spoon relay race and egg toss. Like most young people, they enjoy the risk of this game and the dangers of dropping or missing an egg.

Returning to the Gym, a general discussion took place regarding the consequences of abuses of all kinds and the adverse effect upon lives and relationships. Forming a unity circle, they learned to receive with their right and pass on to others with their left in support of each other.

Using the "Look at Me, I'm Drug Free" theme, the various Tribal departments were urged to join a door decorating contest. Using their own initiative and choice of materials, the work was judged on originality, creativity and content. This year's winners were the Community Care for Elders, Culture and Preschool.

On the afternoon of Oct. 23, the Tribal com-



Fred Mullins leads the children into a Seminole Huddle.



Judy Weeks

The Preschool Indian is surrounded by pictures of the next generation of drug-free Seminoles.



Judy Weeks

Dennis Gonzales eases along balancing an egg on a spoon.



Judy Weeks

Angie Arreguin of the Community Care for the Elderly shows off her first place winning door.



Judy Weeks

Community members and employees gather at the Gym for the victory walk.



Judy Weeks

A clown entertains the children with face painting and balloons.



Stephen Schwanebeck

(L-R) Tribal citizens Myra Simmons, Nancy Frank and Jackie Smith congratulating each other after finishing the 5k walk.

❖ Walk

Continued from page 1

Organizing the Tampa Seminole Tribe's participation was Marilyn Stillwell from Family Services, along with Lola Juarez, of Elder Affairs. This is the second year they have been involved and they hope to continue doing so. "It's something we all need to be aware of," said Stillwell.

Jackie Smith, along with

daughter Summer, also gave their support and did their part to bring awareness and help fight breast cancer while walking the 5k.

"I really enjoyed the walk and was glad to be able to come this year to support my cousin Nancy," said Smith.

Tampa community members and employees attended the event along with some of their family and friends including: Kim Cartagena, Jennifer Poindexter, Elizabeth Justiniano, Laura Ellsworth and Stephen Schwanebeck.

Together with the generosity and support from the Tampa community and others, awareness and education was brought to this important women's health issue, helping the ACS "make strides against breast cancer" as they continue their research for a cure.

To learn more about Breast Cancer and early detection, or to sign up for an email, mogram reminder visit: www.cancer.org/stridesonline.



Stephen Schwanebeck

Tampa Tribal citizens, employees, friends and family ready to start the walk from downtown Tampa.

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Big Cypress Celebrates Red Ribbon Week

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — The Big Cypress community recognizes the need for an intense drug prevention program to assist in guiding its members to a healthier and happier lifestyle. Addiction in many forms has reached epidemic proportions throughout our country and Red Ribbon Week has come to signify a unified attempt to combat this enemy of individuals, families and communities.

Big Cypress kicked off its activities with a carnival in the Gym on the first day of Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 29. Community service departments set up booths to entertain the youth while educating them about abusive behavior, prevention and intervention in the war on drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

Each of the departments, including SPD and the Council Loan Department, went to a great deal of effort to attract and successfully interact with the participants. Young and old circulated around the gym playing games, picking up literature and small gifts designed for the occasion.

Director of the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena Josh Jumper talked with the children about the Horse Club and 4-H programs, which welcome new participants and offer an alternative to street recreation. Big Cypress Board Rep. Cicero Osceola urged the youngsters to sign the "Too Smart to Start" anti-drug contract.

Carter Clough and Connie Oakes of Big Cypress Administrative Services assisted painting hand prints on the community banner with anti-drug slogans. Next door, the Education Department was handing out small gifts, literature and advice concerning the multitude of opportunities available to help shape a healthy, happy and productive future.

Meanwhile, the Recreation Department manned the Ring Toss, distributed T-shirts and discussed upcoming programs and events. The Fitness Department urged participation in sports, exercise and nutrition programs, advocating that a balanced lifestyle leaves no room for abuse. Their martial arts division teaches self discipline, mental and physical control.

The Culture Department reminded everyone of the strength and perseverance of their ancestors that had made their existence possible and that the next generation is depending on them to show these same qualities. A raffle, which included two handmade necklaces, was sponsored by the Broadcasting Department, which was also documenting the event.

The ceiling of the Gym was decorated with twinkling star light and music greeted the skaters who attended the evening Roller Dance on Oct. 30. Wearing padded guards, the little ones, some skating for the first time, tried to walk on the skates around the arena, falling, laughing and having a great time.

Asst. Recreation Director Stan Frischman and Coach Eddie Redd distributed advice along with skates and organized games that kept everyone moving. Moe Prevatt from the Fitness Department doimed skates and showed the children how to lock hands together and work as a team forming a whip. She then pulled them around the floor providing support, balance and speed.

Due to a misty rain, the Community Prayer Meeting was moved indoors to the Gym on the night of Oct. 31. Setting up the traditional remembrance crosses, Family Services' Julie Bennett urged the crowd to attach red ribbons in memory of their loved ones and the response was immediate. Full from top to bottom, the crosses represented a lifetime of love and support.

Rev. Salaw Hummingbird gave a very meaningful presentation before leading the group in prayer. The ceremony created an outpouring of love that had an emotional effect on everyone.

Native comedian JR Redwater (Standing Rock Sioux Tribe) came to the reservation all the way from Los Angeles to entertain the gathering. This self-proclaimed "Reservation Sensation" skillfully uses his wit and sense of timing to entertain and deliver an important message of hope to his fellow natives.

On the following evening, Nov. 1, Redwater performed at the Big Cypress Community Center. His easy going, dry humor digs to the heart of the matter and helps lift the burdens of abuse and depression from everyone he encounters. He quickly won his audience over by sharing his own destructive youth, military career, failed marriage and love for his children.

Describing his longest happy hour, which lasted for years, he shows a light at the end of the tunnel of addictions.

"I am now on a natural high, living my dreams and traveling across our wonderful country, helping to take back our land one joke at a time," Redwater said in conclusion.

Wanbli Ohitika or Brave Eagle, as Redwater is known among his own people, took his act to the Ahfachkee School on the morning of Oct. 2, where he gave another performance. He left his young audience with some parting advice.

"Anything is possible. If you fall down, get back up and give 100 percent in everything you do," he said. "Always remember, when you say 'I can't' you have already failed in your own mind. Don't abuse yourself and pray a lot. We are never alone and there is always hope."

The highlight of the Big Cypress Red Ribbon Week was the fabulous parade, put together by the service departments and community members. Watching this procession wind its way through the reservation, the reality of what leadership,

teamwork and support can accomplish in a short period of time became apparent.

The first sound of SPD's, Emergency Management's and Fire and Rescue's sirens, announced their arrival as the sounds of the EIRA's horses followed. The Cattle and Range and the Junior

Cypress Arena's floats rounded out the procession.

The Ahfachkee School children lined the streets, scrambling for the candy and favors tossed from the floats and waving to friends and relatives. The costumes and antics of Family Services' "Don't Monkey Around with Drugs" float brought a chuckle from the spectators.

Meanwhile, on a more serious note, the Broadcasting Department and the seniors chose a more traditional theme on their floats, utilizing beautiful landscaping, chickees and campsites. Clad in Seminole attire, these elders and family members represented the

rich, cultural background of the Seminole Tribe and its proud heritage.

Students on the Ahfachkee School float were dressed as doctors, cheerleaders, martial artists, military personnel and graduates in cap and gown, indicating the many possibilities and careers for graduates and those who seek higher education.

The crowd quickly responded to the cheerleaders who represented the fine group of people who maintain the Community Center. This rowdy bunch of fun-loving people jumped for joy and shouted one anti-drug slogan after another in support of their community and its residents. Laughing, they shouted, "Our Job is Community and We Take It Seriously."

Tribal leaders, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, President Richard Bowers Jr., Big Cypress Council Rep. David Cypress and Big Cypress Board Rep. Cicero Osceola joined the procession in support of the goals of Red Ribbon Week.

"What affects one of us, affects us all, because we are one family," Chairman Cypress said. "Let's love and support each other."

The LaBelle Marching Band gave a terrific performance while their majorettes and cheerleaders entertained the audience. The Big Cypress community showed its appreciation for their making the long trip to participate in this event.

The Tampa Bay Pirate Ship, the Overland Stage, Safari Swamp Buggy, Rock Mine Loader, Museum and Archeological Departments, muscle cars and motorcycles added to the magnitude of the moment. The local Jeep Addicts were represented by 14 entries with meaningful, heartfelt messages and slogans that hit home with everyone. As each vehicle passed, they delivered words of wisdom to live by.

Following the parade, Redwater acted as emcee at the Red Ribbon Week Awards Banquet. Following a comedic introduction, he provided the information that everyone had been patiently awaiting.

Assisted by Julie Bennett and Stan Frischman, he began the presentations by remarking: "Community members of all ages have put a lot of effort into the various contests and they should all be rewarded. Let's give yourselves a big hand of applause."

The winners of the following contests were Red Ribbon Doors- Residential: 1. Glynnis Bowers, 2. Mary Bear and Marcus Osceola, 3. Amelia Jumper; Commercial: 1. Recreation, 2. Ahfachkee School, 3. Community Center; Seniors: Joe Osceola.

The Essay Contest winners read their very meaningful literary works before accepting their awards. Winners were: 1. Jessica Lopez, 2. Margie Lugo, 3. Keith Jumper.

"These are very powerful words and testimonials," Redwater said. "They are so truthful and show a great deal of insight."

The walls of the Gym were lined with 84 posters prepared by the youngsters of the Big Cypress Reservation and reflect of their personal views on the community, abuse and the anti-drug campaign. Choosing winners took hours of deliberation and the judges commended the intense effort of the participants. Winners were: 1. Luana Billie, 2. Marco Flores, 3. Savannah Tiger.

