



## Cattle Ranching Exhibit Premieres at Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Writer

**BIG CYPRESS** — A historical account of the rich heritage of Seminole cattlemen and women and their way of life premiered at the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum on Sept. 25 in an exhibit entitled “Cattle Keepers: The Heritage of Seminole Cattle Ranching.”

Through oral reflections and photographs, museum staff created a historical account of the trailblazing cowboys and cowgirls who began the Seminole cattle operations centuries ago. Chief Historic Resources Officer Tina Osceola said the idea for the exhibit came about two years ago from suggestions made by Tribal cit-

izens and the Tribal Council.

“This is a community exhibit,” Osceola said. “This exhibit is more important than any other we have ever opened ... It is important for us as a Tribal people to tell our own stories.”

Tribal citizens loaned the museum items from their personal collections and possessions, including Seminole brands, ropes and saddles, to display as part of the exhibit, which runs through Sept. 20, 2009.

“This exhibit helps to provide an even bigger perspective on Tribal history,” Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Director Anne McCudden explained. “Especially since the cattle industry is such a thriving business within the Tribe.”

The exhibit also features the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki’s prized “Letter to Cowkeeper.” Written in 1774, the letter comes from Lieutenant John Moultrie, governor of the territory of British East Florida sent to the first leader and founder of the Seminole Tribe.

Throughout history, Juan Ponce de Leon and St. Pedro Menendez de Aviles, have been credited with introducing cattle (Andalusian criolla) to Florida in the 16th Century. However, the Tribe’s influence in the cattle industry has also remained vital throughout several centuries.

“Before the gaming or anything, this was our livelihood,” President Richard Bowers Jr. said.

Fifth generation cattle owner and

Tribal citizen Moses “Bigg” Jumper Jr. agreed, saying “this goes back to part of our history and people needed to know about it.”

The Tribe continues to have an increasing impact on the cattle ranching industry today, currently ranking fourth in the state of Florida and 12th in the U.S. in cattle production. Tribal innovations to the industry include the creation of the state’s first electronic identification program, which verifies the source of Seminole brand beef.

“I am happy this exhibit has been done so that we can continue to educate everyone,” Chairman Mitchell Cypress

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Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal Chief Historic Resources Officer Tina Osceola explains the concept behind the exhibit to the guests in attendance.



Chris C. Jenkins

(L-R) Graduates Aaron Frank, Ashley Santiago, Stephanie Johns, Nick Frank and Clayton Simmons enjoy a weeklong trip to Jamaica to commemorate their academic achievement.

## Tribal Graduates Relax at Caribbean Hot Spot

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**OCHO RIOS, JAMAICA** — Clayton Simmons, Aaron Frank, Stephanie Johns, Nick Frank and Ashley Santiago had an opportunity of a lifetime Oct. 5-12.

For the five 2007-08 high school and college graduates, their reward was to visit one of the ultimate fun-in-the-sun getaway destinations — Jamaica. It proved to be an experience the Brandon, Tampa, Lakeland and Palmetto residents will never forget.

“It was all something different for them,” Tampa Liaison Richard Henry explained. “It was a reward for them working hard in school and it also gives the

younger kids something to look forward to besides just graduating.”

With a host of activities scheduled in what is known as the country’s Garden Parish section, the week included visits to: the Martha Brae River, a Chukka ATV Safari, Chukka River Tubing Safari and a visit to the famous Dunn’s River Falls and Park.

Although known for its rich heritage and agriculture, most visitors recognize the country in part as the birthplace of the legendary Jamaican musician and social activist Bob Marley.

Located along the island’s northern coast of Ocho Rios, meaning “eight rivers,” the destination boasted waterfalls, rivers, grassy hills and sandy coves to enjoy. Interestingly however, the area only has four

rivers. Amid confusion by the English translation, the original name the Spaniards gave the location, “las chorreras,” means “river rapids.”

The five graduates all agreed that the country’s friendly hospitality impressed them.

“I appreciated the people being so polite and humble,” business administration graduate Stephanie Johns said. “They seem very content in their surroundings.”

One of the 2007 high school graduates, Clayton Simmons, agreed.

“I never imagined being able to come to Jamaica but the people were so laid back and nice,” he said. It

Please see **JAMAICA** ♦ Page 6B

## Tribal Council Convenes For Regular Meeting

**Fire-Rescue’s Elden Harner  
Receives Lifesaving Award**

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — The Tribal Council met on the Brighton Reservation for a regular session meeting on Sept. 17. They passed 22 resolutions on the agenda.

In addition to the resolutions passed at the meeting, the Tribal Council presented Big Cypress Fire-Rescue logistical coordinator Elden Harner with the Billie Cypress Lifesaving Award. Harner received this award, presented to individuals who display extraordinary acts, for such acts including his rescue of trapped and stranded motorists in a canal on I-75.

The resolutions passed at the meeting included:

**Resolution 23:** U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Tribal Resources Grant Program application for Seminole Police Department; ratification;

**Resolution 24:** Konami Gaming, Inc. Master Gaming Device Lease and License Agreement;

**Resolution 25:** Standard form agreement between owner and contractor where the basis of payment is a stipulated sum of \$379,450.72 between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Redman Builders, Inc. for the construction of the First Baptist Church Bath House located on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation;

Please see **COUNCIL** ♦ Page 2A

## Billy Nelson Earns His Pro License

BY THEODORE NELSON SR.  
Contributing Writer

Since May 4, Billy Nelson set his sights on becoming the first pro Seminole motocross rider.

On Sept. 28, he earned the points he needed to race in the pro indoor, known as supercross, and pro outdoor, known as motocross, seasons.

From January through April of this year, Nelson had to undergo rehabilitation for a shoulder surgery with one thought on his mind — to get his pro license. His relentless training both on the track and in the gym paid off as Nelson became a physically stronger and faster on his model CRF450 R Honda dirtbike/motorcycle.

Nelson traveled as far away as Minnesota and spent about three weeks on the road attending various National Pro-Am races. This competition brought out the best in the nation and every rider had the same professional license goal in mind.

Nelson will now only compete in professional division races in 2009. Some of the tentative indoor supercross scheduled races include stops in Daytona, Fla., Atlanta, New Orleans and Las Vegas. Tentative outdoor motocross venues include Freestone County

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## John Anderson Commemorates Indian Day at Sell-Out Show

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**IMMOKALEE** — More than 500 people joined singer/songwriter John Anderson to celebrate Indian Day at the Immokalee Seminole Casino on the evening of Sept. 26.

Midway through a national tour, Anderson said he has looked forward to making this stop in Seminole Country because it felt like a homecoming. He and his six band members entertained the crowd on a steel guitar, drums, banjo, fiddle, keyboard, base and lead guitar for nearly two hours of continuous music. On occasion the audience received an invitation to sing along.

As friends and fans filled the Immokalee Casino for Anderson’s sell-out concert, Casino Manager Tony

Sanchez said the Tribe takes pleasure in hosting these kinds of events.

“This is just one of the many entertainment opportunities that we plan to bring to Immokalee,” he said. “Upon completion of the current renovations, our capacity will be greatly increased and we will be better able to serve our community. It is my pleasure to have John Anderson here to celebrate the holiday.”

Born and raised in Central Florida in the city of Apopka, John Anderson calls himself a country boy at heart.

“I grew up fishing in the lakes, running around in the swamps and climbing in the moss draped oak trees of our back yard,” he said in an interview prior to his show. “Sometimes I wish I could close my eyes and return to those lazy nights,

Please see **ANDERSON** ♦ Page 2A



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Andy Buster Sr., Casino Manager Tony Sanchez Jr., Amy Adams, John Anderson, Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Family Services Director Helene Buster celebrate Indian Day at the Immokalee Casino.





Submitted by Theodore Nelson Sr.

**Billy Nelson competes in the Mississippi State Championship, held April 28 at the Golden Pine Raceway in Prentiss, Miss.**

## ❖ Nelson

Continued from page 1A

Raceway in Wortham, Texas, High Point Raceway in Mt. Morris, Penn., Thunder Valley Motocross Park in Lakewood, Colo., Red Bud Track & Trail in Buchanan, Miss., Budds Creek Motocross Park in Mechanicsville, Md., Unadilla Valley Sports Center in New Berlin, N.Y., Spring Creek Motocross Park in Millville, Minn., Motocross 338 in Southwick, Mass., and Steel City Raceway in Export, Penn.

When Nelson is not competing in the pro schedule, he said he plans to bring a motocross school to Seminole Tribe Motocross in Big Cypress in 2009. The school will be free to Tribal citizens. There will be more information to come.

Nelson's sponsors include: Seminole Sports Management, Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max Osceola, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress, the Tribal Council, Doug Harvey Shocks, Joe Ross (mechanic), WMI Racing, FMF Racing, Seminole Tribe Motocross. He thanks Greg



Photo Submitted by Theodore Nelson Sr.

**Billy Nelson rounds the corner during the Mississippi State Championship.**

## Results from Billy Nelson's Races

May 4: Florida MX Series, First Place Pro-Am Class  
May 19: Seminole Pro-Am, Fourth Place Pro Class  
May 25: Florida MX Series First Place Pro-Am Class  
July 11: AMA Pro-Am, Tennessee, 10th Place  
July 18: AMA Pro-Am, New York, DNF  
June 21: AMA Pro-Am, Indiana, Second Place  
August 14: AMA Pro-Am, Minnesota, Seventh Place

August 24: AMA Pro-Am, Pennsylvania, Eighth Place  
September 12-14: Florida Gold Cup Series, Gainesville, Fourth Place in Open A and Fifth Place in Open Pro  
September 20-21: Florida Gold Cup Series, Marion County Raceway, third Place in 250 Pro and Fifth Place in open Pro  
Sept 28th Golden Pine Raceway, Mississippi State Championship, First Place in College Boy Class and Fourth Place Pro Class



Chris C. Jenkins

**(L-R) Chairman Mitchell Cypress presents the Billie Cypress Lifesaving Award to recipient Elden Harner, Big Cypress Fire-Rescue logistical coordinator, for his heroic acts while on duty.**

## ❖ Council

Continued from page 1A

**Resolution 26:** Donation of 2006 Chevrolet school bus (Girardin 14 passenger) to Big Cypress New Testament Church;  
**Resolution 27:** Authorization of continued funding of Tribal government operations for Tribal fiscal year 2009;

**Resolution 28:** Per capita distributions of tribal gaming revenues for the fiscal year of Oct. 1, 2008 through Sept. 30, 2009;

**Resolution 29:** Konami Gaming, Inc. Master Gaming Device License Agreement; and,

**Resolution 30:** Acquisition of 40+/- acres in Polk County, Fla. (S.T.O.F. Holdings, Ltd. as buyer).

The following deadlines apply to all submissions for inclusion to *The Seminole Tribune*:

**Issue: November 28, 2008**  
*Deadline: November 12, 2008*

**Issue: December 26, 2008**  
*Deadline: December 10, 2008*

**Issue: January 23, 2009**  
*Deadline: January 14, 2009*

## ❖ Anderson

Continued from page 1A

when I would kick back to the smell of orange blossoms and listen to the gators grunting in the pond."

Anderson said he started singing at an early age in his family's living room, spending long hours picking his guitar and mimicking his country music heroes. By 1972 he relocated to Nashville – the epicenter of country music – to pursue his dreams in earnest.

During the next 35 years, Anderson writing, co-writing and recorded a long list of songs including several No. 1 hits such as "Swinging," "I'm Just an Ole Lump of Coal" and one of the Tribe's favorites, "Seminole Wind." Following their show, the musicians left the stage to a standing ovation from the appreciative audience.

"You know it's a funny thing about 'Seminole Wind,'" said Anderson. "When I wrote it, I never intended to market it. It was a personal thing that I did from the heart."

"After living in Nashville for some time, this ole country boy sure was homesick. I missed the cypress swamps, sawgrass and Spanish moss," he contained. "Like the

Seminoles, I am a part of the Florida landscape in which I was raised."

Chairman Mitchell Cypress, speaking to Anderson before he took the stage, commended Anderson on writing such a heart-

felt song that honored the Tribe.

"When you made 'Seminole Wind,' you captured the spirit and culture of the Seminole people and spread it across our great land," Chairman Cypress said. "It's only natural that it has become something of an anthem in Seminole Country. We will always remember you for your contribution to our history."

After the show in a meet and greet with President Richard Bowers Jr., Anderson asked if Bowers recalled a memorable time in his life when he got in an alligator pit.

"Do you remember that I entrusted you with my life?" Anderson asked. "You were wrestling gators at a fair and invited me into the pit to hold one. I climbed right in without any reservations, and I wouldn't do that for anyone else in the world."

"You had nothing to worry about," replied President Bowers. "As Seminoles we have more or less adopted you and I would never hurt a brother."

The atmosphere of a family reunion continued after the show as Anderson embraced other Tribal citizens and shared memories with some of the elders. Susie Henry traveled all the way from Tampa to see Anderson, who she referred to as an old friend.

"It's wonderful the way he never forgets us," Henry said. "He remembers names, people and places like yesterday."



Judy Weeks

**John Anderson (R) sings "Seminole Wind" during his Indian Day concert at the Immokalee Casino.**



Judy Weeks

**(L-R) Linda Patsy, Patsy Billie, John Anderson, who renews old friendships with Seminole seniors, and Nancy Motlow.**

## School Thanks Princess Committee for Donations



**(Back Row, L-R) Ron Goodeagle, Wambli Blue Bird, Nick Genia, Trent Lunderman, Clark Dale, Jasmine Walleette, Tashina Leekity, Kateri Velasquez, Star Robinson, (Front Row, L-R) JC Buckley, Braunnae Stromenger, Kaleb Negroni, Manih Oshkosh and Stormi White Bull, all from the school.**

**Dear Wanda Bowers, Princess Pageant Committee Chairwoman,**

We would like to thank your Princess Committee and all of the Tribal citizens who sent clothing donations to our school, the Flandreau Indian School in Flandreau, S.D.

The boxes we received from your committee and Tribal members are very much appreciated by our students. Many of our students bring very little clothing with them when they come to school. Some of our students come from the poorest counties in the United States, so the clothes are quickly distributed.

We welcome any donations that your committee would like to contribute to our students in the future.

Sincerely,  
**Ronald Goodeagle, Cultural Coordinator**  
**Lillian Goodeagle, Student Banker**



**Flandreau Indian School students (L-R) Jasmine Walleette, Tashina Leekity, Kateri Velasquez, Star Robinson, Datta Green and Jesse Morrison.**

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# Community

Big Cypress .....4A  
Tampa .....5A

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## HOLLYWOOD



(L-R) Orlando Blaco, Hector Leonel Escobedo Ayala, Italo Antoniotti, Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress, Jeronimo Lancerio and CEO of Seminole Gaming James Allen.



## Guatemalan Dignitaries Visit Tribal Headquarters

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — Representatives of the Guatemalan government visited the Seminole Tribe of Florida offices on Oct. 10. Minister of Culture and Sports Jeronimo Lancerio, the first indigenous person to be elected to office in Guatemala, along with Dr. Hector Leonel Escobedo Ayala, Italo Antoniotti and Orlando Blaco met with Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress, Chief Operating Officer Elrod Bowers, CEO of Seminole Gaming James Allen, Policy Advisor to the Chairman Marcia Green and Big Cypress's Special Projects Coordinator Nery Mejicano for a meeting of the minds regarding Guatemala's culture and indigenous people.

Photo by Marisol Gonzalez

At Left: Hector Leonel Escobedo Ayala presents a traditional gift from Guatemala to the Seminole Tribe.

## Tribal Citizens Express Themselves at 'Creative' Event

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum teamed up with the Seminole Recreation Dept. for the second Seminole Creative Expression Night, held in the Hollywood Auditorium lobby on Sept. 23.

Members of the community and employees told stories, read poems, sang, and played instruments including the flute and guitar, at the evening's gathering.

Gordon Oliver Wareham told stories and played his flute, and Paul "Cowbone" Buster played his guitar while he told a story through song.

"Our stories are legends to be told from generation to generation," Buster said.

He added that telling stories played a major part in Seminole life of the past; saying before electronic forms of entertainment, the elders shared stories with the youth as a way to entertain them.

In addition, performers including Marty Bowers, Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr., Elgin Jumper, Maria Loeza and Esther Liederman, read poetry they had written or recited poetry by other Native American poets such as Joy Harjo (Muscogee).

S.R. Tommie shared stories about her childhood with the crowd. She said her Seminole family makes her proud because they can openly display their creativity and share their stories and poems. Poet Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr. agreed, saying "stories have to be passed on to younger people."

Jumper also said he hopes more Tribal citizens will attend similar events in the future so they can hear stories about the Seminole ways to retell them to future generations.

Diana Stone of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, who helped coordinate the event, said in addition to more Creative Expression Night events, the museum plans to host many similar events in the near future.



Marisol Gonzalez

Marty Bowers reads poetry that he wrote about his hardships and accomplishments throughout his life.



Marisol Gonzalez

Paul "Cowbone" Buster tells a story of a little mouse to the crowd and finishes it while he sings along with the story.



Marisol Gonzalez

S.R. Tommie shares stories from her childhood about her mother and grandmother.

## BRIGHTON



Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal employees enjoy the lunch provided while watching the personal collection presentation by the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Conservator Corey Smith (L).

## Seminole Moments Presents 'Personal Collections' Lecture

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — In the latest Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum-sponsored Seminole Moments lecture series, held Sept. 17 at the Cattle and Range Offices, Tribal citizens and employees learned about the care and maintenance of a personal collection of memorabilia.

"Extending the longevity of your personal items can be done by just doing a few simple things," Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Conservator Corey Smith said.

Smith added that the same factors impacting the museum also affect a personal collection in the home. She said factors such as light, temperature, water, dirt, bugs, pollution and handling, can compromise the integrity of pieces in a collection.

"The most important thing to monitor is the environment," Smith said.

As a conservator, Smith's duties include cleaning, reconstructing, stabilizing and preserving cultural property and works of art. She said preserving involves seven steps: minimizing the effects of light, providing stable, moderate relative humidity and temperature, minimizing pest activity, knowing how to handle objects, knowing how to display objects and knowing how to properly store objects.

She said lighting plays a major role in deteriorating the quality of items and can cause fading and chemical damage to items such as curtains, rugs, clothing, prints or paper items, paintings and furniture. The higher the light energy, the more damage caused; and it has cumulative and irreversible effects.

The dangers of relative humidity and temperature rank high on the precaution scale as well, Smith explained. Extremes in these two areas often occur in basements, attics and garages, and speed up the deterioration process. Placing sensitive objects over active fireplaces, next to heating and cooling vents, in direct sunlight or in bathrooms should be avoided, she said.

According to Smith, centrally-located closets remain one of the best storage areas for valuables. Lowering home temperatures where valuables are stored by at least 18 degrees Fahrenheit will double the life span of art, particularly with chemical deterioration.

Smith pointed out by limiting pest activities with good house-keeping and proper storage collections, items will remain intact. She suggested inspecting objects annually for signs of insects.

In addition, she said handling objects with clean, dry, lotion-free hands or clean cotton or plastic gloves will increase their lifespan. Natural oils and acids from the skin can stain paper and soft ceramics, corrode metals and dissolve furniture finishes.