Redwater then announced the winners of the Float Contest.

"Being one of the judges," said Redwater, "I found the decision process to be extremely difficult with regard to the parade floats. Each entry had its own merits that demanded recognition. However, in the end we all concurred that the procession of Jeeps with their meaningful messages were simple and positive. They delivered healthy alternatives and denoted community involvement, which is a very important piece in the complex puzzle of prevention. I was particularly moved by the one that said: 'Be the person that God intended you to be.' Without much further ado, the first place goes to the Jeepsters."

Awards for second through fifth place in the parade float contest were as follows: Broadcasting, Family Services, Ahfachkee and the Department of Elders, respectively. The seniors want to give thanks to Joe B. Osceola and Tommie W. Billie, for helping with the construction of their float. Without their hard work and sense of dedication, it would never have materialized.

Following the luncheon, Redwater concluded the banquet by saying: "Never grow tired of doing right. Give credit to positive action. Show your Native Pride and stay drug free. You must remain the Unconquered Seminole Indians!"

JR Redwater talked about the alligators he had seen on the way to Big Cypress and how he had felt about traveling into the land of the dinosaurs. Redwater appeared to be intrigued with the creatures of the swamp.

Jumping on this fact, Billy Walker of Billie Swamp Safari, invited Redwater to watch him wrestle an alligator after the Awards Banquet. Redwater was delighted, if not apprehensive, about the opportunity and gladly accepted the invitation.

Following the outstanding exhibition, Walker gave Redwater the experience of a lifetime when he invited him into the pit for photographs. With a horrified look on his face, Redwater even straddled a six foot gator after a great deal of encouragement from the audience.

He wished to thank the members of the Seminole Tribe for their warm welcome and couldn't wait to return to Los Angeles with stories of his unique experiences in Seminole Country.



Judy Weeks

Thanks to Billy Walker, JR Redwater will never forget his trip to Seminole Country.



Judy Weeks

The Community Center cheerleaders rocked the Gym.



Judy Weeks

Gloria Brooks puts her signature on the "Too Smart to Start" contract.



Judy Weeks

JR Redwater addresses the Ahfachkee School assembly.



Judy Weeks

Mika Lopez, Troy Cantu and Ricky Joe Alumbaugh were impressed with JR Redwater.



Judy Weeks

Seminole Broadcasting gets the anti-drug message out to the people.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Sherry King and Brenda Castro Rivera prepared their first place winning door at the Recreation Department.



Judy Weeks

Julie Bennett of Family Services sets up the Remembrance Crosses.

Health: Chah-nee-ken chao-ke: Evfeknety onakv

Ahfachkee Warriors Shout 'Drug Free'

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — The Ahfachkee School is an integral part of the Big Cypress community. Recognizing this fact, the staff considers it their mission to coordinate their efforts whenever possible with programs that benefit the students. Red Ribbon Week ranks high on this list.

Dean of Students Dominique Troadee, and Julie Bennett from the Family Services Department, worked together to set up a week-long program geared toward drug awareness and prevention that would coincide with the community effort. Using the slogan, "Look at Me, I'm Drug Free," they integrated this important concept into the classrooms for the entire week.

During a school assembly on Oct. 29, the students and staff met with Tribal leaders and department heads to kick-off Red Ribbon Week. Following a comprehensive introduction by School Services Coordinator Keno King, Family Services Director Helene Buster explained the origin of Red Ribbon Week.

"This weeklong celebration is in memory of a DEA officer who gave his life trying to stop drug dealers from bringing their merchandise into the United States," King said. "Drugs hurt our people, families, community, Tribe and country."

Big Cypress Board Representative Cicero Osceola said: "This is all about staying off drugs, helping your families and doing your part for drug prevention."

Leading the rally, Osceola joined the children in shouting, "Don't do drugs. Shake off drugs. Look at me, I'm drug free!"

Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress challenged the youngsters to fight drug abuse, resist temptation and get an education.

"You are the future of the Seminole Tribe and we are depending on you to become the drug free leaders of tomorrow," he said. "Participate in the DARE Program and show your school pride. Can anyone here do your Seminole Warrior's chant?"

In response to the silence that followed, Cypress offered a reward to the student who would step up and lead the chant. Elementary student Sabre Billie quickly reacted and then was joined by Coach Randall Cleecker, the student body, Fire and Rescue, Emergency Services and the Seminole Police Department.

Dean Troadee announced the



Wednesday was Wear Red Day at Ahfachkee.



Ahfachkee students and staff assemble for Red Ribbon Kick-Off.



(Back Row, L-R) Rashaun Jim, Anthony Balentine, Benny Hernandez, Joey Porter, Torina Cypress, Billy Cypress, Dawna Cypress and Reggie Cypress, (Front Row, L-R) Alan Hernandez, Allen Michael Venzor, Tim Osborne, Lariah Balentine and Steven Hannahs; the Ahfachkee student basketball team.

schedule of activities that would coincide with their school work. Stimulating class participation, he announced that the Aviation Department under Clint El-Ramney was offering a helicopter ride to the sixth through 12th grade class who showed the most enthusiasm during Red Ribbon Week. A field trip to the Aviation Department would award the winning class from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

In closing Rev. Salaw Hummingbird told a

story about a young Native American boy who was tricked by a snake.

"The moral of this story is that just like the snake, drugs will make you stay longer in the planned, keep you from doing the things you intended to do and create hardships in your life," he said. "You must resist temptation."

Chairman Mitchell Cypress and President Richard Bowers addressed the student body on Tuesday morning. Talking about the positive changes in the lifestyle and economy of the Seminole Tribe in the past several years, they pointed out that drugs and alcohol tear people apart, rather than build futures.

"Put your energy into education and sports to build healthy minds and bodies so that you will be prepared to someday help yourself and your people," said Bowers.

In anticipation of Red Ribbon Week, the Ahfachkee student body challenged the school staff to a basketball game on Oct. 19. Board Rep. Cicero Osceola lent his support to the staff team and the youngsters crowded into the gym to do battle.

It was a very close game from the beginning and the final score was 50-47 in favor of the students. With only five seconds remaining, the crowd went crazy, when the students scored the winning shot. The walls of the gym echoed with the Seminole Warriors' Chant.

Using art supplies and the color red, the students were assisted by their teachers in decorating their rooms along the lines of the Red Ribbon theme on Oct. 23. While they worked they talked about the effect drugs had upon their individual families and friends and discussed healthy alternatives. Oct. 24 was the day for everyone to wear red.

Each of the classes took turns on Oct. 25 at the obstacle course and Get High on Life rock wall climb. Julie Bennett assisted the school in obtaining the equipment and helped lead the rally that demonstrated ways to get high without drugs. The students showed overwhelming enthusiasm and definitely got high as they encouraged each other and dared the staff to participate.

Comedian JR Redwater gave a meaningful presentation to grades six through 12 of the student body on the morning of Oct. 26. Using his troubled youth on the reservation, life's triumphs and disappointments, Redwater discussed addictions, temptations and the alternatives. Stressing the positive, rather than negative, he joked with the youngsters and helped establish healthy guidelines.

The student body and staff were enthusiastic spectators at the Red Ribbon Parade and entered a float in the procession. Following the parade they joined the community members in the gym for the awards presentations.

The high school's upper grades won the most school spirit prize, and are looking forward to their helicopter ride. Miss Flores' class will receive the pizza party and field trip to Aviation.



BC Council Rep. David Cypress awards Sabre Billie for knowing the Seminole Warrior Chant.



(L-R) Dean of Students Dominique Troadee, Family Services Director Helene Buster, BC Council Rep. David Cypress, School Services Coordinator Keno King, BC Board Rep. Cicero Osceola and Rev. Salaw Hummingbird.

Look at Me, I'm Drug Free

By Lariah Balentine

[Editor's Note: This essay was written by 14-year-old Ahfachkee School student Lariah Balentine about Red Ribbon Week. Her essay is re-printed here verbatim.]

As a 14-year-old student at the Ahfachkee School in Big Cypress, I am very interested in my school, family and community. People think we are too young to realize what is happening all around us, but this is not true. I see what drugs, alcohol and tobacco are doing to our people and I want to help make a difference.

I am very proud of my school for taking part in the Red Ribbon Week and would like to tell you about it.

Our Tribal leaders, David Cypress and Cicero Osceola, came to our school with Helene Buster from Family Services to start off Red Ribbon Week on Oct. 29. They told us about the meaning of Red Ribbon and how it got started.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress came on Tuesday and told us how important it is for us to listen to our elders and stay away from drugs. He wants us to get an education and help our people. On Tuesday we helped the teachers decorate our classroom for Red Ribbon Week and we talked about what it

means to each of us.

The Aviation Department is rewarding the class who works hardest and does the most for our school's projects.

Even though Wednesday was Halloween, we all dressed in red to support the war on drugs. Each of our classes took turns on the rock climbing wall and doing an obstacle course on Thursday. It was called the Get High On Life Wall Climb and showed us how much fun we can have by being our own person and not doing drugs. Life is full of fun and important experiences.

A Native American comedian named JR Redwater came to our school on Friday morning and entertained everyone. He talked about his life and how he grew up on a reservation. He let drugs and alcohol get into his life and it ruined a lot of things for him. Now he is drug free and wants the same for you and me.

Our school put a float in the Red Ribbon parade and our teachers let us all out to watch while our community worked together against drug abuse. Then we went to the gym for an awards celebration.



The obstacle course showed that you can have a lot of fun without drugs.

Even though we had to do our school work last week, we still had a great time taking part in Red Ribbon. Our school showed us how to get high on life, not drugs.



All the students enjoyed the Get High On Life Rock Climbing Tower.



The whole school took part in the Red Ribbon rally.



(L-R) Principal Terry Porter, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Keno King spoke to the Ahfachkee students about Red Ribbon.