Smith said one of the most important items in many personal collections is photographs. Because they hold such a high value to most people, she said preserving them should involve several steps: duplicating, avoiding light and humidity exposure, keeping animals, food and pests out of contact, always wearing clean gloves, handling objects by holding the edges, never bending photos, keeping the photos dust-free, and using a graphic pencil rather than a pen for labeling.

She suggested the following precautions when preserving books, video tapes, cassettes and CDs/DVDs: making sure the books on the shelves stand upright with firm support, making sure books are one inch from the edge of the shelf which will show any signs of dust or insect activity, watching out for cockroaches and silverfish because they love to eat books, avoiding magnets because of possible erasing, avoiding the sun because of warping to reels and cassettes, storing tapes on end, similar to book storage, to prevent warping, rewinding tapes after recording or playbacks, storing discs out of direct sunlight or artificial light, storing discs individually in dust-free cases and envelopes, never stacking bare discs on top of each other, and storing discs at 50 degrees Fahrenheit and at 40 percent relative humidity in the long-term.

For those interested in learning more, Smith recommended the book "Saving Stuff: How to Care for and Preserve Your Collectibles, Heirlooms, and Other Prized Possessions" by Don Williams, senior furniture conservator at the Smithsonian Institute. She also suggests consulting Light Impressions, University Products, the American Institute of Conservators, or herself, at corey-smith@semtrebe.com, for more information.



Chris C. Jenkins

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum Conservator Corey Smith discusses and answers questions on photograph care and maintenance.



# HOLLYWOOD



(L-R) Dorothy Tommie, Mary Gay Osceola and Wilmeth DeHass cut the ceremonial ribbon for the seniors' new computer lab.

## Seniors Attend Computer Lab Opening

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — Although the seniors have worked on computers for many months,

they are now able to do so in their own environment in the Senior Center.

Wilmeth DeHass, Dorothy Tommie and Mary Gay Osceola, joined Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr., for the ceremonial ribbon cutting to officially open the computer lab in the Hollywood Senior Center on Sept. 12.

Fabel said he has worked with the Tribal citizens weekly since May, teaching various technical functions including how to operate various computer programs, and even digital photography.

"These trainings are probably the most successful here in Hollywood," he said. "The students really enjoy it."

Fabel said he has worked with the Tribe for approximately three years and makes weekly visits to each reservation.



(L-R) Instructor Roger Fabel teaches Dorothy Tommie basic steps in the Microsoft Windows operating system.

# Gaming CEO Speaks at Annual Summit

BY SHELLEY MARMOR  
Assistant Editor

**HOLLYWOOD** — For the third year in a row the Florida Gaming Summit took place at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

The Tribe's CEO of Seminole Gaming James Allen gave the opening keynote address at the summit, which took place Oct. 7, in the main ballrooms.

Allen, a nearly-30 year veteran in the gaming industry, began his 20 minute speech by discussing the successes of the Hard Rock International, calling it "one of the hottest brands in the world." Allen said the Hard Rock has had 8.8 million media profiles this year; meaning that many articles have featured or referenced the Hard Rock brand name.

"This is not just luck," he said. "We think we work a little harder, we think we work a little smarter than other gaming facilities."

Allen went on to attribute much of the Hard Rock's success to the Seminole Tribe and the Tribal Council, saying "their perseverance is why we're here today." He also said all 30,000 employees at Seminole gaming facilities worldwide strive to focus on three key things while on the job: quality, service and efficiency.

He concluded his speech saying that Hard Rock International must look to the future, which he said will center on technology. Allen said in the future, the Hard Rock's collection of music memorabilia — the largest in the world — will be interac-

tive so guests can feel more involved with one of the Hard Rock's most impressive facets.

In a panel discussion that took place later in the day, Tribal General Counsel Jim

Shore discussed the topic "Seminole Compact: Understanding and Impact," and President of the Tampa Hard Rock John Fontana spoke during the "Building Responsibility into an Expanding Market" panel.



CEO of Seminole Gaming James Allen speaks during the opening keynote address at the annual Florida Gaming Summit on Oct. 7.

## BIG CYPRESS

# Construction Scheduled to Begin at Basin 4

SUBMITTED BY ERMD

**BIG CYPRESS** — Starting in December, residents in Big Cypress will see construction begin in the pastures and cypress heads just north of the new waste-water treatment plant.

Basin 4, the next contract in the series of four storm water treatment projects, will include 3.5 miles of canals, two pump stations and three access roads. Basin 4 is located at the north boundary of the Big Cypress Reservation, just west of the North Feeder Canal.

Construction is expected to continue through June 2009, so residents in Big Cypress will probably see some dust and hear some noise from the trucks and dozers working in the area.

When completed, Basin 4 will be

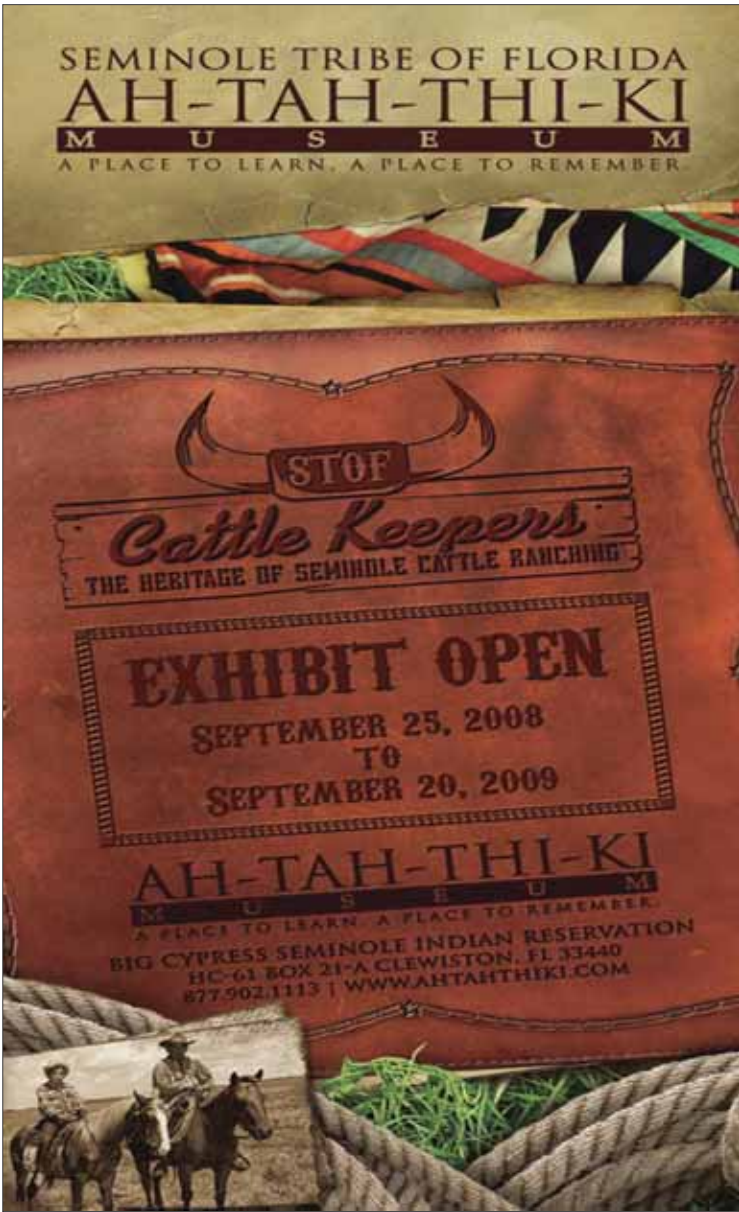
another part of a larger plan to clean fertilizer contamination from storm water runoff that causes so much trouble in the everglades. Basin 1, located by the citrus groves near the West Feeder Canal Bridge, is 99 percent complete. The Environmental Resource Management Dept. (ERMD) began water monitoring for Basin 1 on Aug. 15. It is still too soon to observe any improvement in the water quality, but sampling will continue for future analysis.

Anyone with questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Roberto Castillo (863) 902-3200, Ext. 13414.

Remember, construction work is interesting to watch, but don't get close. The machine operators are watching their work and not expecting someone to be near them, so please stay safe by staying away.



Basin 4 in Big Cypress





## BIG CYPRESS



Instructors and participants of the Big Cypress Star Search Music Camp gather onstage.

Judy Weeks

## Seminoles Attend Star Search Music Camp

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Out of 26 finalists, David Billy won the grand prize during the 2008 Seminole Star Search finale back in February.

Taking the stage at the Seminole Star Search Music Camp, held Oct. 4-5 in the Big Cypress Gym, Billy provided the participants with an opportunity to see what possibilities lie ahead for those willing to work hard to achieve their dreams.

"Participating in the Seminole Star Search has opened new doors for me," Billy said. "Retiring from my career in law enforcement, Micki Free offered me a position on his staff. I am learning about music productions and traveled with him to Nashville, where he is currently recording 'Star Search Winners' for distribution."

"The Star Search Winners" CD, produced by Micki Free and sponsored by the Tribe, will soon be released for sale to the public. It will be available at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino gift shop in addition to numerous other locations in the near future.

Free, director of Seminole heritage events and promotions, a veteran of the music industry who has toured with music super-groups including Kiss and Rush, also hosted the music camp.

"The Seminole Tribe believes in you and the sky is the limit," he said. "We have established the Star Search Music Camp to identify your desires and supply you with the knowledge to assist in your ascent to stardom."

Event organizers designed the camp's curriculum to appeal to all levels of experience as well as all age groups. From 1-year-old Rain Cypress, who sang nursery songs, to young adults, the participants received instruction on topics such as stage presence and finding inspiration.

"Music is a spiritual expression of our soul and talent," Free said. "Our curriculum is designed to stimulate and excite aspiring artists from all genres. Our highly experienced instructors look forward to enhancing the presence of the artists and provide the impetus for them to achieve their goals."

Coming from diverse backgrounds, each of the instructors provided their own take on how to succeed in the music industry, as well as critiqued each performer.

The instructors included: Matt Kramer, the former lead singer of the band Saigon Kick, hip-hop songwriter/producer Prince Markie Dee, one of the original members of The Fat Boys, who has also written and produced songs for Jennifer Lopez, Mariah Carey and Beyonce, Cima Georgevich of the Redline Media Group who has worked with R. Kelly and Foxy Brown, and Sally R. Tommie, the Ft. Pierce Liaison who



(L-R) Kaylee Jumper and Emilie Bowers sing a duet at the music camp.

Judy Weeks

brought her six years of experience from the Barbizon School of Modeling to the music camp.

"There is so much creativity and talent on the reservations," Liaison Tommie said. "If you have it and don't share it, you are committing a crime."

"It is important to develop your charisma and project yourself to your audiences," she added. "With a positive image, you will shine."

After the judges' introductions, Free addressed the audience. He said they would first participate in several evaluations, all designed to help them hone their skills so they can pursue their talents.

The participants then took the stage for karaoke sing-along's and evaluations. With no sign of stage fright, Adakai Robbins, 6, belted out his tune, before bringing sister, Natomah, to the stage to join him. Elijah Billie, and brothers Jared and John McInturff followed.



Judy Weeks

Self-taught musician Preston Osceola has an ear for music.

lowed. Kaylee Jumper, a participant from Star Search 2008, returned and performed a duet with Emilie Bowers.

Using Adrienne Cypress, 14, as an example, judge Matt Kramer pointed out her use of correct pitch, singing in tune and hitting every note following her performance.

After watching Preston Osceola, 14, tune his own guitar and listening to him play Shinedown's hit song, "45," Micki Free congratulated him on his ability and professionalism. Self-taught, Preston began playing at age 7. He recently joined the music class at Adventure Christian Academy in Tavares, Fla. and also joined DV8 Youth Celebration Appraise, a non-denominational Christian band, as their only guitarist.

Robert Cypress' performance of the Guns N' Roses hit "Sweet Child of Mine" on his acoustic bass guitar also caught the attention of the instructors.

"The performances of both young men were outstanding," said Free. "When we hold our next music camp in January, I would look forward to seeing if they wouldn't complement each other by playing together. I see the prospects of an awesome duo."

By the final day of the camp, the artists discussed techniques and experiences amongst themselves. They shared equipment and ideas while talking about future jam sessions, song arrangements and Seminole Star Search 2009.

"These music camps are only the beginning," said Free. "The Seminole Tribe is serious about supporting you. The Tribe is all about building a foundation for its youth, who represent the next generation."

"We hope to see numerous contestants at the music camp in January, and February try-outs," he added. "The Seminole Star Search 2009 finale will take place on March 27."

## TAMPA

## Tampa's Council Oak Celebrates First Anniversary 'Deadliest Catch' Wizard Capt. Keith Colburn Attends Event

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**TAMPA** — The Tribe's fine dining staple restaurant, Council Oak Steaks & Seafood in the Tampa Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, turned 1 year old on Sept 27. Invited guests helped commemorate this milestone in a special celebration held onsite.

Since the Council Oak opened in 2004 in both the Seminole Hard Rock Hotels on the Tampa and Hollywood Reservations, it has catered to patrons with a taste for the finest in USDA steaks and local and imported seafood.

The restaurant ages its meat for 21 days in a Himalayan pink salt brick-lined butcher shop to ensure quality. In addition, the Council Oak serves seafood from local waters, live Maine lobster and fresh Alaskan king crab imported from the Bering Sea brought in regularly.



Chris C. Jenkins

Captain Keith Colburn (Second from Right), star of the popular Discovery Channel docu-drama, The Deadliest Catch, with Tampa Hard Rock staff after presenting the hotel with an autographed picture of his famous fishing vessel, Wizard.

The eatery gets its name from the iconic, ancestral oak tree of the same name located on the Hollywood Reservation just outside the Seminole Classic Casino.

A special generation of Seminole leaders regularly met beneath the tree to conduct business meetings and other affairs before the establishment of the Tribal Headquarters building. The oak still stands today and serves as a symbol of tradition, pride and strength within the Tribe.

Captain Keith Colburn also joined the festivities for a special cooking and crab presentation in the VIP Plum Lounge.

Best known as captain of the World War II-era Navy ship, and now converted fishing vessel, Wizard, Colburn's take charge character shines on the hit docu-drama television series The Deadliest Catch. The popular show premiered on the Discovery Channel in 2005, and airs in more than 150 countries.

"The show is a good way to document what I do," he said. "It captivates different people for different reasons."

With an extensive food menu and a wide-ranging wine selection Council Oak Steaks & Seafood also features a cozy lounge with live entertainment nightly.

Every seat in the dining room has a direct view of the state-of-the-art chef's kitchen, as well as wine rooms which unfold as a theater, behind floor-to-ceiling glass. The restaurant has gained recognition nationally, as well by Wine Spectator Magazine receiving the coveted Award for Excellence.



Chris C. Jenkins

Keith Colburn explains the importance of proper crab cooking and preparation to the audience.

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# Seniors Attend Cherokee Fair & Fall Pow-Wow

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**CHEROKEE, N.C.** — Several of Immokalee's seniors boarded an excursion bus on Oct. 8 for a five day trip to the Cherokee Fair & Fall Pow-Wow.

Rachel Billie, Linda Frank, Pete Aguilar, Nancy Motlow, Elaine Aguilar, Ruth Osceola and Mary Sanchez visited the Appalachian Mountains during a time when the landscape provided one breathtaking view after another, as the leaves on the trees changed color in the refreshingly cool temperatures.

The seniors watched the Cherokee Pow-Wow performers and then spent a day exploring the Fair and Flea Market. Hunting for bargains amid the wide assortment of Native American merchandise, they picked up new ideas, as well as purchases.

Many Seminole seniors attended boarding school in Cherokee during their youth. Each time they return, they hope for the opportunity to meet former schoolmates and renew old acquaintances. Both Mary Sanchez and Elizabeth Tiger Olea had the good fortune to encounter some old friends and reminisce about their pasts.

Leaving the Pow-Wow behind, the seniors got down to the real purpose of their trip — shopping.



The Immokalee seniors take in the beautiful vistas created by the Smokey Mountains.

Pete Aguilar



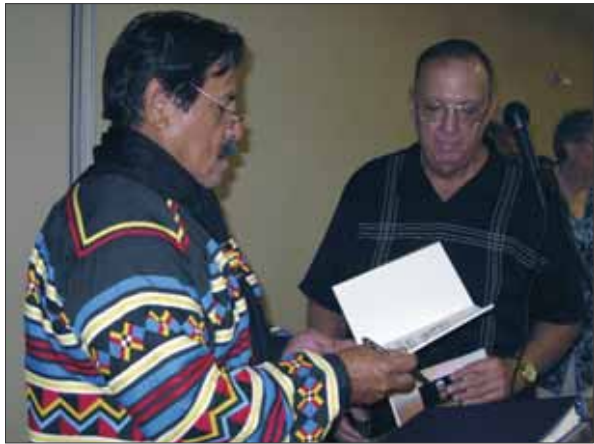
The many colors of the changing autumn leaves surround the seniors, (L-R, Back Row) Rachel Billie, Linda Frank, Pete Aguilar, Nancy Motlow, Elaine Aguilar, (L-R, Front Row) Ruth Osceola and Mary Sanchez in the Appalachian Mountains.

Photo Submitted by Pete Aguilar

Cherokee's surrounding areas boast many unique stores with superior art and craft supplies and hard-to-find merchandise that appeal to Native American culture. The shoppers spent a full day visiting The Medicine Man, fabric stores, bead outlets, and a multitude of quilt shops. Meandering through the fabric stores in Asheville, N.C., the ladies renewed their sewing supplies for the next season.

"I wouldn't think of going to Cherokee without stopping by Talking Leaves," Immokalee Tribal Council Liaison Elaine Aguilar said of one of her favorite stores. "I have done a lot of traveling, but as far as Native American bookstores are concerned, they are at the top of the list. It's a treasure chest of information and memorabilia."

Taking a side trip across the state line into Tennessee, the group visited the Smokey Mountain Knife Works in Sevierville, beside Pigeon Forge. With more than 10,000 items on display, the seniors spent hours examining and purchasing knives, large pots, skillets, forks and spoons for use in outdoor cooking, as well as in their kitchens.



Marisol Gonzalez

Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr. autographs his "Echoes in the Wind" book of original poetry at the Homestead Public Library.

## Tribal Citizen Speaks at Public Library

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOMESTEAD** — Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr. spoke and recited his original poetry as part of the ongoing Bea Peskoe Luncheon Lecture Series, held at the Homestead Public Library on Oct. 6.

Jumper took the podium and spoke about his life, telling stories about where he came from, his upbringing and Seminole heritage. He intrigued the listeners with stories about his grandmother, Ada Tiger, and his mother, Betty Mae Jumper, who actually spoke at the same lecture series about a decade ago.

Jumper said these two Tribal matriarchs inspired him throughout his life. He recalled childhood memories of his mother selling traditional arts and crafts as souvenirs just so his family could survive.

"We needed to do whatever we can to make our living," Jumper said.

He then went on to read poems from his book of original poetry, "Echoes in the Wind," which included the poems "People of Poetry," "The Council Oak," and the title poem, "Echoes in the Wind." He also read a poem entitled "Simplicity," which he said garnered him awards in poetry contests he has entered.

Jumper said he strives to foster self-expression within the Tribe. He said he also hopes to keep history of the Seminoles

alive throughout his poetry, and encourages others to find a way to express themselves.