Look at Us, We are Drug Free

By Jessica Lopez

[Editor's Note: This essay is written by Ahfachkee School student Jessica Lopez about Red Ribbon Week. Her essay is re-printed here verbatim, won first place in the Big Cypress Community Red Ribbon Contest.]

Many Seminole people have struggled with drug abuse and I think it's about time for all that to stop. Many people in our own families struggle with it and we know it. I know I do and that's why I am writing this today. Maybe you can take this to heart and pass it on.

The reason I don't do drugs is because I know it will one day affect my family and my culture. I want to live a long life and be able to say that I am drug free. I wouldn't want any of the people I love getting hurt just because I'm doing drugs and I don't think you do either.

People think drugs are something that's cool and everything but trust me I have seen what drugs and alcohol can make you do and that's not cool at all. It's also better that we don't do drugs because it really affects the people in the Tribe and the way outsiders perceive The Seminole Tribe and its people. Sometimes I feel that when they think of the Tribe a big word pops up and that's drugs. I don't really like that at all.

Many that do drugs and alcohol never get the chance to feel what life is really all about. I bet they don't even know that much about the history of the Tribe or even the language. Today in school we have culture class and we learn a lot, it's so cool. I hope that the people in my generation act right and decide to finish school and go on to college and even come back and work for the Tribe. I also hope they will learn the language and pass it on to their kids.

One day, eventually, when I have kids I am going to make sure they learn everything that they can. So I hope you take this and think about how you can make a difference. One day soon maybe we can all say "Look at us, we are drug free!"

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Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Nov. 29th & 30th, Dec. 1st 2007

At The

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\$1,500.00 & Team Trophy

Entry Fee \$350.00

Must be paid before 1st game-NO exceptions

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Norman Huggins

(Tournament Director)

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This is a **DRUG FREE** Event
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Good Times on the Court in Honor of Cindy Osceola

Legends Memorial Basketball Tournament Held

By Lila Osceola-Heard

HOLLYWOOD — The Osceola family hosted basketball legends from near and far to participate in the 5th Annual Cindy Osceola Legends Memorial Basketball Tournament on Nov. 2.

"The night is a celebration in memory of Cindy," said Donna Turtle, Cindy's sister and tournament director. "I can still see her on the court running around, having a good time."

Turtle went on to say that her and her family said: "work very hard to make it bigger every year." Their hard work paid off because this year's tournament was the biggest so far, with nine teams in total competing.

On the women's side, the following teams competed: Native Ladies, Choctaws, Still Got It and Lady Seminoles. The men's bracket featured the following five teams: PDI Panthers, Blazers, Hollywood, Choctaws Blazers and Choctaws Outsiders.

Fun contests like Knock Out and a Free Throw Contest took center stage, giving Cindy's mom, Maydell Osceola, and some other super seniors the opportunity to

participate in the contests.

"People came out and supported us, it was hard in the beginning and it gets easier," Maydell said. "We enjoy doing this every year and it helps us remember Cindy."

The evening slowly came to an end with the championships starting in the wee hours of the morning. Still Got It and Native Ladies both made it to the championship game — and a very physical game it was. In the end, the Native Ladies beat a very tired Still Got It team.

On the men's side, Hollywood pulled out the victory against the Choctaw Blazers to close out the tournament.

"The Choctaws came down to play and they never experienced something like that before, and they loved it and want to come back down, even though we ended at 4 a.m.," said Eric Osceola of the championship Hollywood team. "When we were younger that's how we used to play, late into the night."

Tournament Results

Women: 1. Native Ladies, 2. Still Got It, 3. Lady Seminoles; **Men:** 1. Hollywood, 2. Choctaw Blazers, 3. Choctaw Outsiders.

All-Tournament Teams: Women: Choctaws: Debbie Smith, Lady Seminoles: Mary Jane Osceola, Still Got It: Stacy Jones, Native Ladies: Nora Billie, Native Ladies: Alberta Huggins, MVP: Vodne Whitesunk-Chapoose; **Men:** PDI Panthers: Leon Wilcox Sr., Choctaw Outsiders: Neal Vaughn, Choctaw Blazers: Ricky Anderson, Hollywood: Cicero Osceola, MVP: Travis Osceola.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Super Senior, Mary Gay Osceola hit 6 out of 10 to put her in the lead.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Cindy's mom, Maydell Osceola shows her free throw shooting skills.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Knock out finalists Nora Billie (L) and Leslie Osceola-Russell (R) having fun competing.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Travis Osceola got MVP honors to go with his championship.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Native Ladies hustled for their championship.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Hollywood Seminoles kept the championship trophy here in Hollywood after playing Choctaws in the championship game.



Lila Osceola-Heard
Still Got It showed their toughness after playing five games and still had the energy to smile for 2nd place.



Chris Jenkins
Edison Miranda (podium-left) and his interpreter speak to media and guests during the pre-fight conference.

Mayhem 2 at the Hard Rock

By Chris Jenkins

HOLLYWOOD — Just in time for tricking and treating, Seminole Warriors Boxing and the Hard Rock Live presented its own batch of goodies for boxing fans Oct. 30.

"Mayhem 2: A Nightmare on Lucky Street" brought about the return of one of the best middleweight prospects as Edison "Pantera" Miranda of Warriors faced veteran Henry "Molina" Porras, along with six other bouts on the evening.

Miranda (29-2, 25 KOs) was trying to rebound from a devastating defeat to current and newly crowned middleweight champion Kelly Pavlik in May. After the defeat, he and his camp decided a change in strategy would help Miranda moving him into the super middleweight division.

His opponent Porras, (33-7-1, 25 KOs) was riding high off of three straight wins, all by KO, including his last action in July against Moises Rodriguez. It was his first appearance in the Hard Rock.

A stronger, heavier and more determined Miranda used an overpowering arsenal mainly working his jab to do the trick on an over-matched Porras. Miranda controlled the fight almost immediately although both came out slow in the early rounds. Fifteen seconds into the fifth, Miranda made his move cornering a defensive Porras with several pounding head shots, at will. Porras withstood the blows, but



Redline Media Group
Yuriorkis Gamboa lands a hard right cross to Adailton DeJesus.



Redline Media Group
Sammy Payne measures his next shot versus Jose Torres.



Chris Jenkins
Chairman Mitchell Cypress says a few words to the fighters and media.



Redline Media Group
Miranda (L) uses his left jab to perfection on Porras (R)

the bout was stopped at the 2:45 second mark and ruled a TKO.

An always confident, Miranda had predicted an early ending to the fight.

"I promised the fans that I would be better than ever to fight Porras, and win by knockout," he said.

Warriors Boxing Executive Director Leon Margules thought Miranda looked good on his comeback.

"He looked a little tentative in the first couple of rounds," Margules said. "[Porras] was a solid guy, but not a real threat." "[Miranda] looked very strong and comfortable at his weight (169 pounds)," he added.

Other action included: James McGirt Jr. remaining undefeated against Jason Naugler in eight rounds by a unanimous decision in the super middleweight division.

In featherweight action, Gary Stark Jr. picked up his 20th win over Robert Da Luz in eight rounds by a unanimous decision and Yan Barthelemy moved to 3-0 over Kevin Hudgins by a unanimous decision in four rounds.

Among junior lightweights, Yuriorkis Gamboa and Adailton DeJesus squared off with Gamboa picking up the win by TKO in six rounds and Sammy Payne also came out a winner over Jose Torres, in four rounds by unanimous decision.

Heavyweight Isreal Garcia was also victorious by a unanimous decision in six rounds over Kenny Lemos.

Tribal Council was also in attendance and included: Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress, Trail Liaison William Osceola and Fort Pierce Liaison S. R. Tommie.

Celebrities checking out the action were professional wrestling star "The Big Show" and former world welterweight champion Ricardo Mayorga.

The next action for Hard Rock Live and Warriors is set for Dec. 5.

Sports • Ham-pa-leesh-ke • Vkkopynvk



Submitted by Mike Holiday

The Seminole Tribe of Florida Fire Rescue Team: (L-R) Joe Wilinski, Olen Price, Robert Curtis, Drew Layne, Jason Camardese, Mike Holiday, David Lugo, Steve Luongo, David Coosia and Ryan Layne.

Tribe's Fire Dept. Competes in Statewide Games

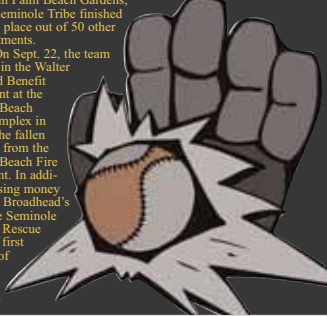
Submitted by Mike Holiday

Members of the Seminole Tribe's Fire Rescue Department started a softball team about five months ago. The team played for the first time May 15 at the 2007 Florida State Firefighter Games at the Palm Beach Sports Complex in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. The Seminole Tribe finished in seventh place out of 50 other fire departments.

On Sept. 22, the team competed in the Walter Broadhead Benefit Tournament at the Pompano Beach Sports Complex in honor of the fallen firefighter from the Deerfield Beach Fire Department. In addition to raising money for Walter Broadhead's family, the Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue team took first place out of 20 teams, mostly comprised

of members of other fire departments.

The Seminole team, having won a tournament after only their second time playing, are looking forward to representing the Tribe in future tournaments.



Irena Loleski

Little ones practice their basketball dribble.



Irena Loleski

Ashley Cypress leads her group in balancing bean bags



Irena Loleski

Proud preschooler Jahniyah Henry displays her well deserved trophy.