A question and answer session with 10th graders from Colonial Christian School in Homestead followed Jumper's reading and lecture. Members of the Homestead Center for the Arts committee, the organization that sponsors the Bea Peskoe Luncheon Lecture Series, also posed questions at the presentation's conclusion.

Margaret Staples, president of the Homestead Center for the Arts, presented Jumper with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the committee.



Marisol Gonzalez

Guest speaker Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr. reads his poetry during the Bea Peskoe Luncheon Lecture Series.

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# Tribe Holds Numerous Summer Activities for Youth

BY ROBERT C. NORTH SR.  
Contributing Writer

Cooperative partnerships on various levels allowed for expanded activities for Seminole youth during the summer of 2008. Government, departmental and enterprise partnerships provided prevention services for Tribal youth from several reservations throughout the summer months.

Event organizers encouraged the youth to participate in a wide variety of events and activities throughout the summer; all of which engaged and informed them. Summer youth events and activities, co-sponsored through Tribal departments, enterprises, individuals and government grants, covered a vast array of subjects at various locations.

## Seminole Broadcasting Dept. Video Workshop

During the week of June 23-27, the Seminole Broadcasting Dept. held their second annual Youth Filmmaking Class at the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center. Ten Tribal youth from various Seminole reservations and communities participated in this weeklong event.

The event's partnership between the Broadcasting, Boys & Girls Club and Education Departments, worked well for the recruitment and execution of the Youth Film Workshop.

## Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference in Orlando

The Boys & Girls Club, Seminole Police, Health, Education and Family Services Departments facilitated daily classes, as well as provided technical assistance and conference support for the 2008 Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference. The conference took place at the Royal Pacific Hotel in Orlando.

More than 150 Tribal youth participated in classes which included: Team Building, Interactive Financial Training, Cal Ripken Quickball, a revolutionary sport that promotes agility and eye-hand coordination and combines elements of softball and baseball, and presentations by tribal departments including Family Services, Allied Health Presentation, Fitness and Culture.

## Seminole Culture and the Mikasuki Language

Staff, parents and youth participated in classes on Seminole arts and crafts, culture and the Mikasuki language.

"During the youth conferences, the Culture Class is always busy with youth making items in the morning and their parents and grandparents sewing in the evenings ... it is a very busy time," Jo Motlow North, Hollywood Culture Dept. coordinator said. "But I think we are all learning together ... like the old days in our Indian Camps".

During the classes, Victor Billie from the Immokalee Culture Dept. spoke to the youth about the Mikasuki language, its history, specific words, and how to pronounce these words.

## Teen Action Program (funded by the National Center for Victims and Crimes)

A member of the Boys & Girls Club staff, in partnership with a Seminole Police Dept. officer, presented a lesson on labeling and self identity to teen age youth in attendance. Teen Action classes also took place at the Hollywood Reservation Teen Center.

Teen Action participant Katy Young reflected about the classes.

"We got to interact with each other [teen participants] and learn about serious matters," Young said.

## Team Building:

Boys & Girls club staff presented fun and exciting activities focusing on the importance of team building. Youth of all ages participated in activities like "Tin Foil Tower Building" and "Ping Pong River Crossing" during the annual youth conference.

"I believe that the more we, as Tribal leaders, mentors, officers or community members, stress to the youth that no one is perfect and there are people that who care about them, we will begin to see changes in them for the better," said Officer Michelle Daza of the Seminole Police Dept. about the Youth Conference's effectiveness. "The Youth Conference is the perfect tool to reach out to the youth."

## Interactive Financial Training:

Youth participants were presented a brief presentation about protecting their wealth and financial planning. Upon completion of the presentation the teens were able to play the board game "Life". During the game the instructors went to each table asking questions which prompted discussions concerning loans, employment, education and much more.

Upon closing, the "winners" and "losers" shared their experiences about the strategies and obstacles they faced with during the exercise.

## Tribal "Bucks" and Store

For the second consecutive year, the Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference has sponsored a "Tribal Store." This "store" is designed for the participating youth to earn "Tribal Bucks" to either save or spend. The "Tribal Bucks" were a facsimile, but can be tendered for the designated period of time at the conference "Tribal Store."

At the end of each Youth Conference day, the "Tribal Store" would open for business, whereby youth participants could purchase store items for various prices. Qualified youth participants could choose to save their "Tribal Bucks" throughout the duration of the conference and earn twice the amount of "Universal Dollars," which they redeemed as real money during their trip to the Universal Theme park and at the Universal Hotels.

This exercise, coupled with the "Interactive Financial Training" class, has proven itself as a viable financial teaching mechanism for Tribal youth. A form of these classes/exercises will be offered throughout the



Robert C. North Sr.

Thelma Bowers of the Boys & Girls Club displays a tarantula at the Boys & Girls Club/Okalee Village summer field trip, "Close Encounters."



Robert C. North Sr.

(L-R) Tribal youth Raymond Osceola and Preston Osceola work on their kayaking skills during the Boys & Girls Club's Summer Wilderness Adventures Series.



Robert C. North Sr.

SPD Officer Michele Daza (second from left) works with Seminole youth during an interactive "Immersion" class at the Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference.



Robert C. North Sr.

Chandler DeMayo tries to decide what to buy with his hard earned "Tribal Bucks" at the Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference.

year at the Seminole Boys & Girls Clubs.

## "Immersion Presents"

The Immersion Program, provided through a prevention grant, aimed to help educate youth on the importance of science and the value of the earth and its oceans.

The program contains curriculum with several classes that are taught over a period of several months. The youth learned during a class titled "Ancient Eruptions" at the 2008 Hollywood/Non-Resident Seminole Youth Conference, July 7-10 in Orlando.

Boys & Girls Club staff and Seminole Police Department Officer Michele Daza conducted four activities from this series with a large number of youth in attendance. Youth participants learned about the geology and archeology of the Sea of Crete, the Aegean and Black Seas. In addition, the Boys & Girls Club

presents the class "The Secrets of the Gulf (Gulf of Mexico)" on a weekly basis.

The Seminole Police Dept. was actively involved with the program by assisting with preparation, conducting and monitoring of the weekly classes. Youth are learning about an expedition that took place in the Gulf in 2007 and what scientists learned about its delicate ecosystem, as well as the importance of its preservation. The youth have already completed four of the eight activities included in this series.

## "Camp Hercules"

"Camp Hercules" took place Aug. 11-14 in Mystic, Conn., with one Boys & Girls Club staff member and two youth participants in attendance. During the four-day camp, the participants participated in fun, interactive activities while challenging them to use what they have learned from the "Immersion Presents" classes held at their local club.

The club earned points for each challenge completed, earning second place honors for their overall efforts. The activities took them out on the ocean in a schooner, crab hunting, to the Mystic Seaport and Mystic Aquarium, and on the last night they attended a beach party.

"The classes in the aquarium were cool," participant Anissa Osceola said.

## Cal Ripken Badges for Baseball Program\*

The Boys & Girls Club partnered with the Seminole Recreation Dept. and the Seminole Police Dept. to sponsor the "Cal Ripken Badges for Baseball Program." Baseball legend Cal Ripken Jr., and his brother, Billy, designed the sport to incorporate healthy lifestyle decisions and good sportsmanship for youth.

A portion of the program, called "Quickball," takes place inside a gym and/or a large indoor space on rainy days. A large number of participants, divided into three age categories, can play the fast-paced sport which allows all participants to remain physically active for longer periods of time.

Seminole youth and Recreation Dept. staff, through the resources afforded by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, attended the Cal Ripken Baseball Camp in Aberdeen, Md.

"It was fun because there were a lot of things to do; like the zip line, canoeing, tubing, pool, basketball and the game room," said youth participant Devan Bowers.

## Seminole Okalee Indian Village

Through the cooperation of the Seminole Okalee Indian Village's General Manager Leoma Poore, the Boys & Girls Club youth got the chance to interact with and learn about various animals of historical

important to their ancestors. Through these supervised "Close Encounters" program, youth handled raccoons, alligators, tarantulas and learned about their specific habitats.

The Okalee Indian Village will also provide similar animal encounters within the coming months.

## Wilderness Culture Camps

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America's "Sustainability" and "Teen Action" grants, club fund raising activities and Hollywood Board Rep. Gloria Wilson each contributed to the success of the 2008 Wilderness Culture Camps that took place in remote areas of Idaho for Seminole youth and parents. Tribal citizen Herbert Jim served as the Seminole cultural instructor, and taught the youth about Seminole culture, traditions and the Mikasuki language.

Toby Patrick of the Umatilla Tribe acted as a cultural consultant and interpretive guide for the Idaho wilderness, his ancestral homeland. Seminole youth also learned basic survival skills, including how to set up and dismantle a camp and river navigation skills. The youth got to see a pristine portion of the U.S. and about the importance of preserving such remote locations for future generations.

The Wilderness Camps brought youth, parents, grandparents and staff together for a remote outdoor experience. In addition to partaking in several water-sports activities, the youth also camped out in the wilderness.

"It was 'scrafun,'" said participant Delia Harjo, who invented her own word, a mixture of "scary" and "fun," to describe her Wilderness Camp experience. "It's better to be in the woods because it is quiet ... more of an adventure!"

The Wilderness Culture Camps further help in building positive group, community and leadership skills amongst the participating youth.

New Website – [seminole-bgc.org](http://seminole-bgc.org)

The Boys & Girls Club of the Seminole Tribe of Florida recently developed a new website as an information tool for youth, parents and community members. This website, [seminolebgc.org](http://seminolebgc.org), will provide up-to-date and future club events and activities.



Robert C. North Sr.

Deila Harjo cuddles a baby raccoon at a Okalee Village, "Close Encounters" visit at the Boys & Girls Club.



Robert C. North Sr.

(L-R) Marsha Osceola and Deila Harjo show off their hair do's during the Boys & Girls Club's Summer Wilderness Adventures Series.



Robert C. North Sr.

(L-R) Raevin Frank and Leisset Baker at a Health Dept.-sponsored early morning walk during the Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference.



Robert C. North Sr.

Seminole youth work on culture projects at the Hollywood/Non-Resident Youth Conference in Orlando.



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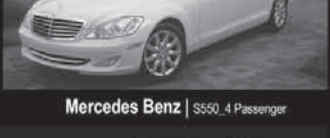
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Judy Weeks

Jessica Lopez, who raised a Grand Champion steer in the past, hopes to do it again this year with "Bubba."

## Seminole 4-H Begins 2008-2009 Steer Projects

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

Seminole 4-H participants officially began their 2008-2009 Steer Projects on Sept. 13-14 with the initial weigh-in.

Seminole 4-H Director Polly Hayes, her assistant Dionne Smedley and 4-H Extension Agent Michael Bond joined the youngsters, their parents and advisors at Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee to complete the task.

Deviating from previous years, steer selection and delivery took place during the last week in June, rather than late July as in years past. This decision provided numerous advantages, including the 4-h'ers receiving younger, less aggressive livestock of a more manageable weight. In the meantime, the ranchers could separate their calves in preparation for marketing and herd management.

"Summer school vacation gave the participants additional time to become acquainted with their steers

and begin the taming and handling process," Hayes said. "I already see an increase in parental participation from previous years. Teaching responsibility and building family cooperation are 4-H goals."

Brangus steers for the program came from the herds of 43 Seminole cattle owners and belong to superior quality livestock. Registration of projects included eight from Immokalee, four from Big Cypress and 23 from Brighton.

Evidencing a remarkable difference from previous years, the majority of these haltered animals made their way to the scale chute with ease. Each steer, weighing an average of 700 pounds, received a careful exam for identification and health purposes prior to receiving an ear tag and worming.

A meeting took place with the 4-H advisor at each reservation for enrollment and registration. Each participant completed a steer contract and received their member record book. Joining the owners of past Grand and Reserve Champions, the runner-ups and first time participants began a very productive new season.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Jay Roberts places his hand on his steer's head as he introduces him to Ethan Aguilar.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Juan Saldana gives Aaron Alvarado tips on leading "Charlie."



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Roy Alvarado watches Luke Hamlett tag "Charmander" for his son, Jonah.



Judy Weeks

Owner of the 2008 Grand Champion steer, Kenny Davis Jr. (R) shows off his 2009 prospect to bystanders.



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# Tribe Headlines Economic Consortium in Washington D.C.

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**WASHINGTON** — The Tribe continued to redefine and diversify its business and economic interests as members helped lead the way in the formation of a nationwide consortium called the Native American Group.

At a press conference that took place on Sept. 23 at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the Native American, the group outlined its purpose — to lead the way toward increased buying power across the country among Native Americans in the beef and cattle industry.

"A year ago we thought of a way to help all of the Tribes be successful and to be rich, not in gaming, but in natural resources," President Richard Bowers Jr. explained. "The climate and the time were right to establish this type of arrangement; and now is the time because everyone is looking to save."

In addition to the Seminole Tribe, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, the Oneida Nation, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, the Jamestown S' Klallam Tribe, the Campo Kumeyaay Nation and the Yankton Sioux Tribe, make up the Native American Group.

"I think this is an outstanding opportunity in Indian country and the Department of Interior is very proud to play a part in this effort," Indian Energy and Economic Development Director with the United States Department of the Interior Robert Middleton said.

Great Plains Indian Gaming Association Executive Director J. Kurt Luger expressed big hopes for the alliance as well.

"This is a whole new phase of commerce and it will be even bigger than gaming," Luger predicted.

Seminole 4-H Coordinator Polly Hayes, who also sits on the board for the Brighton Cattle Committee and owns cattle, said she saw the idea as a great one.

"It is something that needed to be for a long time," Hayes pointed out. "By doing this it gives other Tribes opportunities as well to ship their cattle out. It also gives them and us another form of revenue."

With Native American Tribes already producing 40 percent of the cattle processed in the U.S., President Bowers and other officials in the consortium said they can provide a more constant supply of beef operating as a bloc.

The Native American Group also aims to bring together larger varieties of beef cattle by combining resources. The Tribe's warm-weather Angus Brahma herds and the full Angus cattle from the Great Plains Tribes are two examples of such a benefit.

"I believe this whole plan is the future," President Bowers said.



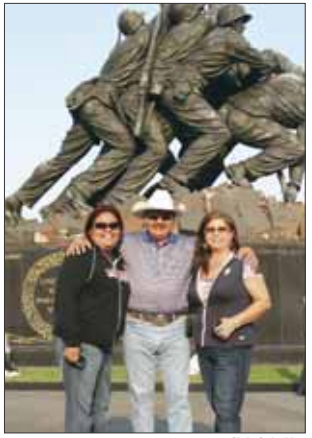
Tribal citizens take in the sights at the National Museum of the Native American. (Front Row, L-R) Mary Tigertail, Polly Hayes, Garret Thomas, Brian Bishop, (Back Row, L-R) Janice Osceola, Joe Osceola, Louise Gopher, Big Cypress Board Rep. Cicero Osceola, Reina Micco, Anna Bowers, President Richard Bowers Jr., Wendi Riley and Ciara Billie-Guerue.



President Richard Bowers Jr. addresses the guests and media in attendance at the consortium.



Members of the newly formed Native American Group Consortium, including President Richard Bowers Jr. (Second from Left).



President Richard Bowers Jr. (C) with Administrative Assistant Ciara Billie-Guerue (L) and wife Anna Bowers (R) at the U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial.

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## Seminole Media Debuts Cattle Documentary

SUBMITTED BY SEMINOLE BROADCASTING

**CLEWISTON, Fla.** — Cattle owners who assisted in the making of the *Seminole Cattle Heritage* video joined Tribal representatives and Tribal citizens for a screening of the documentary film, held Sept. 24 at the Clewiston Inn.

*Seminole Cattle Heritage* is a 40 minute documentary produced by Seminole Media Productions that chronicles the history of the Seminole Tribe's lucrative and successful cattle industry.

It traces the Tribe's involvement with cattle, beginning in the 1500s when the Spanish introduced cattle to North America, through the present day. The video highlights the early formation of the cattle program as the first economic arm of the Tribe, women's roles in the cattle industry, the Red Barn in Brighton and Big Cypress and the introduction of new technologies.



(L-R) President Richard Bowers Jr. and Chairman Mitchell Cypress present an award to the family of Agricultural Agent Fred Montsdeoca.



Family members surround Jack Smith Sr. (C) as President Richard Bowers Jr. (L) and his son, Brighton Council Rep. Roger Smith, present the Tribal cattle pioneer with an award.

Members of the Seminole Media Productions team interviewed cattle owners from both Big Cypress and Brighton for the video. These Tribal citizens provided first-hand insight and shared their own memories and experiences about the Tribe's involvement with cattle. They also discussed what this tradition means to individual owners, as well as the Tribe as a whole.

Joe Osceola Sr. and Jack Smith Sr., both original cattle owners who contributed to the video with their recollections of the early days and changes to the cattle program, received special awards at the event. The family of Fred Montsdeoca accepted an award on behalf of their late father, the government's agricultural agent who assisted early Tribal cattle owners with improving their ranching techniques.



Asst. Natural Resource Director Alex Johns (L) and Chairman Mitchell Cypress (Second from Left) honor longtime cattleman Joe Osceola Sr. (Third from Left), as his family members surround him.





The new exhibit, complete with rare Seminole artifacts and collectibles.

Chris C. Jenkins

## ❖ Cattle

Continued from page 1A

said. "It is about learning, and I was happy to be a part of it."

Rounding out the day's events, the fifth grade Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School students recited the Pledge of Allegiance in Creek, and Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr. and Norman "Skeeter" Bowers recited poetry.

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum is a Tribally-owned and operated flagship facility. It sits in the Everglades on a 66-acre cypress dome in Big Cypress. With 10,000 square feet of gallery space, the museum features rare artifacts and other collections depicting Seminole life. It is open daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and is located north of I-75 at Exit 49.

For more information, please call (877) 902-1113 or visit [www.ahtahtiki.com](http://www.ahtahtiki.com).



Chris C. Jenkins

Braided whips donated by Tribal citizen and cattle owner Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr.



Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal citizen and 15 year cattle owner Paul Bowers Sr. talks about his involvement in establishing the exhibit.

### The Legacy of Marsh Cow-Pens

How long has this faded beaten set of pens been around? Honestly, I really don't know... Surely it has been in existence for generations of the Brighton Seminole.

Only the first Brighton cattle ranchers would know that answer, but they have perished with our tears... Gone, but not forgotten, for we still hear the cry of calves, Calling just like they have throughout the years...

If these pens could talk, what would they say? Honestly, I really don't know... They may say we've persevered as the good and bad times would come and go.

We have seen many cows and cowboys walk through our gates during seasons of hot and cold. Back then we were built to help create the future of the Brighton Seminole.

From our loading ramps we have watched the Seminole cattle get shipped throughout the good ole USA. The round ups and cookouts are memories of a time long past away...

Today, we still stand representing a dream and a vision of a people long ago...

The Marsh pens are forever etched into the history of the Brighton Seminole...

— Norman "Skeeter" Bowers



Chris C. Jenkins

The fifth grade students of the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School perform the Pledge of Allegiance in Creek.

Look forward to more Cattlekeepers in the Nov. 28 issue.

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**Were you a Little Mr. or Little Miss?**

Do you have pictures of a past Little Mr. or Little Miss?

Can you help us identify some of the past Little Mr.'s and Little Misses?