Preschool's Fitness Field Day Was Fun for All

By Irena Loleski

HOLLYWOOD — The Hollywood preschoolers attended the Get Fit Fitness Field Day, held Oct. 22, at the Hollywood baseball field. Youth Fitness Coordinator Gina Allardye led a team of Fitness Department trainers, preschool teachers and parents at the event. The adults guided the children through four different activities designed to increase hand eye coordination, agility and teamwork, while improving their overall fitness.

The four stations were: soccer ball passing, giant ball rolling and bean bag balancing, basketball line dribbling and an obstacle course. These stations were a fun and challenging way to get young ones involved in fitness.

Preschool Director Leona Tommie-Williams was on hand to watch all her little ones enjoying themselves. The field set-up was provided by the Hollywood Recreation Department.

Allardye, the event coordinator, really had fun watching the 1, 2, 3 and 4 year olds challenging themselves.

"These kinds of events will probably get them more interested in sports, while giving them a greater sense of self esteem and better teamwork," she said. "It's a joy to watch these little guys participate and challenge themselves."

After all the students participated in each event successfully, each one earned a Get Fit Fitness Field Day Trophy. This highly successful event will be coming to the Big Cypress Reservation next.



Irena Loleski

Brighton Fitness Specialist Natasha Perez encourages a participant through the obstacle course.



Irena Loleski

Three little ones work together to get the giant ball on track.

ALL STEEL BUILDINGS

25x25x7 All Steel Garage (2:12 pitch)
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The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Richard Castillo worked as a Public Defender in Broward County from 1990-1996 and has been in private practice for nine years. In 1995 he was voted the Trial Attorney of the year. He graduated from Capital University in 1989 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1990, Federal Bar in 1992, and the Federal Trial Bar in 1994.

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Felix DuBois

(L-R) Young boxers Samuel Christopher Hunter II, Leon Pewo and Darryl Fuentes Jr. show the right stiff.

Seminole Boxing Trains Fighters for Indigenous Games

By Felix DuBois

HOLLYWOOD — The boxers are young, training for the sport of US Amateur boxing, but have one thing in common, to compete in front of the home crowd fans and win a few matches to qualify for the Seminole Boxing Team. Milo Osceola is the manager of Seminole Boxing and Jimmy Osceola is one of the trainers and spokesman.

He said, "We have guys that want to

compete in the Indigenous Games next year, so we are trying to put on a show for these young fighters to compete and participate in so they have a little experience before they go out, [to the 2008 North American Indigenous Games to be held in Cowichan, British Columbia, Canada to represent Team Florida.]"

The fighters come in various weight classes and skills; they are scheduled to be showcased in the Nov. 24 community boxing matches. Milo and Jimmy Osceola both wanted to thank the community for coming out and supporting these young USA amateur boxers for this boxing program.

They have a large shack facility set-up next to the community swimming pool for the young athletes to train in, with a boxing ring, and a few essential training gadgets for improved conditioning for these fine young fighters. Seminole Hollywood Recreation Dept. Assistant Director Marl Osceola sponsored the amateur boxing event in conjunction with the local Warrior's Gym.

Little Kenny Descheenie Jr., 10, whose father Kenneth Descheenie works for the Seminole Recreation department, and is a member of the Navajo Tribe, was enthusiastic about the prospect of displaying his newly acquired skills and is training hard to qualify for the upcoming matches at the North American Indigenous Games.

Seminole citizen Leon Pewo, 17, Panther Clan, a light-weight who weighs in at around 135 pounds, is thrilled to be in the boxing program. His father is Lonnie Wright Jr. and his mother is Rhonda Bain.

He said, "I'm glad that I'm back from rehab where I was in for nine months and I like myself a lot better now."



Felix DuBois

Seminole citizen Leon Pewo, 17, Panther Clan, a light-weight, is thrilled to be in the Seminole boxing program.



Felix DuBois

Bird Clan member, Samuel Christopher Hunter II, 15, weighs almost 140 pounds and takes a fight stance.



Felix DuBois

Kenny Descheenie Jr., stands with Manager Milo Osceola.

He also wanted to thank his parents and his family and friends for their kind support and said they shouldn't worry about him now because he's in a good place. He also wanted to be sure to thank his trainer Terry Moore at the Warrior's Gym for all his help preparing him to condition for his fights.

Another young fighter in training, Panther Clan member Darryl Fuentes Jr., 15, son of Paula and Harjo Fuentes, is also training at 120 pounds, a bantamweight, for the bouts coming up. He's been training hard for the past seven weeks and is looking forward to showing what he can do in the ring.

Bird Clan member, Samuel Christopher Hunter II, 15, weighs almost 140 pounds, a light welterweight, his mother is Aranita, and his father is Samuel Christopher Hunter Sr., his trainer is Isaiah at Warriors Gym and has been training him for several weeks.

When he was asked who he is fighting, he replied confidently, "It doesn't matter."



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Calf Roper Clay Lawson makes his catch.

Judy Weeks



Breakaway Roper Natalie Alfonso swings her loop at the calf.

Judy Weeks



Elton Boney took first place in the Bull Dogging.

Judy Weeks

PCA Hosts Halloween Bash Rodeo

By Judy Weeks

BRIGHTON — The Fred Smith Rodeo Arena hosted the final show of the 2007 season for the Professional Cowboy Association (PCA) on Oct. 26 and 27. Their next stop will be the regional competition in Mississippi.

Taking place during the Halloween festivities, Arena Director Amos Tiger offered discounted tickets to anyone in costume, and free trick-or-treat bags to the children. The weekend presentation was sponsored by the Brighton Casino.

Taylor Johns of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) carried the American Flag for the National Anthem and led the Grand Entry.

Bareback Rider Brian Street scored the winning 75 points on Marki Rodeo's prime rough stock known as Hard Rock. Chris Davis, riding Bloopier, did a very clever dismount, which landed him on his feet and caused him to run backward to safety in the Saddle Broncs. His competitor, Casey Bass, wasn't as lucky, landing on his head and somersaulting to safety while his mount bucked the full length of the arena.

In the bull dogging, Pete Fullard lost his 6.6 second run when his horse broke the barrier for an added 10 seconds. Brad Hart was holding the lead with 12 flat until Elton Boney aced the event with a neat five seconds.

The calf ropers had a rough night with four misses and a rope that wouldn't settle. EIRA's Happy Jumper made his catch and fought hard but was beaten by the clock in the final moment just as he jumped clear. Brad Hart had an unorthodox back leg catch but managed to throw his steer and tie off to win with 13.1 seconds.

The Seminole Tribe's Breanna Billie made a clean sweep in the

Women's Breakaway. She took the lead on the night of Oct. 26 with a 4.3 second run, defeating her closest competitor, Lori Brinker, whose five seconds turned into 15 when her barn burner broke the barrier. Top-ranked Stephanie Sullivan garnered a "no time" ruling when she got tangled up in her own lariat.

Josh and Happy Jumper took the lead in the Team Roping on the night of Oct. 26 with a six second run. However, they were bumped back to third on the following night by Joey Carpenter and Aaron Bullet with 5.6, moving them into first place. Nelson Gutierrez and Spunk Sasser, with a 5.8, followed closely behind.

It was a tough night with numerous missed catches and lost dailies by some of the top ranked ropers in the southeastern U.S. Two of the EIRA's up and coming contenders, Justin Gopher and Hilliard Gopher, made their mark among the big boys but were slipped back by a five second penalty for a one leg catch.

With 52 Barrel Racers competing for top honors in the two night event plus slack, the EIRA's Carrera Gopher blew their doors off.

It was a fantastic night for Bull Riders. Duke Matson, on Double Zero, earned 80 points for a first place win. Matt Clemons of Okeechobee, Fla., took second with 78 points.

Michael Ruhlman got his eight seconds and 77 points, but was stepped on by the bull. Fortunately, he did not sustain any injuries and walked from the arena. B.J. Carter tied with him on Smoke Jumper.

The 2007 EIRA Bull Riding Champion Justin Gopher had a tough break when the buzzer sounded just as he was thrown through the air.



EIRA 2007 Bull Riding Champion Justin Gopher goes for eight seconds.

Judy Weeks



(L-R) Happy Jumper and Wilson Bruisehead compete in the Team Roping.

Judy Weeks



Michael Ruhlman averts catastrophe in the Bull Riding.

Judy Weeks

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Halloween Party on the Immokalee Reservation

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — As darkness descended upon Immokalee on Oct. 31, every imaginable creature, celebrity and famous person suddenly came forth from the shadows and entered the Gym to participate in the annual Halloween party. Immokalee Council Representative Elaine Aguilar and representatives from numerous departments assisted the Recreation Department as well as Tracey DeLaRosa and Vanessa Aguilar, in organizing the event and decorating the Gym as a haunted castle — complete with surrounding forest, blood dripping walls and hanging cadavers.

Partygoers worked their way cautiously through the scary entrance and then out into the main cave with hanging bats, spiders and mummies. A 12 foot man on stilts, a fire twirling woman, a balloon sculptor and a caricature artist entertained the group while they dined on their choice of menu from the vendors.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress chose a seat beside Immokalee Board Liaison Delores Jumper who was dressed as a grotesque old crone. Throughout the night, he referred to her as his "First Lady." From this vantage point, Chairman Cypress could watch the festivities and like everyone else in the room, he was constantly guessing the identity of animals, cartoon characters, monsters, beautiful women and adorable little faeries, pirates, bats, ladybugs and more. It was a night filled with playful antics and uproarious laughter.

Lining the wall were tables filled with culinary delights that had been entered in the cake decoration contest sponsored by Immokalee Board Liaison Delores Jumper and her Administrative Assistant Edward Aguilar. A great deal of artistic talent and creative expertise went into these works of art and the judges dreaded making the final decisions.

Each cake looked like an award

winning classic but in the end the first place went to Tabitha Marrero with her Halloween chickee, which showed a great deal of originality. Jordan Rodriguez's eat in a litter box grossed everyone out, but definitely was a show stopper for second place. Ralph and Moya Escobar's third place bug looked real enough to crawl off the plate and Vanessa Aguilar's house in the fog came in fourth.



Originality was important in the costume contest.

The Recreation Department sponsored a pumpkin carving contest that involved the use of several different methods. Ranging from traditional Jack O'Lanterns with carved or



Decorated pumpkins in all kinds, shapes and sizes competed for first place.

Painted faces to intricate art works, costume draped pumpkins and special lighting effects; there were an array of entries.

The judging was done by age group with the following results: 5 years old and younger: 1. K.J. Davis, 2. Kazmir Joiner, 3. Kaden Grimaldo; 6-9 years old: 1. Kenny Joe Davis, 2. Aaliyah Mora; 10-13 years old: 1. Lily Mora, 2. Eliza Mora, 3. Alexis Jimmie; 14, 17 years old: 1. Nikki Davis, 2. Justin Garza, 3. Deidra Hall; 18-54 years old: 1. Kenny Joe Davis, 2. Ralph Escobar, 3.

Lorena Arteaga; Seniors: 1. Martha Davis.

The costume contest was divided into five separate categories, which were further broken down into age and gender groups. Although many of the costumes were store bought, it was obvious that considerable thought went into their selection and the room was filled with an extraordinary array of creativity, humor and originality with very little duplication. Results are as follows:

Cutest: Ages 0-2: Boys: 1. Gage Osceola, 2. Bradley Scheffler, 3. Emmitt Alvarado; Girls: 1. Niyah Osceola, 2. Makayla Mata, 3. Gia Jackson; Ages 3-5: Boys: 1. Willie Smith, 2. Sovann Gonzalez, 3. Ahmad Cummings; Girls: 1. Maya Davis, 2. Caniah Billie, 3. Noriah Mata; Ages 6-8: Boys: 1. Jon Davis, 2. Jack Aguilar, 3. Brendan Otero; Girls: 1. Cartaya Billie, 2. Makayla Gonzalez, 3. Ayanna Gonzalez; Ages 9-12: Girls: 1. Jolene Frank, 2. Ashley Faz, 3. Eliza Mora; Ages 13-17: Girls: 1. Bonnie Davis, 2. Nikki Davis, 3. Esmeralda Billie; Ages 18-36: Women: 1. Barbara Frank, 2. Louise Billie, 3. Janet Mata; Ages 55 and older: Women: 1. Delores Jumper, 2. Martha Davis, 3. Elizabeth Buser.

Funniest: Ages 0-2: Boys: 1. Pedro Martinez; Girls: 1. Denise Gonzalez; Ages 3-5: Girls: 1. Jayla Arteaga; Ages 6-8: Boys: 1. Ezekiel Roberts; Girls: 1. Larissa DeLaRosa, 2. Vanessa Billie, 3. Ashley Faz; Ages 9-12: Girls: 1. Esmeralda Billie; Ages 18-36: Men: 1. Josh Garza; Women: 1. Kimberly Alvarado, 2. Susan Davis, 3. Amy Yzaguirre; Ages 37-54: Men: 1. Kenny Joe Davis; Ages 55 and older: Women: 1. Delores Jumper, 2. Martha Davis, 3. Elizabeth Buser.

Most Original: Ages 0-2: Girls: 1. Denise Gonzalez, 2. Jaylee Jimmie; Ages 6-8: Girls: Janessa Jones, 2. Aaliyah Mora; Ages 9-12: Girls: 1. Alexis Aguilar; Ages 13-17: Girls: 1. Cassandra Jimmie, 2. Christian Benson; Ages 18-36: Men: 1. Michael Alvarado; Women: 1. Leslie Correa, 2. Susan Davis, 3. Juanita Martinez; Ages 55 and older: Women: 1. Martha Davis.

Most Creative: Ages 0-2: Boys: 1. Noe Arteaga Jr.; Girls: 1. Gia Jackson; Ages 6-8: Boys: Damien Escobar, 2. Edward Aguilar; Ages 9-12: Boys: 1. Dennis Gonzalez; Girls: 1. Larissa



This lovely pair stood out from all the rest.

DeLaRosa, 2. Lily Mora; Ages 13-17: Boys: 1. Justin Garza; Ages 18-36: Men: 1. Joel Frank; Ages 37-54: Women: 1. Susan Davis.

Scariest: Ages 0-2: Boys: 1. Pedro Martinez; Girls: 1. Madison Martinez, 2. Denise Gonzalez; Ages 3-5: Boys: 1. K.J. Davis, 2. Kaden Grimaldo; Girls: 1. Shyanna Escobar; Ages 6-8: Boys: Nicolas Correa, 2. Jon Jimmie, 3. Damien Escobar; Ages 9-12: Boys: 1. Kenny Davis, 2. Jack Tabchawickah; Ages 9-12: Girls: 1. (tie) Esyra and Ellyse Frank, 3. Larissa DeLaRosa, 4. Destinee Jimmie; Ages 13-17: Girls: 1. Cassandra Jimmie; Ages 18-36: Men: 1. Clint Billie, 2. Ralph



This grotesque family posed for a portrait.

Escobar; Women: Cecilia Pequeno, 2. Lorena Arteaga, 3. Juanita Martinez; Ages 37-54: Men: 1. Johnnie Jimmie; Women: 1. Sylvia Marrero; Ages 55 and older: 1. Linda Frank, 2. Martha Davis.

Halloween Decoration Contest

Prior to the holiday, a Halloween Decoration Contest was sponsored by Immokalee Board Liaison Delores Jumper and her Administrative Assistant Edward Aguilar. Rules were established and a scoring system developed along the following guidelines:

use of office space, self-made decorations, creativity and seamstress.

There was an overwhelming response to the contest and many ingenious ideas. The judges spent long hours reviewing the entries and scoring them in an effort to make their very difficult decisions.

The winners were: 1. Immokalee Preschool, 2. Library, 3. Ranch, 4. (three-way tie): Broadcasting, Council and Buildings and Grounds.

Immokalee Senior Halloween Party

Immokalee seniors enjoyed a Halloween Party on Oct. 24 in their Hot Meals dining room. The room had been decorated in the traditional orange and black colors with pumpkins, black cats, spiders and witches. A delicious Halloween cake was served for dessert.

The partygoers enjoyed five games of bingo with Immokalee Board Liaison Delores Jumper proving to be the luckiest person in the room. She won the Regular, Small Round Robin, Postage Stamp and Full Card. Breaking the winning streak, Linda Frank triumphed at Double Bingo.

Raffle tickets were drawn throughout the morning with the following winners: Rachel Billie: alarm clock; Linda Frank: slow cooker; Tony Sanchez Sr.: cordless phone; Maggie Porter: food processor; Elaine Aguilar: roaster oven.

Preschoolers Trick or Treat Across the Immokalee Reservation

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — The Immokalee preschoolers donned a wide variety of costumes on the morning of Oct. 31 in preparation for their annual trek around the reservation to Trick or Treat. Their school had been lavishly decorated for Halloween and they enjoyed getting ready in the spookiest haunted house they had ever seen.

Among the 10 little revelers were pirates, a bat, a ladybug, skunk, cheerleader, witch, scarecrow, tiger and a Samurai warrior. Preschool Manager Michelle Ford, dressed as a witch, drove the bus and delighted the children at each stop.

Making the Immokalee Casino their first stop, they were greeted by the office and human resources staff in what appeared to be a medieval forest. Surrounded by pumpkins and treats, the children were applauded and then joined the employees in a group photograph.

The next leg of their journey carried them to the Administration Building, where the individual offices on



Scarecrow Angelo Colon and Ladybug Mercedes Davis lead the way off the elevator into the land of ghosts and goblins.



Excited preschoolers line up to trick or treat at the Administration Building in Immokalee.

Casino employees invited the preschoolers into their medieval forest for a group photograph.

each floor were decorated and costumed staff interacted with the children. A great deal of effort had been put into making this a very special occasion for the youngsters and they were most appreciative. Stepping off the elevator, they squealed in delight as Frankenstein, Spider-man and one of the ugliest ghouls imaginable awaited them.

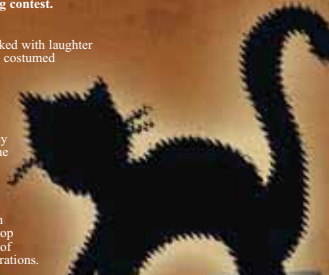
Laughing and clapping they made their way through cobwebs, eerie lighting and haunting music from one dark room to another as they appeared to enter caves, forests and haunted houses. Candy, cupcakes, tin-tacks and novelties were dispensed all along the way.

Surprisingly enough, rubber rats, spiders and snakes were the most intriguing to the children.

The seniors rocked with laughter and talked to each of the costumed characters as they dispensed a bounty of treats. Moving on to the Gym, Clinic, Family Services, SPD and Utilities Department, they received a warm welcome at each location where a great deal of effort had gone into preparing for Halloween. The adults were having as much fun as the children at each stop and had put a great deal of ingenuity into their decorations.



(L-R) Willie Smith, Caniah Aguilar and Mercedes Davis enjoy their Preschool, which took first place in the community decorating contest.



Ahfachkee School Holds Halloween Review

By Judy Weeks
BIG CYPRESS

— The students and staff at the Ahfachkee School gathered in the cafeteria following the afternoon session for a Halloween Costume review on Oct. 31.

Acting as master of ceremonies, teacher Orlando Garcia, AKA Jack Sparrow, gave a very animated presentation to the student body with his parrot on his shoulder. He was then joined by the Ghostbuster, Coach Randall Cleckler, and his pirate crony, D.J. Tille. A short discussion followed about Halloween and safety rules for trick-or-treating.