If you do, please contact (954) 966-6300 Wanda Bowers Ext. 11468 Mercedes Osceola-Hahn Ext. 11162 or Alice Billie (863) 902-3224

The Princess Committee is collecting photos from the past. If you or someone you know has photos of Little Mr.'s or Little Misses help contribute to Seminole history by submitting your photos to the Seminole Princess Committee.

Or if you were a Seminole Princess and have a Portrait with your crown and sash please share it with us.

-Wanda Bowers  
Princess Committee Chairwoman

\*Photos will be returned\*

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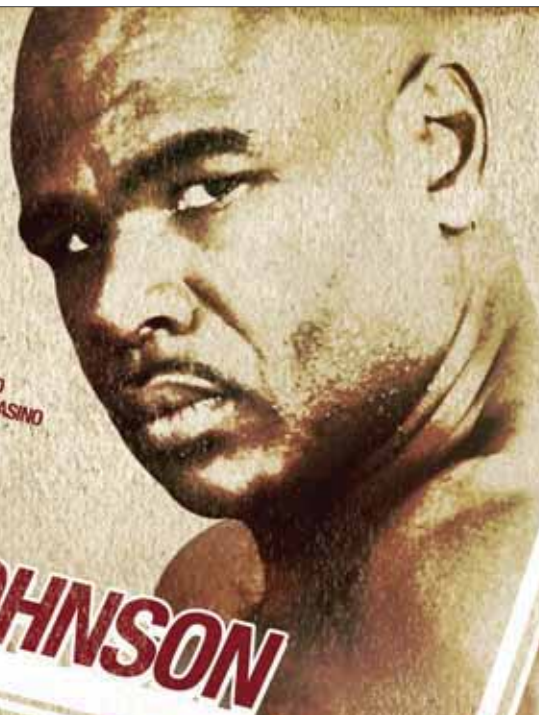
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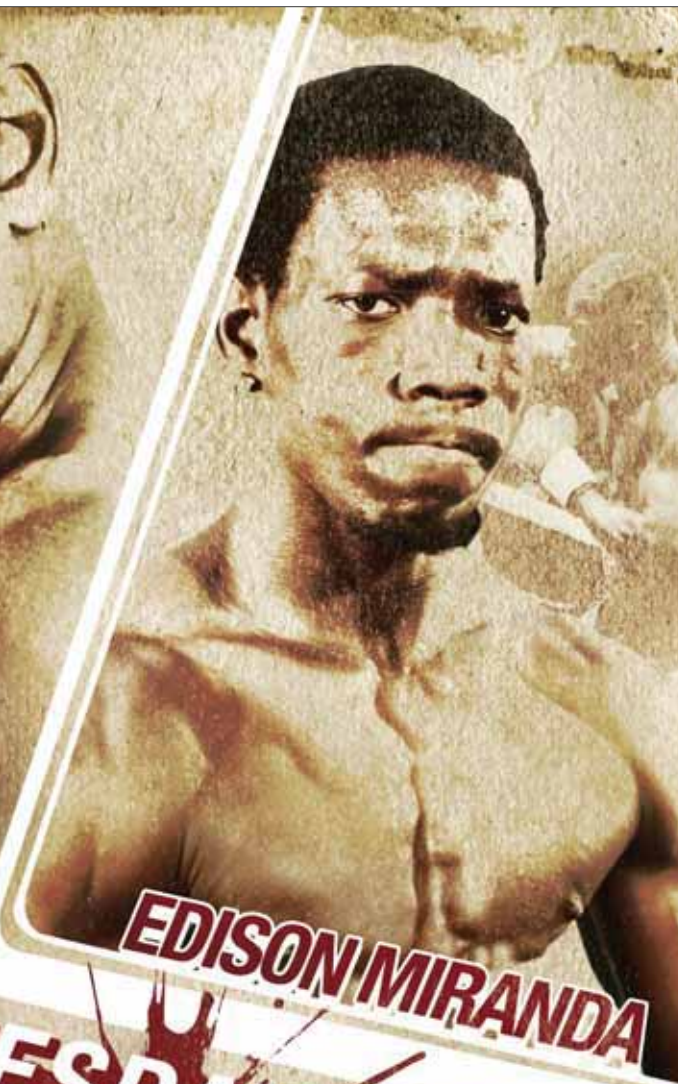
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# Education

Ahfachkee School . . .2B  
Charter School . . . .3B  
Native Book Review . .3B

# B

## Dejong Frank Receives GED

BY JASMIE PORTER  
Adult Vocational Advisor

**HOLLYWOOD** — After leaving high school at the age of 16, Dejong Frank joined the Seminole Tribe of Florida's GED program. At first he struggled with adapting to his GED education plan, but within a couple of days, he overcame this struggle and completely adapted to his new routine.

Every day he would meet with a tutor and study different topics covered on the GED test. With great ease, Frank grasped these subjects which include science, geometry and grammar.

He has shown that through determination and short-term goal setting a person can master something that may seem intimidating and overwhelming at first. It only took Frank a short time to prepare before he felt ready to take the GED examination to earn his high school equivalency diploma.

"The GED test is easier than you think," Frank said. "So don't lose hope!"

Within five months of deciding to study for the test, Frank accomplished his goal of obtaining a GED. He said the hardest part of the process was coming to tutoring on time — but he managed to do it. He says that his mom, Donna Frank, made him come and that he now thanks her for being such a strong supporter.

"She put her trust in me that I could actually do it," Frank said of this mother.

Frank's future plans include getting his driver's permit and sleeping instead of spending time studying. He currently works in the Work Experience Program within the Education Dept. and said he plans to take an American Sign Language class at Broward College in the future.



Submitted by Jasmine Porter

Dejong Frank



Marisol Gonzalez

Maiyah Bert slides out of the bounce house, one of only a few carnival-themed activities the students enjoyed at the Back-To-School Bash.

## Trail Community Hosts Back-To-School Bash

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**MICCOSUKEE** — The Education Dept. held the first Back to School Bash of the 2008-2009 school year for the Trail Seminoles in the Miccosukee Resort ballrooms on Sept. 11.

Trail liaison William Osceola welcomed more than two dozen students and their families. He also extended his gratitude to the Education Dept. staff, including Director Emma Johns, for organizing the event.

"I am very excited about this school year," Johns said. "The Education Department is here for you; whatever you need, just give us a call."

Johns said the department decided to title the carnival-themed event "Bring Your 'A' Game" because so many of the Tribe's youth enjoy playing sports. She said she hoped that enthusiasm will carry over into their academic studies.

In addition to the edible carnival treats, the students enjoyed playing in the bounce house and on the inflatable jousting mat. Several lucky winners, Suraiya James, Randelle Osceola and Kaylene Osceola, also took home raffled prizes including two RipStik® Caster Boards and a scooter.

The Education Dept. has plans to host similar initiatives on all reservations. For more information please contact each reservation's education advisor.



Marisol Gonzalez

Kaylene Osceola, 8, takes off in excitement after receiving her scooter from Education Dept. Director Emma Johns (L).



Chris C. Jenkins

Ahfachkee School students and staff march together down Josie Billie Highway in celebration of Spirit Week festivities.

## Spirits Soar at Annual Ahfachkee Event

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — The Ahfachkee School hosted several activities during its annual Spirit Week, held Sept. 22-25 at the school.

The four days of festivities included: stickball games, Seminole storytelling, a "Meet Me at the Pole" school prayer gathering led by Big Cypress Baptist Church Pastor Bruce Pratt, Seminole show and tell with culturally-related attire and items, a community walk and a spirit rally held at the Herman L. Osceola Gym to close out the week.

"Ahfachkee is making good use of this and spirits are really high," Chairman Mitchell Cypress said. "It is really nice to continue to introduce and emphasize learning about our culture to our future leaders."

"It is also good that we are having this and that the kids are into it," he added.

First year Ahfachkee School Principal Walt Swan expressed excitement at attending his first Spirit Week.

"It has been really enlightening," he said. "You see a lot of other schools that do this sort of celebrating around sports, but it has been great to see here."

"I love to see this kind of thing and hats off to the Culture Department for everything they have done with this event," Swan continued.

The Ahfachkee preschoolers got into the celebration as well with their own clothing contest, craft work and a

## Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School Holds Art Contest

**Third Graders Jalynn Jones, Camryn Thomas Have Winning Artwork Displayed on Brighton's Indian Day T-Shirts**

BY MICHELE THOMAS  
Charter School Administrative Assistant

**BRIGHTON** — For the second year in a row, the Brighton Indian Day Planning Committee requested the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School hold a student art contest.

Jalynn Jones and Camryn Thomas, both in Mrs. Leslie Pryor's third grade class, won the contest. Their winning art work was used for the Brighton Indian Day T-shirts given out at this year's Indian Day community activities.

The winners were announced at a school-wide assembly, held Sept. 15 at the school, where Brighton Tribal Council Rep. Roger Smith and Brighton Board Rep. Johnnie Jones Sr., and others, congratulated this year's winners.



Michele Thomas

Contest winners (L-R, Bottom Row) Jalynn Jones and Camryn Thomas with Brighton's representatives (L-R, Top Row) Johnnie Jones Sr., Board Rep., and Roger Smith, Tribal Council Rep.

Please see SPIRIT ♦ Page 2B





Chris C. Jenkins

## Continued from page 1B

"I am so proud of them," she said. "I am the most proud though because it is very hard to get the students to perform in front of a crowd a lot of times"



**Second grader Eliza Billie dons her finest traditional attire for the march.**



**Akira Cabrel finishes making his Seminole doll.**

**BY CHRIS C. JENKINS**  
Staff Reporter

"The idea for the event is to let parents see what their children are doing after

At the Open House, hosted by the Big Cypress Education Dept., Willie Frank Library and the Culture Dept., parents had the chance to meet departmental staff and discuss topics such as tutoring, building safety and rules and afterschool programs.



**Chris C. Jenkins**

ther.



**Mahala Osceola practices putting a puzzle together.**



**At the event, the community youngsters practice problem solving skills with games and toys.**

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# Education Dept. Director Recognizes Employees

BY EMMA JOHNS  
Education Dept. Director

As we all know a department can only be as great as its employees. I truly value each and every Education Dept. staff member who I have the pleasure of working alongside everyday. I do my very best to acknowledge their hard work and effort that they put forth to help our Tribal students and families.

On Aug. 15 I decided to recognize three outstanding employees for their continued invaluable work with the Education Dept.

I have also decided that I will continue to recognize outstanding employees on a quarterly basis in an attempt to show my gratitude and appreciation for their commitment to the Seminole families.

Thank you all for realizing what it means to work as a team and thank you for being committed to your jobs and to the Seminole Tribe of Florida. I appreciate each and every one of you and all that you do.

*June-August 2008 Outstanding Education Department Employees*



Submitted by the Education Dept.  
(L-R) Tony Bullington, Jasmine Porter, Raysa De La Paz and Emma Johns, Education Dept. director.

Tony Bullington

Tony Bullington is presently the program manager for the Education Dept. and works out of the Brighton Office. He has been with the Tribe for nine years, working with Education for the past four and had two stints with the Family Services Dept. the previous five years.

Tony has a bachelor of art's degree in theology from Florida Southern College and a master's degree in psychology from Palm Beach Atlantic College. He is also a licensed mental health counselor who has spent three years as a junior high teacher and coach and 10 years as a rehab counselor and school counselor before coming to work for the Tribe in 1998.

Tony loves working with the Seminole students and works hard daily to insure that they receive all of their educational services. He is an invaluable employee with the Education Dept.

Raysa De La Paz

Raysa De La Paz is the administrative assistant for the Education Dept. She came to this to this country in 1981 at the age of 16. She completed high school in 1984, and then attended St. Thomas University for two and a half years to study business administration. Before completing her degree program, Raysa got married and had children.

Before coming to work for the Tribe she worked in the medical field and also worked for the Dade County Public School System as a paraprofessional. She took on a receptionist position for the Education Dept. in 2003 before being promoted to administrative assistant in 2005.

Raysa is an invaluable part of the Education Dept. team and many of her co-workers have said that our department would be lost without her here to keep us all straight.

Jasmine Porter

Jasmine Porter currently holds the position of adult vocational administrator for the Education Dept. I often say she does the work of five people and I can always count on her to get the job done. Jasmine has been with the Tribe since February of 2005.

She holds a bachelor of art's degree in cultural anthropology for the University of Vermont and a master's degree in psychology from Florida International University.

## Education Advisory Board, PAC Representatives

### Education Advisory Board

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#### Tampa

Stephanie Johns, K-12 Advisor

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Jackie Smith takes a leap off a cliff into the waters of the Atlantic Ocean below.

Chris C. Jenkins

## ❖ Jamaica

Continued from page 1A

"It was a lot different but it was cool." Simmons said he hopes to further his education by studying criminal science at the college level; and if not, he said he plans to open a small business.

As a member of a big family with seven brothers and sisters, high school graduate Ashley Santiago said she hopes to inspire her family and others to also excel in academics.

"I tell my sisters to hang with the right crowds and do whatever it takes to finish high school," she said.

The 18-year-old graduated from Palmetto High School in June. Her future plans are to attend Manatee Community College and finish at Florida State University. Her interests are nursing or education.

Nick Frank also finished his high school studies in June, graduating from Lake Gibson High School. The martial arts aficionado in the Tae-Kwon-Do and Tang-Soo-Do disciplines said he has always enjoyed traveling, having a trip to the Bahamas under his belt as well.

"I always wanted to see Jamaica and what the nature and scenery was like there," Frank said.

Future plans for him and brother, Aaron, include opening a martial arts studio.



Chris C. Jenkins

(L-R) Graduates Clayton Simmons and Stephanie Johns take in the beautiful farmland setting of the Nine Mile village in the St. Ann Parrish.



Chris C. Jenkins

Nick Frank enjoys the river waves while on the Chukka River Tubing Safari.



Chris C. Jenkins

Tampa Liaison Richard Henry motors down the road on his ATV.



Chris C. Jenkins

Tribal graduates aboard an Open Air Museum filled with authentic and replica artifacts from the slavery era in Jamaica. (L-R, Seated) Ashley Santiago, Stephanie Johns, Jackie Smith (L-R, Standing) Nick Frank, Clayton Simmons and Aaron Frank



Chris C. Jenkins

The graduates inside the Hard Rock Café in Ocho Rios; (L-R) Clayton Simmons, Nick Frank, Stephanie Johns, Ashley Santiago and Aaron Frank.



Chris C. Jenkins

A marketer carves an authentic wooden Jamaican mask.



Chris C. Jenkins

The childhood home of Jamaican legend, Bob Marley



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# Sports

# C



David Nunez, who won first place in Men's 9-Ball, lines up his shot.

Felix DoBosz

## Fierce Competition at Randolph Clay Memorial Tourney

BY FELIX DOBOSZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — Tribal citizens competed in 8-Ball, 9-Ball and Scotch Doubles games during the 12th annual Randolph Clay All Indian Memorial Pool Tournament, held Sept. 5-6 at the Gym.

The two-day event had a good turnout with adults 18 and older competing on nine tables. The stiff competition lasted into the late night hours for this double elimination event.

Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress performed some of his best moves and took first place, along with partner Laura Clay, in Senior Scotch Doubles competition, and also in the Seniors', Ages 50-59 and Men's Singles 8-ball games.

Roy Snow and Theresa Nunez took first place in the 8-Ball Adult Men's and Women's competitions, respectively. In 9-Ball action, Boogie Nunez and Phalyn Osceola claimed the top spots in the Men's and Women's divisions, respectively.

Mother of the late Randolph Clay, Betty Osceola, said she likes to shoot pool; not only because it's fun, but also because it helps her remember her son. She said Randolph was an excellent pool shooter, often playing all night.

She said no one could beat her son during the peak of his amateur pool career. As a teenager in the Job Corps, she said Randolph discovered his natural abilities in the game and dreamed of turning pro one day. She said he helped support his family by sharing his winnings.

### Results of the 12th Annual Tournament



Felix DoBosz

Roy Snow takes aim, and eventually goes on to win first place in Men's 8-Ball.

#### 8-Ball

Junior Boy's: 1. Chief Billie, 2. Daniel Rodriguez, 3. Arek Jumper, 4. Neko Osceola; Junior Girl's: 1. Cheyenne Nunez, 2. Mailani Perez, 3. Ravenne Osceola; Senior Men, Ages 50-59: 1. David Cypress, 2. George Grasshopper, 3. Daniel Gopher, 4. Billy Brown, 5. Ricky Doctor; Senior Women, Ages 50-59: 1. Jane Freeman, 2. Laura Clay, 3. Dale Grasshopper, 4. Diana OnlyAChief, 5. Mary Jo Micco; Senior Men, Ages 60 and Older: 1. Russell Osceola, 2. Buddy Sweat, 3. Joe Billie, 4. Jimmie Bert, 5. Keeno King; Senior Women, Ages 60 and Older: 1. Louise Osceola, 2. Louise Billie, 3. Betty Osceola, 4. Juanita Osceola, 5. Annie Jumper.

#### Scotch Doubles

Senior Division: 1. David Cypress and Laura Clay, 2. Russell Osceola and Juanita Osceola, 3. Jimmie Bert and Jane Freeman, 4. Gary Clay and Diana OnlyAChief, 5. Lonnie Billie and Louise Osceola; Men's Division: 1. Roy Snow, 2. Charles Osceola, 3. Jadrian Antuna, 4. Gary Clay, 5. Robin Buster; Women's Division: 1. Theresa Nunez, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Diana OnlyAChief, 4. Virginia Billie, 5. Linda Jones; Co-Ed Division: 1. Raymond Garza and Virginia Billie, 2. David Cypress and Phalyn Osceola, 3. Roy Snow and Theresa Nunez, 4. Danny Billie and Martha Tommie, 5. Boogie Nunez and Crystal Weimann.

#### 9-Ball

Men's Division: 1. Boogie Nunez, 2. Jack Billie, 3. Raymond Garza, 4. Tony Billie, 5. Roy Snow; Women's Division: 1. Phalyn Osceola, 2. Tonya Jumper, 3. Virginia Billie, 4. Theresa Nunez, 5. Martha Jumper.



Marisol Gonzalez

Chebon Gooden (R) prepares for punt return from Miami Douglas MacArthur North.

## Westlake Prep Emerges Victorious in Season-Opener

**Catlin Tommie, Chebon Gooden on Team**

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

**HOLLYWOOD** — Linebacker Catlin Tommie and center Chebon Gooden, along with the rest of the Westlake Prep Griffins, played their first home game on their new field on Oct. 10.

The Westlake Prep Griffins brought their A game against the Miami Douglas MacArthur North football team. The Griffins beat the opposing team in a shut out victory, 27-0.

Tommie, 15, has played football since he was about 4 years old, and Gooden, 16, has played for the past five years. Both said they partake in the sport for many reasons, but both also admit they just enjoy playing the game.

Tommie said: "It's what I like to do."

Gooden said he gets inspired to play ball by his uncle, Moses "Bigg" Jumper Jr., the Seminole Recreation Dept. director, and enjoys it because it's a contact sport.



Marisol Gonzalez

Catlin Tommie (C) gets introduced before the game

## INFR Qualifiers Announced at EIRA Rodeo Event

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Eastern Indian Rodeo Association members competed in their regional finals on Aug. 22-23. During the two-day event, held at the Junior Cypress Entertainment Center, competitors participated in events to determine who would qualify for the



Judy Weeks

EIRA President Paul Bowers coils his rope for the Legends' Division competition.

Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR).

Native Americans from as far away as Arizona and Montana joined local contestants in hopes of earning one of the coveted spots at the 33rd Annual INFR, which took place Oct. 2-5 in Las Vegas.

The two nights of strenuous competition completed the 2008 circuit of 11 rodeos, which generated the necessary points to determine the grand champion, reserve champion and sudden death qualifiers honored at the End of the Year Awards Banquet, held Aug. 24 in Big Cypress.

"For many of our members, competing in rodeo is living their dream," said EIRA President Paul Bowers. "They love what they do and work hard to achieve their goals; good sportsmanship, self-respect and responsibility make them all winners."

In addition to several qualified rides in the bareback and saddle bronc divisions, the crowd remained on the edge of their seats as one rider after another became hung up in their rigging.

As a classic example, Jacoby Johns rode his eighth seconds, earning 68 points. Then the worst of the battle began as he fought to free his hand while the bronc continued to buck its way around the arena, dislodging its rider. The pickup men and bull fighters rushed to Johns' rescue and came away without a scratch.

If it could go wrong, it did go wrong, particularly in the steer wrestling event, where Johns faced even more tribulations.

Refusing to give up and coated with red clay, Johns finally flipped his steer after it dragged him across the arena. In addition, Kyle Dennison rolled over several times in the steer wrestling event, and Ivan Bruised Head drew a bad steer then broke his

stirrup.

On a far happier note, Norman Johns returned to rope in the Legends' Division breakaway competition after overcoming a serious illness. He also showed optimism about the upcoming new season.

The 2007 Grand Champion bull rider Justin Gopher sustained serious injuries during a fight with a bull several months earlier. These injuries prevented him from competing in some of this season's rodeos. However, he returned to the arena in time to earn the reserve championship and become the sudden death qualifier in the bull riding competition, behind Casey McDonald.

Barrel racer Jo "Boogie" Jumper added first and second place points to her already impressive score for the grand championship. Hot on her heels in the reserve position, Mackenzie Bowers will join Jumper at the INFR.

Accompanying women's breakaway Grand Champion Carol Holyan, Leanna Billie won the sudden death qualifier in both the breakaway competition, and as a team roping header.

In a rare twist of fate, none of the bull riders completed their eight seconds at either of the regional finals. Marty Johns accepted the buckle on behalf of his Marki Rodeo bulls.

Several upsets took place in the Junior Rodeo Division competition. Alyssa Gonzalez triumphed against Grand Champion Rayven King for first place during her initial attempt in the mutton bustin' event. With a fourth place average, Brighton Bauman sped past the grand and reserve champions to earn first place in the 4-8 year old barrel racers' division. Steer rider Dalton Koenes triumphed against Kelton Smedley and Andre Jumper for the top slot.

## Recreation Dept. Awards Honor Tribe's Star Athletes

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**TAMPA** — Some of the Tribe's best athletes took center stage at the annual Tampa Recreation Center Awards Banquet, held Sept. 18 at the Crowne Plaza Tampa Hotel East.

Tribal citizens, as well as family and community members attended the event to celebrate the athletic accomplishments of the Tampa Reservation's elementary and middle school students.

"We wanted them to know we are proud of them," second year organizer and Tampa Recreation Director Mayra Simmons said.

Simmons said the ceremony usually takes place in conjunction with the annual Incentive Awards, held in late-June or early-July. She explained that organizers had to push the date back due to scheduling conflicts and a busy year; however added that it was better late than never.

Tampa Liaison Richard Henry, who also attended the event, said holding the two events together "go hand-in-hand."





Theresa Nunez, who won first place in Adult Scotch Doubles with partner Roy Snow, takes aim during the competition.

Judy Weeks

# Candy Osceola Remembered at 12th Annual Memorial Pool Tournament

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

The 12th Annual Candy Osceola Memorial Pool Tournament took place in two parts, with the Senior and Youth Division competition taking place on May 9 at the Hollywood Gym, and Adult Division play rounding out the tournament on Oct. 4 at the Immokalee Pool Barn.

Gathered in her memory, family and friends talked about the highlights in the life of Candy Osceola. Candy's sister, Carlene DiCarlo, said the family hosts a pool tournament each year because her sister enjoyed the game so much.

"She loved pool, so it was only natural that we decided to hold these annual tournaments in her memory," DiCarlo said.

Mom Juanita Osceola recalled fond memories of her daughter.

"She was a fun loving, happy-go-lucky girl right from the first day that she came into our lives," she said. "Her life was just begin-

ning, when we lost her in a car accident 12 years ago."

"She was a terrific mother to her two little boys," added Osceola. "The oldest, Nelson, has just recently turned 18, and his brother, Justin is 16."

Big Cypress Tribal Council Rep. David Cypress also remembered Candy, stressing the importance of the legacy her sons carry on.

"In our society the mothers pass our heritage down from one generation to another through their blood," Rep. Cypress said. "Candy has done her part in carrying on our culture through her sons. They are her legacy and through them, she will always be remembered."

The Adult Division, which took up 14 tables in the Immokalee Pool Barn, lasted more than six hours. The adults battled it out in 8-Ball, Scotch Doubles and 9-Ball competition. At the end of the tournament, the winners were determined based on combining the results from both dates of play.

## Results from the Tournament

### 8-Ball

Senior Women: 1. Diana OnlyAChief, 2. Laura Clay, 3. Jane Freeman, 4. Juanita Osceola, 5. Annie Jumper; Senior Men: 1. George Grasshopper, 2. David Cypress, 3. Roy Snow, 4. Billy Brown, 5. Daniel Gopher; Junior Girls: 1. Jessica Osceola, 2. Cheyenne Nunez, 3. Mallani Perez, 4. Rebecca Osceola, 5. Brianna Harjosee; Junior Boys: 1. Neko Osceola, 2. Arek Jumper, 3. Daniel Nunez, 4. Nelson Osceola, 5. Randy Osceola; Women: 1. Phalyn Osceola, 2. Arica Buck, 3. Theresa Nunez, 4. Linda Billie, 5. Virginia Billie; Men: 1. Raymond Garza Sr., 2. Jack Billie, 3. Gary Clay, 4. Russell Osceola, 5. David Cypress.

### Scotch Doubles

Seniors: 1. Jimmie Bert and Jane Freeman, 2. David Cypress and Laura Clay, 3. Robin Buster and Betty Osceola, 4. Daniel Gopher and Diana OnlyAChief, 5. George Grasshopper and Dale Grasshopper; Adults: 1. Roy Snow and Theresa Nunez, 2. Jack Billie and Arica Buck, 3. Russell Osceola and Juanita Osceola, 4. Raymond Garza Sr. and Virginia Billie, 5. Ralph Sanchez and Phalyn Osceola.

### 9-Ball

Women: 1. Phalyn Osceola, 2. Virginia Billie, 3. Erica Mata, 4. Theresa Nunez, 5. Juanita Osceola; Men: 1. Tony Billie, 2. Gary Clay, 3. Mike Dewitt, 4. Jack Billie, 5. Roy Garza Jr.

## Awards

Continued from page 1C

This year, the athletes received trophies, a change from the ribbons presented at last year's ceremony.

"They really like getting trophies," Liaison Henry said.

The Tampa Bay Lightning and the Orlando Magic both donated items includ-

ing backpacks from the Magic, and an autographed Lightning Vinny Lecavalier jersey, which staff members raffled off at the banquet. The Recreation Dept. also raffled off an autographed baseball bat from 2005 Major League Baseball Hall of Famer Wade Boggs.

Liaison Henry added that the athletes will also receive regular season game tickets to Orlando Magic basketball games, which the team donated.

## Tampa Recreation Center Awards Winners

Tae Kwon Do: Tyrek LaSane

Karate: Nick Frank, Caven Guzman

Football: Reese Henry, Andrew Henry, Justin Motlow, Brenna Walton

Basketball: Reese Henry, Andrew Henry, Ohana Henry, Danelle Thomas, Jeremiah Santiago, Jacob Santiago

Baseball: Jeremiah Santiago, Jacob Santiago, Jacob Smith, Nicholas Smith, Justin Motlow

Softball: Summer Smith, Reese Henry, Andrew Henry

Tennis: Summer Smith, Jessica Motlow

Volleyball: 1. Jessica Motlow, Justin Motlow, Brenna Walton, Ohana Henry

Soccer: Reese Henry, Andrew Henry, Justin Motlow, Brenna Walton

Track: Reese Henry, Andrew Henry, Dante Henry



Chris C. Jenkins

Tampa Liaison Richard Henry (R) congratulates Ohana Henry on her volleyball sports award.



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## 'Mad Bear' Osceola, Braddock Bulldogs Football Team Undefeated

**BY CASSANDRA OSCEOLA**  
Contributing Writer

Junior "Mad Bear" Osceola, the varsity defensive end for the G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School Bulldogs, is in his third year of playing football.

In his first year as a freshman on the Osceola varsity team, Osceola played as starting linebacker. He received two awards from his coaches that year — Junior Varsity Linebacker of the Year and Junior Varsity Coach's Player of the Year.

By the next year, Osceola moved up to varsity squad. Though he did not start for the team, he played back-up defensive end. He always plays in whatever position his coaches need him in, even playing both offense and defense on the junior varsity team.

His dedication to his team paid off, as Osceola again received an award for Sophomore Player of the Year. Osceola's coaches have said that he is a coach's dream and they would have him on the field the whole game, if they had their pick.

Family members and friends have also noticed his abilities and dedication. Osceola averaged seven tackles per game, has had a few sacks and recovered a fumble. His name recently appeared in *The Miami Herald* for his solid defensive playing, which helped lead his team to their win against Varela Senior High School.

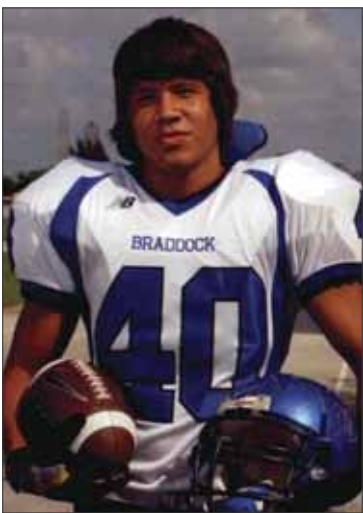
The Braddock Bulldogs are last year's undefeated reigning district champs. They are working hard to claim that title again this season. They are currently undefeated with a 4-0 record in District 15, 6A Division in Miami-Dade County.

A well-liked *Oseola* excels off the field as well, and works hard to raise his GPA because he understands the importance of education and good grades. He hopes to obtain a scholarship to study zoology.

He also enjoys hanging out with his friends and working with his dad on chickee building, construction and whatever else the family needs. He is a good son, brother and friend to those who know him. His family is proud of his success, and wants to share it with the

friends and family who don't get to see him much, since he practices and works so much.

Osceola is a traditional Miccosukee Seminole who stands 5 feet, 9.5 inches tall and weighs 180 pounds. He is part of the Bird Clan, with three-fourths native blood through his parents, Leroy and Cassandra. Osceola has two brothers and three sisters.



**Junior "Mad Bear" Osceola**



In addition to this thriving football career, "Mad Bear" Osceola also helps his dad build chickees.



An aggressive Elliot Alvarado (L) looks for an opening on his opponent. Omar Brown.

## Tribal Boxer Alvarado Returns to the Ring

**BY CHRIS C. JENKINS**  
Staff Reporter

**PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla.** — Tribal citizen and boxer Elliot Alvarado hoped to pick up where he last left off — triumphing against a debuting Robert Dorch by a first-round KO last April.

In his toughest match to date, Alvarado took on West Palm Beach's Omar Brown, a fellow debuting fighter, at the PGA National Golf Resort and Spa on Sept. 20. Alvarado entered the match at 3-0, but now has a 3-1 record after a unanimous decision loss to Brown.

This bout tested Alvarado's will, stamina and perseverance as he appeared slow in shaking off the rust against Brown. The confident, but ill-prepared young fighter Alvarado went the full four rounds, but ultimately lost to Brown.

Both went back and forth early on, with Brown's aggressiveness gaining him control. He used his power, quick hands and jab work to land twice the number of shots as Alvarado.

After taking some shots early and going down briefly in the first from a strong right hand, in true Seminole warrior form, Alvarado fought back hard, countering with combos. Brown came with several flurries throughout and a slow-to-react Alvarado also got caught with several clean hits.

Tired, bruised and battered after the fight, Alvarado admitted he did not bring his A game to this fight.

"I just did not follow through with the game plan Benny [Collins, my trainer] set," he said.

Alvarado, however, offered some assurances and

words of encouragement to his supporters.

"We are going to get back into training and we will be back," he said.

Trainer Benny Collins said the long layoff between fights definitely hurt Alvarado's chances of a victory.

"I think he stayed out a little too long and I am taking the blame for that," Collins explained. "He was slow and a little off with his timing."

"We will rebound and be back at it soon," he continued.

Collins said he plans to have Alvarado back in the ring in late November for a Las Vegas bout.

In their other boxing action at the same event, Daniel Edouard won with a scary, but convincing, first-round KO against Francisco Ruben Osorio. An unconscious Osorio received medical attention on the scene for several minutes after the bout, and eventually went to a local hospital as a precaution.

In welterweight action, Antwone Smith picked up a win via majority decision against Jerome Ellis. Aaron Chavez picked up his second win by a unanimous decision in his match-up against Dan Calafell in the super featherweight division.

Heavyweights Erik Leander and John Cobb squared off, with Leander staying undefeated with a unanimous decision win. Isiah Thomas also won with a first round KO win against Tyrone Dicks in lightweight action.

Welterweight Clayvonne Howard took care of business against Brandon Reid by TKO in the third. Dieuly Aristilde also grabbed his third win by a unanimous decision against Leon Palmer in a heavyweight match-up.

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(L-R) Leslie Osceola, who finished fourth in the 18-49 runners division, crosses the finish line accompanied by Lt. Doug Zamora of SPD.

## Indian Day Kicks Off with 3 Mile Walk/Run

BY SHELLEY MARMOR  
Assistant Editor

**HOLLYWOOD** — Fifteen Tribal citizens and several more community members participated in the first Indian Day event that took place to commemorate the holiday on Sept. 26.

The Indian Day Walk/Run, a 3 mile trek through the Hollywood Reservation, took place bright and early at 7:30 a.m. The route, the same that has served as the Rez Rally route in year's past, began on 64th Ave. just outside the gym. Participants then completed the course and eventually ended up back at the starting point.

Though the walk/run was not timed, Huston Osceola, 14, finished first. He completed the course in about 35 minutes, according to Brenda Bordogna of the Health Dept., who assisted during the event. Osceola, competing in the 17 and younger runner's division, said he did not really prepare for the race itself, but said he stays active with his favorite sport, paintball.

Travis Osceola finished shortly after Huston, claiming the top spot in the 18-49 runners category. Francine Osceola and Barbara Billie, rounded out the category, respectively. Other finishers in the runner's category included: Phyllis Osceola who placed second in the 17 and younger division, and Paul "Cowbone" Buster who came in first in the 60 and Older division.



First place finisher Huston Osceola, 14, rehydrates after completing his 3 mile run.

For the walkers, finishers placed as follows: 17 and Younger: 1. Gabrielle Billie; 18-49: 1. Rebecca Billie; 50-59: 1. Bobbie Billie, 2. Dan "Chuck" Osceola Jr., 3. Stephen Bowers; 60 and Older: 1. Dorothy Tommie, 2. David Jumper, 3. Coleman Josh.

Prior to the race's start, Kenny Bayon of the Fitness Dept. took participants through a five minute stretching warm-up. Paul "Cowbone" Buster provided an invocation, then the participants lined up for the race's start.

Members of the Seminole Police Dept. and Emergency Management Services attended both as participants and to ensure the safety of the participants.



Participants (L-R) Dan "Chuck" Osceola Jr., Barbara Billie, Dorothy Tommie and Stephen Bowers begin the walk/run.



First place finisher in the 60 and Older walker's category, Dorothy Tommie taps the cone at as she crosses the finish line.



First place 18-49 division runner Travis Osceola rounds the cone at the finish line.

## Indian Day Golf Tourney Draws Competitors

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**CLEWISTON, Fla.** — Tribal citizens, their spouses and employees headed to the links to celebrate Indian Day 2008 with a golf tournament at the Cleviston Country Club on Sept. 24.

During the game, each competitor played separately until the conclusion when they learned the game had a twist. After tabulating each person's individual score, organizers had a drawing to determine who would "partner" with whom in this two-man blind draw.

After this partnering, organizers tabulated the new scores to determine the winners: 1. Allen Huff and Raymond Garza Jr., 2. Charlie Cypress and Cicero Osceola, 3. Jackie Thompson and George Grasshopper, 4. Mitch Osceola and Mario Posada, 5. Mondo Tiger and Virginia Billie.

A strong wind with powerful gusts ushered in cooler temperatures during the tournament, but played havoc with the golf balls. The wind worked for and against the players, making each shot hard to predict and landing many balls in the sand traps and lakes.

Raymond Garza caught a shower of sand in the face while managing a beautiful shot that landed his ball next to the pin on No. 8.

"Golf is a game of challenge," Garza said. "There wouldn't be any point in playing if we could all make perfect scores every game."



Raymond Garza extracts his ball from the trap on No. 8 in a shower of sand.



(L-R) Mondo Tiger and Bobby Frank prepare to tee off on the third hole at the Indian Day Golf Tournament.

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# EIRA Members Compete in Indian National Finals Rodeo

**BY JUDY WEEKS**  
**Freelance Reporter**

**LAS VEGAS** — The top Native American rodeo cowboys and cowgirls competed at the 33rd Annual Indian National Finals Rodeo (INFR), held Oct. 2-5 at the South Pointe Casino Arena. This final event for the 2008 season comprises four evenings of rodeo competition with a final average determining the Grand World Champions in each event.

Brighton's Jacoby Johns joined the ranks of the elite when his scores after four days of rodeo, averaged 267 points and positioned him in fourth place in the Bareback Riding competition. The 2008 Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (ERIA) Reserve Champion recently reached the age to qualify as an adult and competed against experienced riders many years older from all across the U.S. and Canada.



Pete Aguilar  
EIRA Bull Riding 2007 Grand Champion and 2008 Reserve Grand Champion Justin Gopher (R) retrieves his bull cinch from the arena.

The 2008 EIRA Grand Champion Team Ropers, Header Josh Jumper from Big Cypress, and Heeler Preston Williams, grabbed fifth place in the final averages. This is not a first time success for Jumper, who frequently qualified for the INFR and holds an outstanding record during the past decade. Williams travels from Casa Grande, Ariz. to compete in the EIRA, and also earned their 2008 Calf Roping Championship.

"Indian National Finals Rodeo sanctions over 700 rodeos each year and is comprised of thirteen regions," said President Richard Bowers Jr., also an INFR board member. "Their ultimate purpose is to engage in activities that teach and present

the ranching and rodeo traditions of Native American people. They work with a variety of youth rodeo organizations to promote education, athletic and charitable programs."

Tribal citizen Willie Johns, a six-time INFR qualifier, and also a board member, echoed President Bowers' comments.

"I grew up in rodeo and have competed in Saddle Bronc, Bareback and Team Roping events," said Johns. "With a degree in history and political science, I am keenly aware of the challenges that face Native Americans today as well as the past. I see the INFR and EIRA as an opportunity to assist in the growth of the future generations of our people."