Students participating in the costume review entered the room by



Ahfachkee students pose for a group photo in their Halloween costumes.

grade level, beginning with the pre-kindergartners. There was a vast assortment of characters from princesses to witches, devils, werewolves, frogs, Ninjas, soldiers and Frankenstein. Visiting from Hollywood was Dorothy and her little dog, Toto, from The Wizard of Oz, and "The Blonde Bombshell" Marilyn Monroe.

Passing along the procession with his microphone, Garcia interviewed the characters and gave them an opportunity to talk about what they were doing later that Halloween night. At the conclusion of the program, he reminded them that a happy Halloween is a safe Halloween.



The student body voted on the prettiest and scariest characters.

Senior Halloween Celebration in BC

By Judy Weeks
BIG CYPRESS — It wouldn't be Halloween at Big Cypress without a celebration at the Senior Center. Elaborately decorated for the holiday, the room was filled with laughter as the seniors participated in the scheduled activities on Oct. 31.

The games got underway at 10 a.m. with two rounds of Single Bingo being won by Ruby Osceola and Martha Billie. Double Bingo went to Mary Miller and Louise Osceola won the Cover All. Raffle tickets were drawn for cash door prizes throughout the morning with 10 winners. Agnes Cypress and Alice Tigertail held the winning tickets for the ceramic pumpkin and Frankenstein respectively.

Lunch was served following a brief message and prayer by Rev. Salaw Hummingbird. President of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Richard Bowers spent the afternoon traveling from table to table visiting and joking with the seniors.

"Every day is a

good day to spend time with our elders," said President Bowers. "They were here before us and laid the way for us to follow. Without their

determination and wisdom, we would not be here today. We should learn from them as we work to create a future for the next generation."

Finally the moment arrived that everyone had been waiting for. Donning their costumes, the contestants paraded back and forth. It was impossible to keep a straight face, as they took turns attempting to influence the judges and entertained the spectators.

The room rang with laughter at their hilarious antics. The judges' decision was unanimous. Everyone was a winner with first place going to the white faced spirit, Ruby Osceola. In second place, Louise Osceola, had been transformed into a beautiful Geisha, and the coquettish pirate, Violet Jim, came in third.

Lining the pool tables were a wide assortment of ornately decorated pumpkins. They were carved, painted and dressed. There were brides, pirates, old men with cigars and hats, women with necklaces and curly hair to choose from. A very clever cat had been constructed from two pumpkins, some multi-colored squash and long whiskers.

Each entry had a corresponding number and the winners were determined by secret ballot. Results were, in descending order: Louise Osceola, Mabel Jim and Lucille Jumper.



Creativity abounded in the pumpkin decorating contest.



Seniors enjoyed a good laugh during their costume contest.

Big Cypress Hosts Annual Halloween Party

By Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — All of the service departments of the Big Cypress community worked together to orchestrate a fabulous Halloween party at the ball field on Oct. 26.

Setting up individual booths, each department provided a fun-filled activity for the party goers. There were haunted houses, mystery trails, obstacle courses, ring toss contests, balloon and dart games, party favors and more. It was amazing how much creativity and originality went into the projects, which were very time consuming to construct, but rewarding to both the workers and the participants.

Among the favorite booths was the Dead Man's Diner, whose table was laid with some very graphic items such as human hearts, guts, dead rats, worms and all manner of disgusting things. Reaching into kettles filled with abominable substances, prizes could be won by guessing the contents.

Officer Kelly Taylor volunteered for the Seminole Police Department's Dunk Tank, which drew a long line of ball throwers. Meanwhile, a short distance away, people were testing their strength with the hammer attempting to ring the bell.

A clever idea was the 4-H ball toss game, which utilized scooped out pumpkins for containers. Next door, the mechanical bull spent all night bucking off contenders of all ages at the Junior Cypress Rodeo Arena's stand.

There was no shortage of good food. The Rock Mine filled the air with the aroma of homemade chili, while the Preschool sold desserts, and the Panther Pit served traditional Seminole dinners and fry bread. The Big Cypress Baptist Church kept the grills going all night long with free hamburgers and hot dogs.

A carnival included a Merry-Go-Round, Super Slide, Rock Climb, Bungee Cord Swings, spinning cars and kiddie rides.

Big Cypress Board Rep. Cicero Osceola invited the youngsters to climb into his stock trailer for a hayride. Driving them a short distance to a cypress head in one of the pastures, he would step and tell them the truck was broken down.

Suddenly, monsters of all kinds would come rushing out of the trees and surround the trailer, while the children screamed in fright and delight.



A very pretty little octopus is nestled in a coral basket.



The music said it was time to "Twist and Shout."



A beautiful little Geisha girl took third place in her category.

Sworn to secrecy, they would return to the ball field to lure their unwitting friends into the trailer for the next spooky ride.

The annual costume contest provided an opportunity for the child in every one to emerge. Contestants competed in various age groups for the most original, scariest and prettiest awards. With several hundred contestants, it is hard to believe that there was very little duplication and the originality was unique. A lot of time and effort went into the selection and preparation of the costumes.

While everyone enjoyed themselves whether competing or observing, the adults became the most involved. There must be something about hiding behind a mask and losing one's identity that makes it possible for people to shed their inhibitions.

First walking, then strutting, and finally dancing, the contestants made their way around the judges. Their antics brought roars of laughter from the crowd, which seemed to urge them to become more outrageous. Everyone had a blast and the judges developed headaches trying to make the difficult decisions.

The costume contest was divided into Tribal and non-Tribal categories. Results are as follows:

Tribal: 0-2 years old: Scariest: 1. Adam MacElroy Jr., 2. Lazzy Billie, 3. Rilyn Osceola; Most Original: 1. Madasyn Osceola, 2. Mayli Tommie, 3. Jose Puente Jr.; Prettiest: 1. Keithana Onco, 2. Cyiah Avila, 3. Denise Gonzales. 3-5 years old: Scariest: 1. Breanna Bowers, 2. Ricardo Rodriguez, 3. Brandi Osceola; Most Original: 1. Julia Smith, 2. Keaton Billie, 3. Thalia Billie; Prettiest: 1. Martha Tiger, 2. Harmony Cypress, 3. Madison Jumper.

6-8 years old: Scariest: 1. Eliza Billie, 2. Charles Alexander, 3. Zoey Puente; Most Original: 1.



Little Red Riding Hood and the Big Bad Wolf were quite a hit.



There were more than 100 scary costumes at the party.

Arek Jumper, 2. Alyssa Osceola, 3. John Robbins; Prettiest: 1. Cassandra Alexander, 2. Thoya Robbins, 3. Lindsey Posada.

9-11 years old: Scariest: 1. Echo Wolf, 2. Joel Puente, 3. Ashley Faz; Most Original: 1. John Dell McInturff, 2. Sarah Osceola, 3. Kennedy Huggins; Prettiest: 1. Sierra Bowers, 2. Hilary Posada, 3. Natamah Robbins.

12-14 years old: Scariest: 1. Stevie Billie, 2. Darren Bert, 3. Justin Frank;

Most Original: 1. Jason Melton II, 2. Trent McInturff, 3. Darerick McInturff; Prettiest: 1. Jean Capricien, 2. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh.

15-18 years old: Scariest: 1. Keith Jumper; Most Original: 1. Brittany Huff; Prettiest: 1. Robert Cypress.

19-49 years old: Scariest: 1. Wilson Bowers, 2. Malon Tommie, 3. Tommi Billie; Most Original: 1. John Dell McInturff, 2. Sarah Osceola, 3. Kennedy Huggins; Prettiest: 1. Sierra Bowers, 2. Hilary Posada, 3. Natamah Robbins.

50 and older: 1. Ronnie Billie, 2. Lucille Jumper, 3. Suzie Jumper; Most Original: 1. Linda Beletso, 2. Rudy Osceola, 3. Teresa Jumper; Prettiest: 1. Louise Osceola, 2. Violet Jim.

Tribal & Non-Tribal: Family Contest: 1. Catherine Alexander, 2. Toi Andrews, 3. Resha Doctor; King Contest: 1. Linda Beletso, 2. Celesta Osceola, 3. Teresa Jumper; Queen Contest: 1. Kris Doctor, 2. Steven Arthur.

Arm Wrestling: Heavyweights, 200 or more pounds: Men: 1. Charlie Cypress; Women: 1. Jamie Kirkland; Middleweights, 151-199 pounds: Men: 1. Shawn Newton; Women: 1. Hilda Albury; Lightweights, 150 pounds or less: Men: 1. Wilson Bowers; Women: 1. Shannon Ferguson; Senior men: 1. Carter Clough.

Egg Toss: 17 and younger: 1. Aileen Cypress/Caitlin Cypress, 2. Sierra Bowers/Sierra Kirkland, 3. Kristi Rivera/Damien Rivera; 18 and older: 1. Charlie Cypress/Cicero Osceola, 2. Tasha Bowers/Michelle Evanston, 3. Toi Andrews/Nicholas Andrews.

Pumpkin Carving: 0-5 years old: 1. Brandi Osceola, 2. Shana Balentine, 3. Mahala Osceola; 6-10 years old:

1. Sierra Bowers, 2. Carlene Bowers, 3. Roderick Bert; 11-17 years old: 1. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh.



Halloween Carnival Gets the Whole Community Involved

By Susan Etchebarria
BRIGHTON — The football field at Brighton was brightly lit on Oct. 27 for the largest nighttime Halloween Carnival Brighton has ever seen.



Lady Bug Jana Johnson

Susan Etchebarria

The costume judging took three hours from start to finish, beginning with babies under 1 year old and going up to seniors at over 60 years young. The party atmosphere seemed like a movie set of costumed characters walking about the many food booths, games and carnival rides set up on the sidelines. There was a wide range of costumes including: witches, ghosts, clowns, fairy princesses, vampires and more.