EIRA President Paul Bowers said the organization he heads has "come a long way."

"Our region has taken its place in sanctioned rodeo and is now drawing competitors from other areas of the country as they accumulate their points to qualify for the INFR," Bowers said. "You will recognize many of the names on the list of average winners as people that you watched compete in Brighton, Big Cypress, Hollywood and Arcadia during the past year."

The 2008 EIRA Grand Champions, Freddy WarBonnet, Casey McDonald and Lizzie Dixey also excelled in the competition in Las Vegas. WarBonnet took seventh in the Bareback, McDonald earned a third place finish in Bull Riding and Reserve Champion Lizzie Dixey came in third place in the Breakaway.

The competition wasn't all fun and games. EIRA Bronc Riding Grand Champion Tyler Humble broke his ankle in multiple places on his first night out. Bull Riding 2007 Grand Champion and 2008 Reserve Justin Gopher pulled a third slot, but then sprained his ankle in the fourth round.

The crowd roared on the third night when Saddle Bronc 2008 Reserve Champion Ivan Bruised Head got bucked off his mount, flew over the fence and landed in a woman's lap in the audience. Both parties managed to escape injury, and Ivan did the gentlemanly



Pete Aguilar  
This Native American Color Guard salutes all veterans before the INFR events get underway.

thing and introduced himself to the lady.

The 2008 INFR Bull Riding World Championship went to Greg Louis with 220 points. A native of Browning, Mont., he has many Seminole friends and frequents the EIRA as a Bull Rider and Team Roper.

Prior to each presentation, Native American veterans participated in a flag presentation by their Color Guard. Leading them into the arena, a buckskin headdress-clad Native American symbolized the first Americans who fought for freedom.

On one night of the competition, and in recognition of October as National Breast Cancer Awareness month, organizers encouraged participants to wear pink. The three rodeo pick up men stood on top of their saddles and danced to The Village People's classic hit "YMCA" during the opening ceremonies to draw attention to this very important cause.

Before each performance, Rodeo Queen contenders brought the Seminole Tribal flag into the arena. Miss Indian Rodeo 2008 Vonna Victor (Navajo) thanked the Seminole Tribe of Florida on behalf of everyone in the INFR for their sponsorship.

Tour Champion and Go-Around Buckles went to event winners in the Arena Barn following each performance.

An awards presentation took place on the evening of Oct. 5 for the 2008 INFR World Champions: Bareback Riding: Nelson Tsoisie; Saddle Bronc: Rollie Wilson; Bull Riding: Greg Louis; Break Away: Katelin Loring; Barrel Racing: Raynell Holgate; Calf Roping: Mark Cuny; Steer Wrestling: Wright Bruised Head; Team Roping Header: Ty St. Goddard; Team Roping Heeler: Terry Doka; Men's All Around: Jess Colliflower; Women's All Around: Cassidy Dennison.



Tom Faherty  
(L-R) Tampa senior citizens Linda Henry, Peggy Cubis, Nancy Frank, Maggie Garcia and Susie Doctor get a bird's eye view of the Grand Canyon.

## Seniors Travel to Vegas to Support INFR

**BY JUDY WEEKS**  
**Freelance Reporter**

**LAS VEGAS** — Several Tribal seniors traveled to Las Vegas on Oct. 2 in support of the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association's athletes competing in the Indian National Finals Rodeo. The 33rd annual event took place at the South Pointe Casino's indoor arena, the same hotel the seniors stayed in.

Gathering in the bleachers four evenings in a row, the group cheered for their family members, friends and neighbors during the intense competition for the championship in each event. Their shouts of encouragement provided inspiration and moral support for the participants in this dangerous sport called rodeo.

The seniors also took advantage of the daylight hours with a tour of the Hoover Dam, just a one-hour bus ride from Las Vegas. While on the tour, the group walked inside the massive structure, which harnesses the power of the Colorado River, and viewed its turbines which supply electricity to three states.

By controlling the water flow, the Hoover Dam created Lake Mead and provides precious water to cities and agriculture in this extremely arid portion of the U.S.

Standing on top of the dam, the Seminoles saw large schools of fish, which now populate the lake and provide for recreational fishing in the middle of the desert.

The Big Cypress and Tampa residents journeyed even further to see the Grand Canyon. Walking along its upper

edge and peering into one of the earth's deepest crevices, it was difficult to imagine a river creating this gorge. Stopping at several observation points, the group took photos of famous scenic places and learned about the geology and local history from their guide.

No trip to Las Vegas would be complete without taking a ride down the famous "Strip" and viewing the massive casinos and going on a shopping spree. The seniors indulged in this pastime on more than one occasion during their visit.



Tom Faherty  
(L-R) Claudia Doctor and Daisy Buster rest on a rock wall, thousands of feet above the floor of the Grand Canyon.

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Norman "Skeeter" Bowers (C) makes a free throw during Legends' Division action.

Chris C. Jenkins

## Tigertail Bros. Hoops Tourney Returns for Second Year

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — The all-Indian second annual Tigertail Memorial Basketball Tournament brought Tribal citizens together from several reservations, including Brighton, Hollywood and Trail, to celebrate the memory of brothers, Malcolm and Duane Tigertail. It took place Sept 18-20 at the Herman L. Osceola Gym.

The action began with both men's and women's Legends Division play on Sept. 18. The Native Ladies took first, with the Seminole Ladies and Leslie's Team taking second and third, respectively. On the men's side, Hollywood, BC Rec. and the Old Timers placed in that order.

The remaining two days of the tournament featured several teams in the 18 and Older Division. The Outlaw Women, Southern Smoke and Trail Ladies took first through third place, respectively. Big Town (Trail), NAIA and Put On placed first through third in that order on the men's side.

Mother Minnie Tigertail said the tournament, originally named the Big Cypress Basketball Tournament, brings out numerous enthusiastic competitors.

"Folks let me know all the time that they are glad it is still going on and that they are glad to be participating," she said.

For the past few years, the tournament honored the memory of Malcolm; but, after the passing of her other son Duane, Tigertail decided to have just one tournament in remembrance of both sons.

"They both really loved basketball and played it often in school," Tigertail said. "They enjoyed competing with others and for the fun of it ... they loved to run fast, fly and dunk."

"They both also liked just getting together with other friends and have fun," she added.

Results: Legends Women: 1. Native Ladies, 2. Seminole Ladies, 3. Leslie's Team; Legends Men: 1. Hollywood, 2. BC Rec., 3. Old Timers (Brighton); Adult Women: 1. Outlaw Women, 2. Southern Smoke, 3. Trail Ladies; Adult Men: 1. Big Town (Trail), 2. NAIA, 3. Put On.



Chris C. Jenkins

(L-R) Carlene Osceola and Dylanee Solano practice dribbling at center court between games.

## Tribal Citizen Dreams of Playing in the National Football League

BY ERICA M. DEITZ & ROBERT C. NORTH SR.  
Contributing Writers

**EMMETT, IDAHO** — Seminole Tribal citizen Wyatt Hunter Deitz, Panther Clan, of Emmett, Idaho, has waited a long time to play tackle football.

Years ago, he could not play for the Hollywood, Fla. Optimist League because coaches considered him too big for his age. In order to have played in Hollywood, Wyatt would have had to play against youth twice his age to be in the same weight bracket.

"At age 9 he would have been playing kids who were 13 or 14," said his father, Bruce. "But he has always been a big kid for his age. We decided to just wait and let Wyatt mature. I think we made the right decision."

"When football season is over [at Wyatt's middle school], he'll be doing weight training in our garage getting ready

for next year," he added.

After Wyatt and his family moved to Idaho, they learned about the Boise State Summer Youth League, instituted by Boise State University and Head Football Coach Chris Petersen. Wyatt participated in this



Photo Submitted by Erica M. Deitz

Wyatt Deitz

summer football league for two consecutive summers, providing him with vital individual and team football skills.

By the start of the 2008 school year, Wyatt's patience and hard work paid off and he qualified to play full tackle football for the Emmett (Idaho) Huskies Heavy Weight team. At 5'5" and 195 lbs., he plays both right tackle and nose guard.

Currently at 4-2, the Emmett Huskies have several games left to play before the end of the season and to win enough games to participate in the league playoffs.

Wyatt holds a 2.1 GPA while playing football and attending Emmett Junior High School.

"We're glad he has really taken to the sport but we put an emphasis on keeping up his grades in order to play football, but for his first year in middle school and playing tackle football, he's doing very well," said his mom, Erica.

Wyatt said he would like to attend Boise State University and play for Head Coach Chris Petersen before hopefully making it to the NFL. His said he ultimately dreams of playing for the Miami Dolphins or the Denver Broncos.

"If I am not able to play for the NFL, at least I have my education," Wyatt said. "I know playing in the NFL is a big dream, but it's a good dream."

Wyatt lives in Emmett, Idaho with his parents and younger siblings, Bruce Jr., and Ruby.



Photo Submitted by Erica M. Deitz

Wyatt Deitz in his first game of the season.

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# Announcements

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

### Lordy, Lordy Look Who's Turned 40!

**Christopher Scott Nelson Osceola**  
**Born: Sept. 30, 1968**  
**Weight at Birth: 8 pounds, 15 ounces**

Every child you have is dear and sweet to you. Christopher is the oldest of five; his two brothers are Darrin Osceola and Sonny Billie, and two sisters are D. Michelle Osceola and Jana-Rae Billie.

As a first time parent to Chris, I have run the gauntlet of human emotions and experiences, but I wouldn't trade all of that for the world.

When you become a parent, many people will tell you that your child turns 18, your job is done. In reality your role as a parent changes over time as your child grows and matures into adulthood. Some children may take more time than others but you never quit loving them or give up on them — sorry for the lecture but the older I get, the worse I get.

This is a birthday wish for my Son Christopher Osceola. My wish is that he continues to live life to the fullest, that he and his family continue to stay well in every area of their lives and that all his hopes and dreams for the future come true.

With all my love,  
**Your mother, Christine Nevaquaya**



### Father, Daughter Celebrate Same Birthday



I would like to wish my father, **Ronnie Billie Sr.**, a well-deserved happy birthday on Oct. 11. Dad, I love you today and tomorrow just the same as I did when I was 6 years old. I know you have always done the best you know at being a father and that's all I ask of you.

I would also like to say congratulations on having 14 years of recovery. I know personally it can be a tough road to follow but you are an inspiration for me and I'm only getting started compared to you with my three years. In the beginning, you weren't always present in our lives and I realize now that it was out of your control because I now know the powerless effect that alcohol can have on a person.

Thank you for being here now.

Love, your daughter,  
**Clea Billie-Herrera**

Happy birthday grandpa (**Ronnie Billie Sr.**)!!!

Love,  
**Cooper and Marley**

I received a very special birthday present 33 years ago on Oct. 11; one that you can't shop for or money can't buy my — first born. I want to wish a very happy birthday to my daughter **Clea Billie-Herrera**.

I'm very proud of the changes that you have made with your life and your family. God bless you. I wish you many more joyous and memorable birthdays.

Love,  
**Your dad,**  
**Ronnie Billie Sr.**

## NEW KID



Congratulations to proud parents Josie Davis and Christopher Rodriguez of Immokalee on the birth of their daughter, **Remy Rodriguez**. She was born on Aug. 27 at 1:16 a.m., weighing 6 pounds, 5 ounces, and measuring 19.5 inches. Remy's grandfather is Kenny Joe Davis Sr.

## WEDDING



**Jennifer Anne Pridemore** of Coral Springs, Fla. and **Kevin Quinn Holata** joined together in holy matrimony during an intimate ceremony surrounded by cherished friends and family members on Aug. 23.

The newlyweds would like to thank all family members and friends who came to share in the joy and fellowship of our wedding day. Though the two-little words, thank you, don't seem nearly enough to convey our immeasurable gratitude, we do thank you with all our hearts.

We hope each of you truly know that our wedding day would not have been as special without you. Thanks for being a part of our wonderful memories!

All of our love and thanks,  
**Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Holata**

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

### Attention All Seminole Tribal Members:

The Tribal Clerk is looking for an assistant with the following characteristics:

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## POEMS

### Native Pride

The way of the warrior is the only life I know.  
The life of the struggle,  
Ain't nothing new to a Seminole.  
The love for our people is what keeps us going and going,  
We are like the river of life,  
That will never stop flowing.  
Survivors is what describes us best,  
Warriors are how we are known to all the rest.  
Great warriors have come, great warriors have gone.  
But the Seminole Tribe will always stand tall and hard.  
We've been through a lot of bad times,  
But our Creator has always blessed our hearts.  
A lot has happened since I was a young brave,  
The whites moved in like a giant wave,  
Creating hatred between our races,  
Life was hard but we always kept a smile upon our faces.  
We walk the same speed and never leave anyone behind.  
Then try to reason with us,  
But the white treaty of truce, we will never sign.  
We are warriors, we are self-made,  
So choose your words wisely.  
Because our hearts ain't never pumped Kool-Aid.  
We're proud to be Seminole and stand tall and strong,  
Livin' a life proud and free,  
Is where the Seminoles belong.

Only Me,  
— **Myron Cypress**  
Otter Clan

**MORE POEMS** ♦ **2D**

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POEMS

Written In Blood

Written in blood this goes out to the ladies of my past, First and foremost, thank you for holding onto me when I was living life fast. "You really gotta hold on me," think about that line, Remember you had me on lock when I was in my prime? I know you remember when you had me sell my guns, I understand now it was for my own good, No more living on the run. Just so you know I appreciate that you tried, I'll always love you but I'm a roaming warrior, You did right to let me ride. Now to my true you and I go way back to school, You accepted me as I am nobody's fool. No matter what I did you just wanted me to come home to you, For that and many other reasons you will be called my true. Because what I feel for you will not end, This love I have for you will stay strong my friend. To my young queen, of course you get some play,

Everyday that goes by, I'm hoping you are OK. No matter how dangerous, you just wanted to be by my side, From when we first met til' that last ride. My young queen, thank you for being there on the stand, I love you and you will always have my utmost respect; understand? Lil' momma, there's a place for you too, Just because I let you go, doesn't mean my love for you wasn't true. At the time you didn't understand, but it was best to let you fly, I apologize for the heartache, and the pain that made you cry. But you knew how I was before you got in too deep, Lil' momma you will always have my love to keep. I sincerely apologize to you all for being a rolling stone, Just a rambling man, wherever I lay my hat is home. Written in blood I live, I ride and one day I will die, My spirit will live on, Remember me "for the good times" as you cry.

— Ike T. Harjo  
Panther Clan

Gone Astray

Trapped inside the life that I live. Showing all this evil. When it really was love that I wanted to give. God send me an angel from above. To bring me happiness and show me how to love. Why do I feel lost in myself? How come I feel like I don't need anyone else Please save me from these evil ways. God, please make everything okay. Guide my path and strengthen my heart. Lord, I feel lost. I feel like we're drifting apart. Lay your shield of protection around me, Father, in your blessings. Come into my life and show me the way. Lord, you are the one, That I will always praise. You are the alpha and omega The first and the last. Come into my heart, And rescue me from my past. Lord, I come to you with a humble heart. Please take my will and my life. So we will no longer, Be drifting apart.

Only Me,  
— Myron Cypress  
Otter Clan

Soul

Universally, minds wonder What would it cost to purchase a soul? A soul that's seen trials and tribulations Been through good times and bad Seen others with abundance Wishing only one had When one has been keen to salvation of Life While others only have destruction in site If I ever sold mine What would I sell it for? Three dollars and six dimes Enough for the light to open one's door But I took it upon myself To close it back And seal it shut Gave you your refund And wiped my a\*\* with it But still I keep Twenty cents and a buck Maybe I'll think better next time Maybe there will never be a next Should I have sold my soul in the first place? NO But still I have no regrets

Written while under the gun, but still I smile,  
— Dustin Osceola

Deliver Me

What to do, what to do? I'm off in a daze, Being overpowered by this life, Thinking I want to change my ways. Looking for guidance from my higher power, Gaining all the knowledge I can, Cause this could be my last hour. Take my will and my life, Please show me how to live. Don't let me go back, Please Lord, I want to win. My heart is sincere, My heart is pure, I know it's a lifelong process, You will never find a cure. Lord, I give you my life, Please deliver me from these ways that are so trife. Pain, sorrow, loneliness and rage, I come to you, Lord, All I want is to be saved.

Only me,  
— Myron Cypress  
Otter Clan

Show Respect

Show respect for our ancestors and honor them for putting up a fight, Because of their resistance we are a unique people, Not like the black and white. We have our traditions, culture and language in place, Elders, parents, uncles and aunts must teach all this Or our uniqueness will vanish without a trace. Our ancestors fought three wars against their government of hate, If you wasn't taught, find someone to teach you, for our ancestors' sake. All it takes is pride and effort, The same as when you learned in the white man's school, Be proud of our Mikasuki language, fool. Many of our ancestors were killed in those wars so you can live your life, Equivalent to what this Jesus did, But many times over by gun or knife. To say our native ancestral ways is not important is a disgrace, Dis-enroll yourself from the Tribe if you want to live like the black and white race.

But we are a wealthy Tribe, so you wouldn't think of doing that, Not to mention give thanks to our ancestors for the stacks. Because it truly starts with them, of who we are today, Then give thanks to our leaders now for their brilliant business minds that been on display. True we're rich in tradition, culture and our Mikasuki language as well, Embrace it, and let that unconquered Seminole pride swell. Be proud of who you are it's not too late to learn what makes a Seminole, Though it has made you so many friends, it's not the dividend bankroll. Pull the wool from your eyes and wipe the cobweb from your ears, Where were all these friends of the Seminoles prior to the wealthy years? Honor our ancestors for remaining unconquered as well as our elders today, Apologize to them for the ignorance you displayed. Show respect learn our traditions, culture and beautiful Mikasuki language too, Our ancestors made those sacrifices, so make them proud of you.

— Ike T. Harjo  
Panther Clan

You Can Take the Boy Outta the Rez, However, You Can't Take the Rez Outta the Boy

Just as sure as the sun travels through the distance far beyond the blue skies to share its warmth on my face, and when I look up, I envision the "Rez" location where my roots are embedded deeply only was my ancestors would understand: A rejuvenating and remembered place. Early dawn before sun rises in the east there is a stillness of all the nature welcoming another day. Giving thanks to the creator if all universe by acknowledging his presence, honoring his grace and celebrating his life. Regardless of where I've been or how long I've been away, I find my way back home as a long-lost brethren to rekindle my body, spirit and soul. The Rez where an eagle soars gracefully high above its inhabitants and where Spanish moss gently sways from an ageless oak tree as the whispering winds echo soothing and reassuring calmness to my spirit. As a boy I experienced the traditional way of life. Oral stories entertained

and fascinated me during the long winter nights. My days were filled with endless activities of discovering nature. I was expected to respect all life and to become the best human being possible. And as a result, I've learned to forgive. But first and foremost, I needed to forgive my greatest enemy — myself. I find it invigorating to be able to see and walk upon the same grounds as my forefathers did for it maintains an equilibrium of oneness. A leisure stroll during a light mist in an early evening as the sun fades to the west has always heightened all of my senses to the world around me. A brightly multicolored rainbow appears to the north promising return of the sun while sawgrass quietly dances with delight.