Emcee John Madrigal introduced the costumed contestants as they walked across a large stage for the judging by Seminole Fire Rescue. He kept everyone laughing with a lot of teasing and joking. People watched from bleachers, or many brought their own lawn chairs.

Some unforgettable costumes included Polly Hayes dressed as an old robed wizard with long white hair; Dylan Chalfant became a swamp creature covered in thick moss he had gathered off local tree



9 mos. old Keanu Bert with mom, Angie

Susan Etchebarria

branches; the scarecrow costume of Skyler Burke covered her identity from head to toe; the princess fairy costumes of MacKenzie and Marilee Johns were magical; baby Jana Johnson dressed as a cute lady bug; Corvette Billie was a witch and Jewel Buck was a jester; Samson Gopher was an odd looking midget riding a flamingo.

As the judging proceeded throughout the evening there were games going on around the edges of the field and many Tribal departments had a booth. They used the occasion to raise funds for their special projects.

The Brighton Preschool sold softies and raffle tickets. The Pemayetv Emahaky Charter School had a booth manned by staff and members of the Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO), which raised \$935.75 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, by selling candied apples and glow necklaces. After the judging the PTSO hosted hay rides at \$2 a person. The ride included a stop at the old red barn



Susan Etchebarria

Truly Osceola is a winner!



MacKenzie and Marilee Johns

Susan Etchebarria



Courtney Gore fills plate with whipped cream.

Susan Etchebarria



Pie in face volunteers Shaun Osceola, Donnie Hayes and Frank Huff.

Susan Etchebarria

where the children were surprised and scared by a crazed caped man with a chainsaw.

Several Tribal departments had booths set up with games for attendees to play. One of the most popular games was the pie throw at the 4-H Swine Club Booth. Tickets were \$2, which bought a plate full of whip cream to throw at a person's face sticking through a hole in a plywood prop. Often it was the Swine Club Leader Donnie Hayes who volunteered to get smeared, and some of the swine club members. During the evening, the Swine Club used up all 40 cans of large whipping cream.

The First Indian Baptist Church auctioned off 44 creatively designed homemade cakes to raise funds for their youth program. Most cakes averaged

around \$52 a cake and the church members were delighted with their success.

The highlight of the evening, what the crowd waited eagerly to see, was the grand finale – the King and Queen Contest. Costumed women dressed as men and costumed men dressed as women, all wearing outlandish, freakish outfits.

One young lady dressed like Board President Richard Bowers Jr., and Alice Sweat's Harlem Globetrotter costume was a big hit. It was apparent to many who the first place winner of the Queen Contest was when James Billie mimicked a voluptuous Caribbean dancer he called "Chiquita" and danced a little Salsa, giving everyone a lot of laughs.

SPD Hosts Haunted Halloween Festivities

By Susan Etchebarria
BRIGHTON — The popular Brighton Seminole Police Department's (SPD) Haunted House was open two



Hangman scene at SPD haunted House

Susan Etchebarria

nights in October to celebrate Halloween.

What a truly scary place that was. A cave of rooms, in the gym made with hundreds of yards of black plastic, was dimly lit. The dark was spooky enough without the macabre creatures jumping out at you from dark corners. It was a maze of winding tunnels between horrifying scenes of murder and mayhem, coffins, witches, goblins and ghostlike creatures.

SPD employees, their families, and some other Tribal employees played the parts of the ghoulish characters. It was first performed on Oct. 26 and was called "SPD Fright Night," and they were right about that. It was frightening. There was a Freddy Kruger scene, a vampiress in a coffin and an evil grandmother, among other scenes.

"We worked on planning it for two months," said Officer Michelle Clay. "We worked on setting up the walls for two nights before it opened and worked through the night [of Oct. 25]."

Clay said most of the SPD officers helped with this annual event and they are planning already for



Rhonda Goodman of Community Care for the Elderly plays the evil grandmother.

Susan Etchebarria

next year.

"Everybody liked it," she said. "About 400 people went through the house. A lot of kids got scared." After the Oct. 26 opening night, "Halloween Lock-In!" to coincide with Red Ribbon Week. It was a pajama party for children grades kindergarten through sixth, from 10 p.m.-8 a.m. Each child had to sign up in advance and bring a sleeping bag and dress in pajamas.

There a DJ played music for dancing, while others played games or sang karaoke. Then they settled in to watch a movie before lights out at 2 a.m. Officer Clay said 89 children attended this fun outing headed up by Clay and Sergeant Angelita Comito.



Freddy Kruger scene

Susan Etchebarria



Vampiress in coffin at SPD haunted house

Susan Etchebarria



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Congress is threatening to terminate the Cherokee Nation.

Could your tribe be next?



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They disagree with the Cherokee Nation's Constitution, which requires all citizens to have Indian ancestry to be a Cherokee citizen. When Congress threatens to terminate an Indian tribe because they don't like a tribe's stance on an issue, all tribes should feel threatened.

Make your voice heard, stand up to this termination bill that has been called "Outrageous and unacceptable," by NCAI President Joe Garcia.

Write your tribal officials, senators and congressmen to oppose HR 2824 and other punitive bills against the Cherokee Nation.

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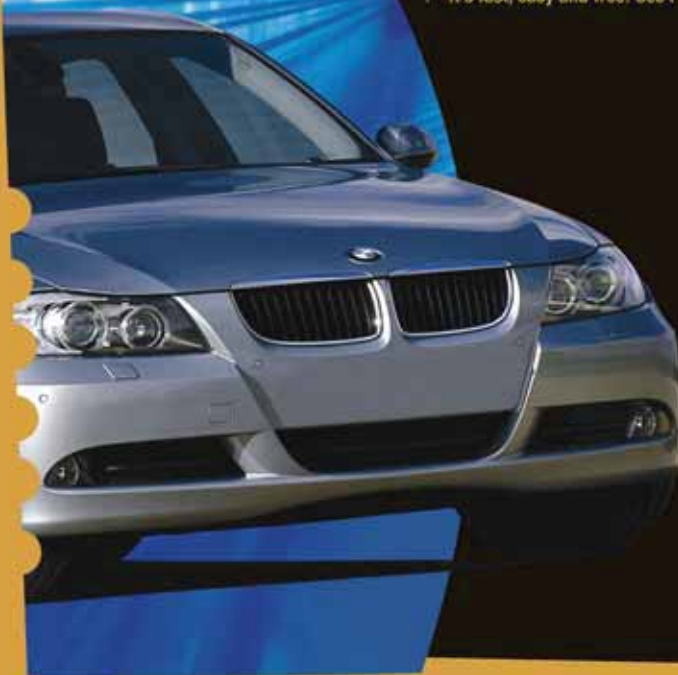
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Seminole Gaming Hits the 'Jackpot' with Exhibit

By Chris Jenkins

HOLLYWOOD— Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. spoke with pride and enthusiasm to media and audience members Oct. 19. "We've lived through segregation and now we're in an age of self-determination," Osceola said. "Showing this is sharing our philosophy, this is also a cultural exchange of sorts."

His excitement was about a new public exhibit hosted by the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village entitled "Jackpot! Seminole Gaming From Then Until Now." Celebrating the legacy and history of the Tribe's trials and triumphs, the exhibit highlighted the fight for sovereignty over the years, all the way through the Tribe's present day accomplishments.

The exhibition runs through January of 2008 at the museum. It will then go on a traveling tour through Tampa, with future plans to go nationwide.

Exhibits Coordinator Steven Ast said the exhibit aims to represent some of the different aspects of gaming, related to the Tribe.



Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. proudly displays a famous quote by his mother, Laura Mae Osceola.

"We've got a pretty good smattering of different things from bingo to poker and the different ways of slot machines," Ast said. "I hope [Tribal citizens and others] can see where gaming came from and that gaming has always been around for them and it is nice to know where you have come from and the struggles to get it."



Brighton/Tampa Council Representative Roger Smith and Gaming Compliance Director Ed Jenkins enjoy the exhibition activities.

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Executive Director and Chief Historic Resource Officer Tina M. Osceola said a lot of effort and planning was involved in directly focusing on the gaming aspect of the exhibit.

"One of the issues that our curatorial staff wanted to tackle was gaming, because often times in our world, people don't want to discuss gaming," Osceola said. "Rather than it being something that is out there and a way to pay the bills, we wanted to show the relevance and the history of gaming."



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Happy Birthdays



Happy 8th birthday to **Asiana Briana Billie**. Hope you have a wonderful birthday!
From all of us,
Mom, Stepdad, Akol, Akira and Armani



Birthday wishes go out to **Millie Bonnie Jumper** from your proud parents Natalie Lauren Jumper and Blue Jay Jumper. To our beautiful daughter, happy 1st birthday, Mommy and daddy love you with all our hearts. Thank you for coming into our lives. You have blessed us.
Love,
Mommy and Daddy

Happy belated birthday to my princess **Zoe Shae-Ree Puento** on Nov. 2. You're 7 years old now and growing so fast. I am so proud of you. You are my baby girl. Anything you need or want always call me and you got it. You're also my best friend. Thanks for always loving me even when I was doing bad things. Your smile and hugs got me through the tough times.
I love you,
Aunt Lee

Happy birthday to **Paula Harjo**, you would have been 41 years old this year. I miss you very much and so does the rest of the family. I also would like to wish **Burton Harjo** and **Ike Harjo** a very happy birthday.
Love your mom,
Jennie Harjo

Jada Holdiness has had the privilege of practicing with the Miami Dolphins cheerleaders at their local training center this fall and has a few performances that she will be participating in along with them. Jada is looking forward to performing at the Miami Dolphins vs. Cincinnati Bengals game on Dec. 30.

Jada has been actively involved with soccer, Tae Kwon Do, Little League and cheerleading. She also made it to the Flying Hawks for the month of October at Highlands Elementary where she is a first grader. Her family would like to note that they are very proud of her and all of her accomplishments and love her very much.

Go Jada!



New Baby



The Trail Indian Independent Baptist Church Christmas Program Presents
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Sunday, December 9, 2007

Lunch at 12 p.m.
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Program to Follow



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Independence Edition | Pewee_H2_2007_25 Passenger



Tribal Edition | White_H2_2007_22 Passenger



SoBe Edition | White_Cadillac Escalade_2007_20 Passenger



Freedom Edition | Black_H2_2007_25 Passenger



American Idol Edition | Hummer-H2_2007_22 Passenger



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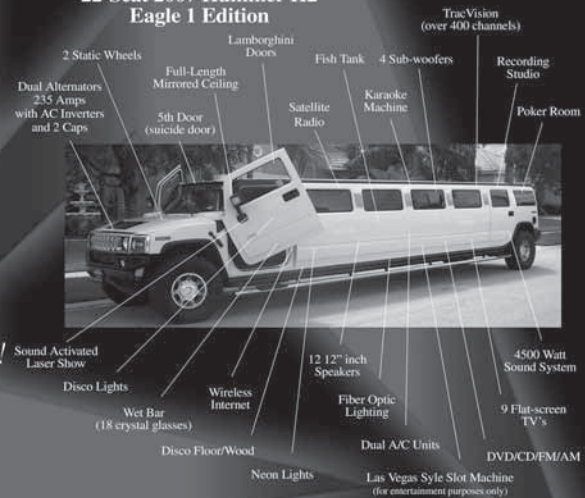
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Happy Birthday Kory Dion Sanders

Iwould like to wish my son Kory Dion Sanders happy 18th birthday on December 1st. On that day back in 1989 there was a small earthquake the day you arrived. We lived in California at the time, so I can literally say you shook the state when you were born.

When the doctor placed you in my arms and I looked into your eyes my heart melted with so much joy. I never thought I could love someone that much until that moment I held you in my arms. Even at that time as little as you were, little did you know you were my strength. I can recall in times that got difficult for me, I would just hold you in my arms and I knew I could get through anything knowing I had you in my life!

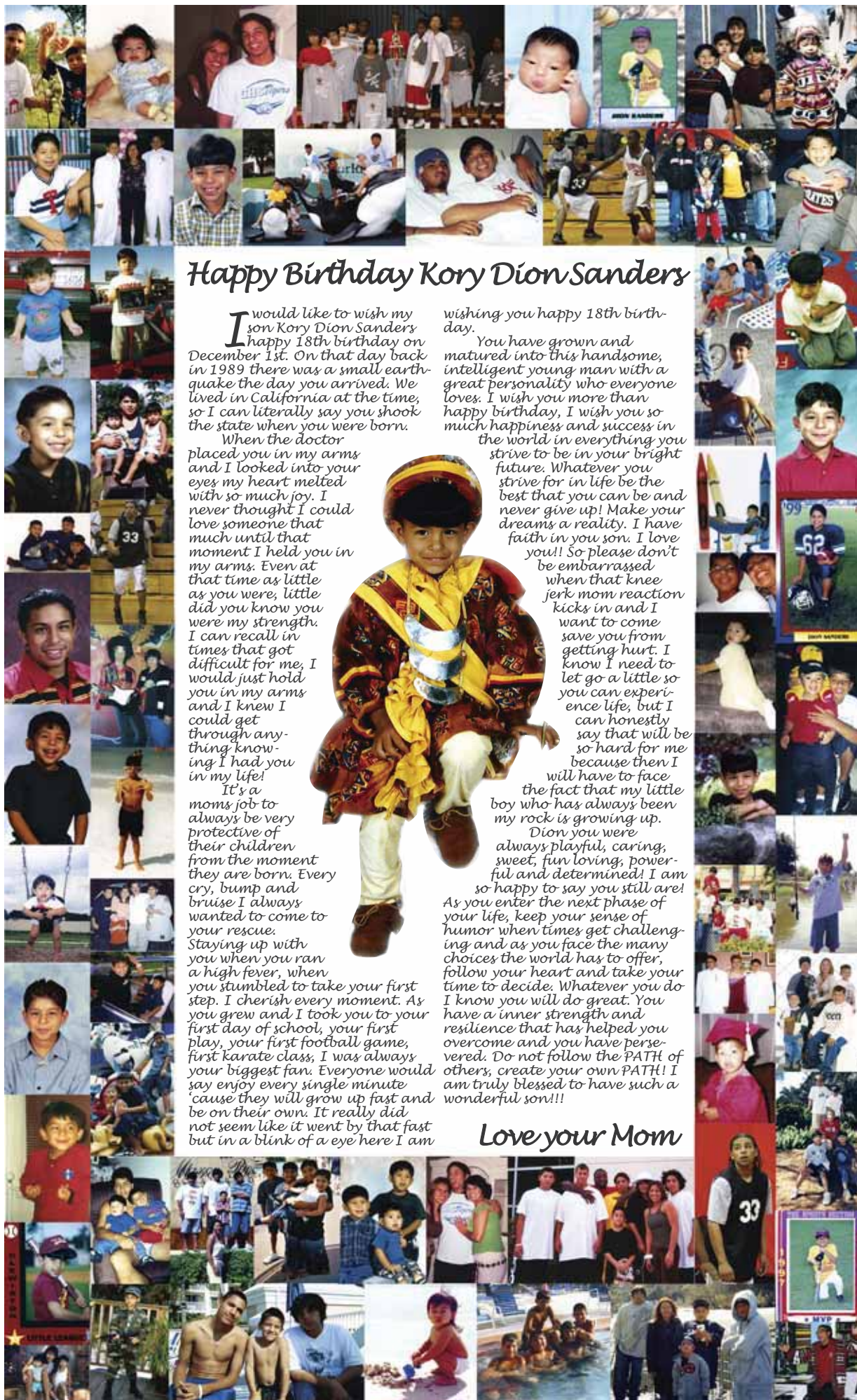
It's a mom's job to always be very protective of their children from the moment they are born. Every cry, bump and bruise I always wanted to come to your rescue. Staying up with you when you ran a high fever, when you stumbled to take your first step. I cherish every moment. As you grew and I took you to your first day of school, your first play, your first football game, first karate class, I was always your biggest fan. Everyone would say enjoy every single minute 'cause they will grow up fast and be on their own. It really did not seem like it went by that fast but in a blink of an eye here I am

wishing you happy 18th birthday.

You have grown and matured into this handsome, intelligent young man with a great personality who everyone loves. I wish you more than happy birthday, I wish you so much happiness and success in the world in everything you strive to be in your bright future. Whatever you strive for in life be the best that you can be and never give up! Make your dreams a reality. I have faith in you son. I love you!! So please don't be embarrassed when that knee jerk mom reaction kicks in and I want to come save you from getting hurt. I know I need to let go a little so you can experience life, but I can honestly say that will be so hard for me because then I will have to face the fact that my little boy who has always been my rock is growing up.

Dion you were always playful, caring, sweet, fun loving, powerful and determined! I am so happy to say you still are! As you enter the next phase of your life, keep your sense of humor when times get challenging and as you face the many choices the world has to offer, follow your heart and take your time to decide. Whatever you do I know you will do great. You have an inner strength and resilience that has helped you overcome and you have persevered. Do not follow the PATH of others, create your own PATH! I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful son!!!

Love your Mom



Announcements • Ahaaheke • Nak-ohkerkēcēv

Attention Tribal Citizens:

Seminole Broadcasting is seeking a self-motivated & energetic Tribal citizen to take on the responsibilities of assistant director in the department. This great opportunity is open to any Tribal citizens with a four year degree in business, media arts, video production, broadcasting, communications or any other related field. Applications Available in Human Resources Department or at www.semtribe.com



Senior's Center Christmas Party

Wednesday December 19, 2007 • All festivities will begin @ 10:00 a.m.

Senior's Christmas Arts, Crafts, and Yard Sale

Monday December 3, 2007 • At the Ball Field. Selling Begins @ 7:00 a.m.
All Tribal Members are welcome to sell.
Tents and tables will be provided, on a first come first serve basis.

WEEKLY RECOVERY MEETINGS SCHEDULE

MONDAYS

12:00 Noon Every Week

Big Cypress
Sober House

TUESDAYS

7:30PM Every Week

Brighton Sober House

WEDNESDAYS

12:00 Noon Every Week

Big Cypress Sober
House

8:30PM Every Week

Hollywood Admin.

THURSDAYS

7:30PM Every Week

Big Cypress Sober
House

2007 UPCOMING EVENTS

October -Annual 12 Step Retreat
November-Native American AA Conference
December-Attitude of Gratitude Banquet
For information contact Family Services-239.867.3480

ATTENTION:

The Seminole Housing Department is announcing
an after hours emergency contact number.

800-617-7517

Press the following for your reservation:

Press 1 for Hollywood & Trail

Press 2 for Big Cypress & Immokalee

Press 3 for Brighton, Ft. Pierce & Tampa

This number is available: 5 p.m. to 8 a.m. Monday to Friday • All Day Saturday & Sunday

December 8 & 9, 2007 * Noon - 5:00pm

The Second Annual



MARKETPLACE

Okalee Indian Village

Gator Wrestling Wildlife Shows Arts & Crafts And Much More!

All Free With Admission!

For
More Information
Call 954-797-5551



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- Felonies
- Misdemeanors
- Probation Violations
- Domestic Violence
- Criminal Record Sealing and Expunging
- Sex Crimes
- Prostitution
- Drug Cases
- DUI
- White Collar and Economic Crimes.



**JOHN J. RICHARDSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW**

FREE CONSULTATION (954) 462.1192

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely on advertising.
Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

Se Habla Español