A land where Seminoles before me have engaged in wars with the Blue Coats for survival and for a land they loved enough to sacrifice for me. The running, hiding and evading was necessary in order to preserve a culture and identity. When I walk through a hammock, I often wonder what may have occurred here: was it a camp, a hunting grounds, a ceremonial grounds, a battlefield or a place where two young lovers met? In a time of unrest I

think of the old medicine man who was gunned down from behind as he tried to escape. I think of mothers and infants who perished needlessly and of all crops destroyed. Growing up I recall strict disciplinary actions were expected whenever I deviated but now I understand. I remember the aroma of traditional preparations wafting through the air as I returned from one of my adventures of swimming, climbing trees or playing. There aren't too many things that come close to sitting around an open camp fire serenaded by night critters, while a full moon makes an appearance from an easterly direction on a cool and clear night.

Way down south in glades there is a sacred local that offers its mysticism, psychological stability and physical nourishment, and that place in the Rez. It will remain perpetually vital in maintaining a balanced way of life as time changes. Forever in my mind I will be able to reminisce and revisit the location I call home while restoring and renovating emotionally.

— Daniel Tommie  
Seminole Warrior

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# Health

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## Trick or Treat: Halloween Safety Tips

BY CELIA ARICA-DASILVA  
Environmental Health Dept. Program Coordinator

It's Halloween season once again. Along with all the tricks and treats, it is important to remember safety so that parents and guardians can ensure they and their children have good time.

However, safety extends to more areas than many would think — make sure to include everyone in a Halloween safety checklist — parents, children, pets and even the home itself.

### How much do you know about Halloween safety? Take the quiz below for find out.

Trick (False) Or Treat (True)

*The best time to wear your Halloween costume for the first time is when you go out trick or treating.*

**Trick — Costumes are one of the leading causes of accidents and injury during this holiday!! Parents should have the kids try on the costumes prior to Halloween for a trial run.**

Here are some tips to ensure safety:

Check the length of the costume so that it does not drag on the floor creating a tripping hazard. Hem the costume if necessary.

Make sure the labels are marked as "flame retardant or flame resistant". Polyester is the best choice of material for costumes since cotton can burn quickly.

Check that the shoes that match the costume are not too elevated, hard to walk in, wobbly, slippery or too uncomfortable. Decorate a pair of tennis shoes to match the costume if necessary.

Make sure that masks fit properly and do not impair vision, breathing or hearing. Consider using non-toxic, hypoallergenic makeup instead of a mask.

*Planning your entire route and letting the entire group know what it is, will assure a happy and safe time!*

**Treat — Planning ahead and knowing the route can minimize the loss of children and help the group stay together.**

Follow these simple tips for a fun Halloween:

Always walk on the sidewalk. Look both ways before crossing the street. Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars. Always cross the street at the corners or crosswalks.

Leave the bicycles, rollerblades, and skateboards at home.

Many malls and other organizations now offer a safe alternative for trick or treaters. Some even have costume contests

Never let young children go out alone. Always have an adult present. Groups work well for both kids and homeowners.

*Dressing up your pet and leaving them outside is a good idea.*

**Trick — All the commotion of the evening can make your pet scared and more aggressive. Also, just because you think your pet looks cute in a costume doesn't mean that they will like it.**

Please keep these things in mind to keep pets safe: If you are thinking about dressing up your pet, keep in mind that they may not be as receptive to the idea as you think. It may cause them discomfort and stress. This can cause your pet's normal behavior to change.

If your dog or cat seems to be begging for some candy, keep in mind that chocolate is deadly to them in any amount. Wrappers and foil can get stuck in your pet's digestive track and can make them ill or cause death.

Keeping your pet inside and away from all the commotion of the evening is a good idea to ensure that everyone, even your pet, has a safe evening. Loud noises and lots of people can be upsetting to animals. Also keeping them separated can prevent your animal from daring out through the open door as you hand out candy. Make sure they have plenty of food and water.

*Outdoor decorations can be cool and are safe.*

**Trick — Remember you will have children running in your front yards. When decorating, plan ahead for safety.**

Here are some tips for Halloween safety:

Consider placement of wiring for lights and decorations to prevent trips and falls.

Make sure decorated areas are well lit and not in the way of pedestrian areas.

Clear out items such as flower pots, gardens hoses, low tree limbs or roots and other house and yard items.

Take caution with lit jack-o-lanterns and other items that have an open flame.

### Other Common Tips for a Safe and Happy Halloween:

Visit homes that have the porch light on.  
Accept your treats at the door and never go into a stranger's house.

Be cautious of animals and strangers.

Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating.

Don't eat candy if the package is already opened.

Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.

Parents, feeding your children a good meal

before going out will reduce the urge to pick at the candy before returning home.

Be sure to say thank you for your treats.  
Take a flash light with you.  
Walk, don't run.



Pemayetv Emahakv student Joshua Madrigal (R) speaks with FSU's first-string safety Myron Rolle about health-related topics on Oct. 8.

Nena Bolan

## FSU's Myron Rolle Talks Health with Tribal Youth

BY NENA BOLAN  
Freelance Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — Florida State University's (FSU) first-string safety Myron Rolle visited the Brighton Gym on Oct. 8 to discuss health issues including diabetes, hypertension and obesity — topics he said hold a very special place in his heart.

Rolle said diabetes and hypertension affect his immediate family, and after becoming a FSU Seminole, he learned this disease deeply affects the Seminole Tribe as well.

He said he wanted to speak to students at the Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School as part of the Our

Way to Health Program. Pemayetv emahakv means "our way" in Creek.

This program aims to teach the school's fifth graders ways to stay active, maintain a healthy lifestyle and live a diabetes-free life, in classroom lessons and physical activities taught in their physical education class.

During Rolle's visit, he led the students in short sprints on the gym field, engaged them in conversation and signed autographs. Later, he visited the Charter School and spoke to the students in a more individualized setting.

This is Rolle's third visit to the school, and he said each time his connection to the students grows

stronger.

"This time I got hugs and high-fives," he said.

In addition to Rolle's thriving football career, this well-rounded pre-med student also somehow finds time to contribute sports articles to *The New York Times*, among other extracurricular activities, while still maintaining a near 4.0 GPA.

The New Jersey native, now in his third year as student/athlete, said he hopes to play professional football in the National Football League after graduating from FSU. Rolle said he also aspires to become a neurologist in a second career.

## Tribe's Purple Tea Party Luncheon Highlights Breast Cancer Awareness

BY SHELLEY MARMOR  
Assistant Editor

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Allied Health Dept., in conjunction with representatives from the Memorial Hospital Healthcare System, hosted a Purple Tea Party luncheon on Oct. 13 in the Clinic Conference Room.

Tribal citizens and employees attended the event to learn more about the disease that one in seven women will face in their lifetime.

Purple Tea events take place nationally and provide attendees with information on the early detection and prevention of the most common form of cancer diagnosed in women. The event took place in recognition of October's designation as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Tiffany Brown-Howard from Memorial's Community Relations Dept. began the informational luncheon by talking about the "triple touch" self-examination process, which says women should palpate utiliz-

ing light, medium and firm pressure during an exam. She also stressed the importance of conducting monthly self-exams, saying early detection provides the best defense against breast cancer.

"If we don't do it regularly, we won't know if anything has changed," Brown-Howard said.

She also told the attendees certain demographics, including women older than 50 and those who have a family history of cancer, have a higher risk of getting breast cancer. However, Brown-Howard reiterated several times that breast cancer affects women of every demographic, not just those where it commonly occurs.

"If you take nothing else away from this seminar, know that all women are at risk," she said.

Grace Gomez, a mammography technician at Memorial West Hospital, and Pat Forsyth, a nurse practitioner at Memorial Regional Hospital, spoke next.

Gomez, who has worked as a mammography technician since 1985, said with Memorial's state-of-the-art digital machines, mammograms should hurt less than they did in year's past. She said women 40 and older should get a mammogram annually, and that given the advances in technology, "this shouldn't be a painful process for anyone."

A breast cancer survivor herself, Forsyth further stressed the importance of monthly self-exams for early detection. She said to do the mammogram seven to 10 days before the menstrual cycle begins, and added that contrary to popular belief, exams should not take place in the shower as soap and water can cause the hands to slip and miss a lump.

Fellow breast cancer survivor Carolyn Newman spoke next, giving an emotional account of her six-month treatment regimen. She said on May 5, 2005, she received the news that she had Stage 3 breast cancer, just seven months after her mother lost her own 18-month battle with breast cancer.

Newman, diagnosed at age 42 — the average age of diagnosis — said after a week of disassociating herself from the disease, she decided she had to beat it because she had two young children she wanted to live for. After six months of chemotherapy, a double bilateral mastectomy and radiation therapy, Newman did in fact beat the cancer.

"Our bodies and our minds are so powerful that we find a way," she said. "I was very fortunate that I had doctors at Memorial who told me 'This is curable.'"

For more information on breast cancer please visit the American Cancer Society's website at cancer.org, or call the toll-free number (800) ACS-2345, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Shelley Marmor

Tiffany Brown-Howard from Memorial's Community Relations Dept. gives some statistics on breast cancer.



## October is National Dental Hygiene Month

SUBMITTED BY THE SEMINOLE DENTAL PROGRAM

When you go to the dental clinic you know that you will see the dental hygienist. You know that he or she will clean your teeth, talk to you about flossing and give you a new toothbrush. But do you really know who this person is or what they do?

Dental hygienists are licensed oral health professionals who focus on preventing and treating oral diseases — both to protect teeth and gums and to protect the patient's total health. They must graduate from accredited dental hygiene education programs in colleges and universities and pass a written national board examination and a clinical examination before receiving their license to practice.

Besides cleaning your teeth, dental hygienists evaluate your oral health, apply and recommend disease preventive agents such as fluorides and sealants and teach you why and how to maintain healthy teeth and gums. Dental hygienists may also be found working in the community as educators, researchers and administrators.

In honor and celebration of National Dental Hygiene Month, the dental hygienists of the Seminole Dental Program invite you to make an appointment so that they may assist you in maintaining a lifetime of healthy smiles!



# 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 fred@healthygeezer.com. All Rights Reserved ©2008 by Fred Cicetti.]

**Q** I'm very careful to avoid anything that might give me bursitis, which seems to run in my family. However, I've been suffering more lately despite my best efforts. Do you think this is this age-related?

**A** Yes. Bursitis occurs more often as we age. As you are probably aware, repetitive motions are the worst things for people who tend to get bursitis. Other causes include joint trauma, rheumatoid arthritis, gout and infection.

Bursitis is inflammation of a bursa, which is a small sac filled with fluid. We each have about 160 of these bursae, which act as shock absorbers and grease for our joints. They are buffers between bones and overlapping muscles or between bones and tendons/skin. When bursae become inflamed, they can ache.

If you have bursitis, you may feel pain or stiffness in the elbow, hip, knee, shoulder, heel, big toe or other joints; stronger pain with movement or pressure; swelling, warmth and redness.

While repetitive motions are the usual culprits in bursitis, simple pressure can cause inflammation, too. A couple of examples: Pushing a vacuum cleaner can give you bursitis in your elbow. But sitting on a hard surface for a long time can inflame the bursa over a bone in your buttocks.

You can usually take care of bursitis yourself. Rest the affected joint. An ice pack will reduce swelling. To reduce pain and inflammation, take a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID), such as ibuprofen or aspirin. It usually takes a week or so for bursitis to go away.

You should go to your doctor if the symptoms don't subside after 10 days; you have a fever; there's

excessive swelling, redness, bruising or a rash in the affected area; pain is sharp, shooting or disabling; you have a medical condition or you take drugs that may increase your risk of an infection.

If you need professional care, your doctor may recommend physical therapy or a cortisone injection into the bursa to relieve inflammation.

Ultrasound treatment is often used by physical therapists and many other healthcare providers to treat bursitis. Ultrasound relieves pain and inflammation, speeds healing, reduces muscle spasms and increases range of motion.

Ultrasound makes high frequency sound waves. The sound waves vibrate tissues deep inside the injured area. This creates heat that draws more blood into the tissues. The tissues then respond to healing nutrients brought in by the blood.

Treatment is given with a sound-head that is moved gently in strokes or circles over the injured area. The procedure may be performed with the sound-head alone or with a topical anti-inflammatory drug or gel.

(Personal note: My wife, Gale, swears by ultrasound for treating her occasional bouts of bursitis.)

However, if the bursitis is caused by a bacterial infection of the bursa, it will have to be drained and you will need antibiotic treatment.

Here are some tips to help prevent bursitis: If you must undertake a job that requires repetitive movements, take many breaks.

Avoid sustained pressure on a bursa. For example, don't sit on hard chairs for long periods. If you have to do a job on your hands and knees, use knee cushions. Don't rest your elbows on hard surfaces. Don't wear ill-fitting shoes.

Exercise the muscles in the joints that tend to get bursitis. You can protect these joints by strengthening the muscles around them. Of course, don't exercise until all bursitis symptoms are gone.

Prior to exercising you should always warm up and stretch your muscles.

# THE HEALTHY SEMINOLE

SUBMITTED BY THE ALLIED HEALTH DEPT.

Dear Nutritionist,

Last weekend my friend was visiting and said something about the way I take my pills because she happens to take the same ones. She said that her doctor told her to take one of them with a meal and one of them on an empty stomach. Does it really matter? I just like to get it over with whatever time of day I remember to take them.

Thank you,  
Drug Dilemma

Dear Dilemma-No-More,

Your friend has paid attention to a very important part of managing medications. Food-drug interactions happen when the food you eat affects the ingredients in a medicine so the medicine doesn't work the way it should.

Many medicines are affected by what you eat or drink and when you eat. For example, taking some medicines at the same time you eat may interfere with the way your stomach or intestines absorb the medicine. The food may delay or decrease the absorption of the drug. That is why some medicine should be taken on an empty stomach.

However, some medicines are easier to tolerate when taken with food. Ask your doctor and pharmacist whether it's OK to take your medicine with a snack or meal or if it should be taken on an empty stomach. Don't assume the person dispensing the medicine will

tell you if you need to do this.

Vitamins, minerals and other dietary supplements can be affected also. Tell your doctor and pharmacist about any supplements or herbal products you are using. Some medicines shouldn't be taken with herbal products. Some combinations can be dangerous.

Here are the three R's for medication use: All medicines – prescription, over-the-counter and supplements – have RISKS as well as benefits; RESPECT the power of your medicine and the value of the medicine properly used; and, take RESPONSIBILITY for learning how to take your medicine safely.

Be safe,  
Your Nutritionist

The column is submitted to The Seminole Tribune by members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida's Allied Health Department staff of nutritionist and health educators. We welcome all questions and provide one on one counseling as well as a group lessons on a variety of health topics.

For more information about this topic mentioned in this month's column, please contact the Nutritionist on your reservation. Big Cypress Wellness Center, (863) 983-5798, Sue Fundingsland, Nutritionist; Brighton Medical Clinic, (863) 763-0271, Beth Morlang, Nutritionist; Hollywood Medical Clinic, (954) 962-2009, Toma Hunter, Nutritionist; Immokalee Medical Clinic, (239) 867-3400, Charlotte Porcaro, Nutritionist/Health Educator.

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# Indian Day

## BC Community Celebrates Indian Day

BY CHRIS C. JENKINS  
Staff Reporter

**BIG CYPRESS** — Members of the Big Cypress community joined in many traditional activities, such as log peeling, woodcarving, sewing, frybread-cooking, archery, sack races, axe throwing, alligator wrestling and a clothing contest, to celebrate Indian Day on Sept. 26.

Tribal citizens and community attended the events, celebrated annually on the fourth Friday in September by Native American Tribes across the U.S.

Big Cypress Baptist Church Pastor Bruce Pratt said Indian Day is “about family, food and fellowship.”

“It is good because we have been uniquely made by God,” Pratt said. “We have our own customs but we still recognize one another as Indians.”

“I am glad to see everyone participate,” he added. “It is good to see our elders recognized and respected as well.”

Chairman Mitchell Cypress participated in the reservation’s Walk/Run festivities earlier in the day and said he enjoyed the camaraderie.

“I want to continue to encourage everyone to come out more and be a part of the events next year,” Chairman Cypress said.



Chris C. Jenkins

Billie Walker races against the clock in the log peeling competition.



Nena Bolan

Brighton community children Slip ‘N Slide® their way through Indian Day.

## Indian Day Festivities Abound on Brighton Reservation

BY NENA BOLAN  
Freelance Reporter

**BRIGHTON** — Families in Brighton woke up to a cool morning on Indian Day, Sept. 26. The lower humidity was a break for the 5k runners and walkers, and it made the fishing tournament a pleasure for participants.

Most of the events took place near the gym, with an amusement section set up inside for the children. Mothers and aunts enjoyed watching the kids bounce and flip on the oversized sling shots, and the energy that girls and boys displayed in the giant slip and slide lasted most of the day.

Of all the physical competition that took place during Indian Day, pole peeling required the most strength. Competitors need a great deal of upper arm and back strength to wield the double handle draw blade, but the Brighton women faced the challenge head-on.

The first few strokes with the draw blade prove the most difficult because the tough cypress bark does not want to let go. However, only seconds in to each attempt, strips of bark landed in piles at the competi-

tors’ feet. After the women’s division, the men competed next.

Men’s archery followed the pole peeling competition. Participants arrived ahead of time in order to practice and test the condition of their long bows. Parker Jones of Brighton mentioned that he first took up archery at age 5 or 6 when his grandfather crafted a bow for him.

“I started to take it seriously during the Indigenous Games in Canada,” said Jones.

Late in the afternoon, event organizers set up portable stoves and propane tanks for the frybread and pumpkin bread-making contests. Young and elder cooks competed in the event, and in some cases several generations of one family used the same fry pot.

Sisters Sheila and Melanie Jones competed against each one another, but both said they enjoyed working together.

Grandmother Alice Snow carefully fashioned several pieces of raw pumpkin bread and laid them out in a row, while her granddaughter, Amber, scooped, pinched and formed her frybread and her other granddaughter, Shyla Holata, watched closely.



Chris C. Jenkins

Wilson Bowers takes aim at his target in the archery competition.



Chris C. Jenkins

(L-R) Sierra Bowers, Nia Cypress and Alisia Billie compete in the Girl's 9-12-year-old traditional clothing category.



Chris C. Jenkins

Walk/Run participants (L-R) President Richard Bowers Jr., Edna McDuffie and Chairman Mitchell Cypress hold a sticker proclaiming “U Did It,” upon their completion of the race.



Chris C. Jenkins

Modern Tribal women's clothing contest division winner Claudia Doctor.

### Big Cypress Indian Day Contest Results

#### Crafts Contest

Women, Ages 65 and Older: 1. Patsy Billie, 2. Virginia Tommie; Women, Ages 55-64: 1. Teresa Jumper; Men, Ages 55-64: 1. Joe B. Osceola; Women, Ages 18-35: 1. Alice M. Billie, 2. Tasha Osceola.

#### Frybread Cooking Contest

Girls, Youth: 1. Caitlin Cypress, 2. Sydnee Cypress, 3. Nia Cypress, 4. Colby Herrera, 5. Jeannie Capricien; Boys, Youth: 1. Ricky Joe Alumbaugh, 2. Anthony Joe, 3. Christopher Joe; Women, Adult: 1. Resha Doctor, 2. Ervina Capricien, 3. Beverly Alumbaugh; Men, Adult: 1. Charlie Cypress, 2. Joe Herrera, 3. Happy Jumper.

#### Clothing Contest

Family Division: 1. Virginia Osceola, 2. Carlene O. Dicarlo.

Traditional Division: Girls, Ages 0-1: Mary Sally, 2. Arahny Jim, 3. Halley Balentine; Boys, Ages 0-1: 1. Hayzen Balentine 2. Byron Billie Jr.; Girls, Ages 2-4: 1. Mara Turtle, 2. Madasyn Osceola, 3. Sarafina Osceola; Boys, Ages 2-4: 1. Leighton Jim, 2. Kassim Stockton Jr., 3. Xazier Osceola; Girls, Ages 5-8: 1. Alena Stockton, 2. Shana Balentine, 3. Thomlynn Billie; Boys, Ages 5-8.: 1. Romero Garcia, 2. Caleb Billie, 3. Adakai Robbins; Girls, Ages 9-12.: 1. Alisia Billie, 2. Nia Cypress, 3. Sierra Bowers; Boys, Ages 13-17: 1. Darwin Cypress; Women, Ages 18-35: 1. Sara Osceola, 2. Tasha Osceola, 3. Alice M. Billie; Men, Ages 18-35: 1. Happy Jumper, 2. Joe Herrera, 3. Wilson Bowers; Women, Ages 36-54: 1. Virginia Tommie, 2. Helene Buster; Men, Ages 36-54.: 1. William Cypress; Women, Ages 55-64: 1. Virginia Tommie, 2. Sally Tommie; Men, Ages 65 and Older: 1. Joe Osceola Sr.

Modern Division: Girls, Ages 0-1: 1. Halley Balentine, 2. Xiya Osceola, 3. Tahniah Billie; Boys, Ages 0-1: 1. Hayzen Billie, 2. Rytin Osceola, 3. Amadaus Osceola; Girls, Ages 2-4: 1. Charlie Osceola, 2. Madasyn Osceola, 3. Dyla-

nee Solano; Boys, Ages 2-4: 1. Kassim Stockton Jr., 2. Xazier Osceola, 3. Evan Cypress; Girls, Ages 5-8: 1. Alyssa Osceola, 2. Marley Herrera, 3. Thomlynn Billie; Boys, Ages 5-8: 1. Adakai Robbins, 2. Tash-sho Tahche Jumper, 3. Skyal Tommie; Girls, Ages 9-12: 1. Alisia Billie, 2. Katinna Jumper, 3. Natomah Robbins; Boys, Ages 9-12: 1. Troy Yescas Modern; Girls, Ages 13-17: 1. Natasha Billie, 2. K'ahna Jumper, 3. Tana Osceola; Boys, Ages 13-17: 1. Tucomah Robbins; Women, Ages 18-35: 1. Clea Billie Herrera, 2. JoJo Osceola, 3. Tiffany Billie; Men, Ages 18-35: 1. Byron Billie Sr., 2. Joseph Osceola, 3. Kassim Stockton Sr.; Women, Ages 36-54: 1. Carlene O. Dicarlo, 2. Helene Buster, 3. Virginia Osceola; Women, Ages 55-64: 1. Claudia Doctor.

#### Archery

Girls, Ages 7-8: 1. Alyssa Osceola, 2. Katrina Huggins, 3. Thomlynn Billie; Girls, Ages 9-11.: 1. Gloria Brooks, 2. Sydnee Cypress, 3. Dayra Koenes; Boys, Ages 9-11.: 1. Jathaniel Brooks, 2. Billy Walker Jr., 3. Darius Friday; Girls, Ages 12-14: 1. Jeannie Capricien, 2. Taiqi Osceola; Boys, Ages 12-14: 1. Oshaanee Cypress, 2. River Dillian, 3. Christian Alexander; Girls, Ages 15-17: 1. Terrina Cypress; Boys, Ages 15-17: 1. Darwin Cypress; Women, Ages

18-35: 1. Sherry Robbins, 2. Emelia Jumper, 3. Clea Billie Herrera; Men, Ages 18-35: 1. Robert Cypress, 2. Wilson Bruisedhead, 3. Wilson Bowers; Women, Ages 36-54: 1. Rhonda Roff, 2. Kim Royal, 3. Glynnis Bowers; Men, Ages 36-54: 1. Jay Osceola; Women, Ages 55-64: 1. Carol Cypress, 2. Minnie Tigertail; Women, Ages 65 and Older: 1. Virginia Tommie

#### Pool

8-Ball: Senior Women: 1. Laura Clay, 2. Esther Buster, 3. Bess Bowlegs, 4. Juanita Osceola, 5. Jane Doctor; Senior Men: 1. Gary Clay, 2. Roy Snow, 3. Abel Salgado, 4. Russell Osceola, 5. Joe Billie; Women: 1. Hope Baker, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Theresa Nunez, 4. Connie Williams, 5. Pauletta Bowers; Men: 1. Boogie Nunez, 2. Randy Clay, 3. Jack Billie, 4. Roy Garza Jr., 5. Ralph Sanchez.

9-Ball: Women: 1. Laura Clay, 2. Peggy Nunez, 3. Jamie Onco, 4. Phalyn Osceola, 5. Debbie Henry; Men: 1. Abel Salgado, 2. Rob Landin, 3. Mario Posada, 4. Tony Bert, 5. Randy Clay.

Scotch Doubles: 1. Raymond Garza/Virginia Billie, 2. Randy Clay/Debbie Henry, 3. Angelo Claro/Linda Billie, 4. Mike Blissett/Teonna Rock, 5. Russell Osceola/Juanita Osceola.



Chris C. Jenkins

Randy Clay gets ready for his next move in 8-Ball competition.



Nena Bolan

Mother and daughter, (L-R) Rose and Farrah Jones, prepare their dough mixture for the pumpkin bread cooking contest.



Nena Bolan

Yahola Buck peels the log until the work is done.





Judy Weeks

(L-R) Bonnie Davis is instructed by Valene Clay in the sewing competition.



Judy Weeks

Jack Aguilar shows off his turtle.



Judy Weeks

Cartaya Billie and Jack Aguilar wait patiently for their turn in the clothing contest.



Judy Weeks

Immokalee Board Liaison Delores Jumper encourages her grandson, Tommy Osceola, to cross the finish line in the Diaper Derby.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Bark flies as Gil Yzaguirre turns the log for Victor Billie in the log peeling competition.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Susan Davis and Valene Clay race their canoe to the finish line.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Christopher Briscoll and Jessica Lopez are up before dawn to participate in the Indian Day Walk/Run.

## Culture Reigns at Indian Day Festivities

BY JUDY WEEKS  
Freelance Reporter

**IMMOKALEE** — Residents of the Immokalee Reservation joined Native Americans from all across America on Sept. 26 in celebration of their heritage.

First instituted by the Boy Scouts of America in New York State, Indian Day received formal proclamation in 1915 on a national level. For nearly a century, celebrations of culture and heritage on this day acknowledge the important contributions of the first Americans.

A full roster of cultural activities provided an opportunity for all ages to participate in the celebration in Immokalee. While the men competed in stickball and archery, the women demonstrated their sewing skills on the hand crank machines and took part in the shaker race.

Seniors and toddlers entered turtles of all kinds, shapes and sizes in a race that required a lot

of encouragement for their entries. Meanwhile, youngsters demonstrated their skills in the language contest and babies competed in the Diaper Derby.

Age and gender divisions separated the contestants in the log peeling, fan tacking and axe throwing competitions. Some of the entrants exhibited extraordinary skill in these tasks, many of which come in handy during chickee building and other areas of traditional Seminole life.

The arts and crafts contests took place for a month prior to Indian Day, with only those making the final cut displayed during the community festivities. Beading projects ranged from very difficult lamp bases and intricately designed necklaces to simple bracelets and earrings. Sweetgrass baskets, patchwork pillows, wood carving, handsome dolls and ceramic artwork presented a colorful scene that drew a steady stream of observers.

Nearly everyone eligible from Immokalee entered the clothing contest with age groups ranging from 0-100. Dividing the contest into two cate-

gories, contestants entered both traditional and modern classifications. Attire ranged from shirts and jackets to ornate skirts with capes and old style man's shirts.

The canoe race, a time consuming event, took place the night before Indian Day. Forming teams according to age, the contest brought out the good sportsmanship in its contestants, many of whom had no experience. Paddling in circles, running into each other by mistake, traveling in reverse and tipping over, the canoeists had a great time and made every effort to complete the race.

Sixty-three individuals turned out in the pre-dawn light to participate in the Indian Day Walk/Run, titled "Walk Softly Upon the Earth." As they left the starting line, they made their way through the route guided by the headlights on various Seminole Police Dept. vehicles on hand to ensure everyone's safety.

### Immokalee Indian Day Contest Results

Traditional Clothing Contest: Ages 0-3: Girls: 1. Jaleesa Clay, 2. Denise Gonzales, 3. Remey Rodriguez; Boys: 1. Gage Osceola, 2. Tommy Osceola; Ages 4-8: Girls: 1. Priscilla Alvarado, 2. Shyanna Escobar; Boys: 1. K.J. Davis, 2. Lee Jumper; Ages 9-13: Girls: 1. Jade Tapia; Boys: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Jr., 2. Damian Escobar, 3. Aaron Alvarado; Ages 14-17: Girls: 1. Bonnie Davis, 2. Cheyenne McInturff, 3. Cassandra Jimmie; Ages 18-54: Women: 1. Monica Cypress, 2. Lorraine Posada, 3. Valene Clay; Men: 1. Gary McInturff, 2. Ray Yzaguirre Jr., 3. Kenny Joe Davis Sr.; Senior Women: 1. Nancy Motlow, 2. Nellie Bain, 3. Linda Frank.

Modern Clothing Contest: Ages 0-3: Girls: 1. Cashius Jumper, 2. Jaleesa Clay, 3. Angelina Hall; Boys: 1. Gage Osceola, 2. Peter Martinez, 3. Kingston Sanders; Ages 4-8: Girls: 1. Caniah Billie, 2. Cartaya Billie, 3. Allegra Velez; Boys: 1. K.J. Davis, 2. Lee Jumper, 3. Jack Adams Aguilar; Ages 9-13: Girls: 1. Karlito Wargolet, 2. Alonzo Wargolet, 3. Dennis Gonzalez; Ages 14-17: Girls: Bonnie Davis, 2. Cassandra Jimmie, 3. Cheyenne McInturff; Boys: 1. Spencer Jock, 2. Trent McInturff, 3. Allen Michael Venzor; Ages 18-54: Women: 1. Mary Lou Alvarado, 2. Virginia Garcia-Sanders, 3. Kattiria Santana; Men: 1. Johnny Jimmie, 2. Pete Aguilar, 3. Roy Alvarado Jr.; Senior Women: 1. Martha Billie, 2. Delores Jumper, 3. Rachel Billie.

Language Competition: 1. Lauren Posada, 2. Tianna Hali Garcia, 3. Deirdra Hall.

Turtle Races: Ages 1-5: 1. Cashius Jumper, 2. Jaliyah Arteaga, 3. Kaden Grimaldo; Senior's: 1. Delores Jumper, 2. Nancy Motlow, 3. Elaine Aguilar.

Axe Throwing: Youth: Ages 12-17: 1. Spencer Jock, 2. Allen Michael Venzor, 3. Christopher Briscoll; Ages 18-54: Women: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Ali Colon-Persaud, 3. Gale Boone; Men: 1. Ralph Escobar, 2. Manual Garza, 3. Michael Alvarado; Senior's: 1. Nancy Motlow.

Archery: Ages 12-17: 1. Trey Boone, 2. Allen Michael Venzor, 3. Christopher Briscoll; Ages 18-54: 1. Michael Alvarado, 2. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 3. Allen McInturff.

Diaper Derby: 1. Josiah Arteaga, 2. Tommy Osceola.

Chili Contest: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 2. Sylvia Marrero, 3. Mary Lou Alvarado.

Ribs Contest: 1. Josh Garza, 2. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 3. Lorena Arteaga.

Fan Tacking: Ages 14 and Younger: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Jr., 2. Dennis Gonzales, 3. Ethan Billie; Ages 15-54: Men: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 2. Tushka Hill, 3. Gil Yzaguirre; Women: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Erica Mata, 3. America Martinez.

Log Peeling: Women: 1. Valene Clay, 2. Ashley Billie, 3. Louise Billie; Men: 1. Victor Billie, 2. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 3. Roy Alvarado Jr.

Stickball: Ages 17 and Younger: 1. Allen Michael Venzor, 2. Dennis Gonzales, 3. Kyle Alvarado; Ages 18-54: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 2. Ralph Escobar, 3. Tushka Hill.

Shaker Race: Ages 6-11: 1. Amber Alvarado, 2. Aaliyah Mora, 3. Makayla Gonzales; Ages 12-

da, 3. Sylvia Marrero.

Senior Division: Sewing: 1. Nancy Motlow, 2. Martha Billie, 3. Rachel Billie; Beading: 1. Nancy Motlow; Dolls: 1. Nancy Motlow; Ceramics: 1. Nancy Motlow, 2. Elizabeth Tiger, 3. Linda Frank; Carving: 1. Martha Billie, 2. Nancy Motlow; Turbans: 1. Nancy Motlow, 2. Elizabeth Tiger, 3. Delores Jumper.

Walk/Run: Youth Division: Ages 7-12: Boys: 1. Troy Cantu, 2. Damian Escobar, 3. Kenny Joe Davis Jr., 4. Jon Jimmie; Girls: 1. Ashley Faz, 2. Mika Lopez, 3. Destinee Jimmie, 4. Alexis Jimmie; Ages 13-17: Boys: 1. Christopher Briscoll, 2. Spencer Jock, 3. Tyler Harjocee; Girls: 1. Cassandra Jimmie, 2. Tatianna Hali Garcia, 3. Jessica Lopez, 4. Nikki Davis.

Ages 18-30: Women Runners: 1. Valene Clay; Men Runners: 1. Raymond Garza Jr., 2. Noe Arteaga, 3. Josh Garza; Walkers: 1. Michael Alvarado, 2. Ralph Escobar; Community Member Runners: 1. Felicia Garcia, 2. Jennifer Ramos; Walkers: 1. Noemi Escobar, 2. Victoria Marrero, 3. Crystal Billie, 4. Ashley Billie, 5. Monica Cypress;

Ages 31-45 Women Runners: 1. Lorraine Posada, 2. Mary Lou Alvarado, 3. Susan Davis; Walkers: 1. Virginia Billie, 2. Geraldine Osceola, 3. Sheila Aguilar, 4. Michelle Ford; Men Walkers: 1. Mario Posada, 2. Peter Martinez, 3. Gary McInturff, 4. Juan Tapia.

Ages 46-59: Women Walkers: 1. Maxine Perez, 2. Rebecca Martinez, 3. Sylvia Marrero; Men Runners: 1. Mark Jock.

Senior Walkers: 1. Elaine Aguilar, 2. Pete Aguilar. Strollers: 1. Juanita Martinez, 2. Bonnie Davis, 3. Nina Frias, 4. Lorena Arteaga.

Canoe Races: Juniors: 1. Cartaya Billie and Nehi Roberts, 2. Kenny Joe Davis Jr. and Dennis Gonzales, 3. Ethan Aguilar and Jon Jimmie; Ages 12-17: 1. Cassandra Jimmie and Allen Michael Venzor, 2. Bonnie Davis and Nikki Davis, 3. Alexis Aguilar and Jessica Aguilar, 4. Ethan Billie and Christopher Briscoll; Seniors: 1. Elaine Aguilar and Kenny Joe Davis Sr., 2. Delores Jumper and Ralph Escobar, Rachel Billie and Allen Michael Venzor; Ages 18-54: Women: 1. Josie Davis and Ali Colon-Persaud, 2. Virginia Garcia/Sanders and Geraldine Osceola, 3. Ashley Billie and Louise Billie; Men: 1. Kenny Joe Davis Sr. and Ralph Escobar, 2. Randy Osceola and Raymond Garza, 3. Ray Garza Jr. and Elliott Alvarado.



Judy Weeks

Gil Yzaguirre competes in the Axe Throwing Contest.

17: 1. Bonnie Davis, 2. Tatianna Hali Garcia, 3. Alexis Aguilar; Ages 18-54: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Valene Clay, 3. Louise Billie.

Hand Crank Sewing Race: 17 and Younger: 1. Deirdra Hall, 2. Cheyenne McInturff, 3. Lily Mora; Ages 18-54: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Valene Clay.

Arts & Crafts: Youth Division: Beading: 1. Vanessa Billie, 2. Jade Tapia, 3. Lindsey Posada; Dolls: 1. Vanessa Billie; Sewing: 1. Gherri Osceola, 2. Shyanna Escobar, 3. Rande Osceola.

Adult Division: Sewing: 1. Rebecca Billie, 2. Valene Clay, 3. Susan Davis; Baskets: 1. Lorraine Posada, 2. Sylvia Marrero; Dolls: 1. Valene Clay; Adult Beading: 1. Susan Davis, 2. Lorraine Posada.



Judy Weeks

New mom Josie Davis enters her 1-month-old daughter, Remey, in the traditional category of the clothing contest.



Judy Weeks

Bonnie Davis is a pro when it comes to Fan Tacking.



# Setting Sail for Indian Day

**BY JUDY WEEKS**  
**Freelance Reporter**

**NAPLES** — Fifty five members of the Naples community boarded the Naples Princess on the evening of Sept. 19 for a sunset cruise to commemorate the Indian Day holiday.

They sailed down the Naples Bay to the mouth at Gordon Pass, and then along the inland waterway behind the barrier islands on the cruise, taking in breathtaking views of their city.

Naples Liaison O.B. Osceola Jr. spoke briefly about the origins of the holiday.

“American Indian Day was first observed by the Boy Scouts of America in Rochester, New York,” he said. “Three years later, in 1915, Rev. Sherman Coolidge issued a proclamation at the American Indian Association meeting in Lawrence, Kansas, calling upon the country to set aside an official day to celebrate American Indian heritage.

“In addition, the appeal was made to recognize Indians as citizens,” Osceola continued. “It is considered a national legal holiday and celebrated on the fourth Friday in September in Florida.”

Naples Tribal citizen David Billy added his comments on the significance of the holiday.

“It is important to remember who we are and where we come from,” said Billy. “We are the first Americans and share a proud heritage. This is a day to remember our ancestors and preserve the culture they have passed down to us.”

As Activities Coordinator for the Naples Community, Sandy Osceola talked



Krissy Frank  
**Joanne and O.B. Osceola Sr. relax before dining aboard the Naples Princess Dinner Cruise.**



Krissy Frank  
**While sailing on Naples Bay, the Osceola's take time out for a family portrait. (L-R) Malcolm, Bryce, Tori, Naples Liaison O.B. Jr., O.B. III and Angela.**

about the newly organized culture program for the Naples community and briefly outlined the schedule of upcoming events.

“To date we have had an overwhelming turnout for our cultural activities with nearly total participation,” Osceola said. “It is important that we instill in our next generation the rich heritage of their Native American ancestors in order that they will be able to pass this on to their children.”

Following a sit-down dinner, live entertainment included a singer with guitar, who solicited audience participation. The younger set quickly joined in the festivities, while their elders marveled at the beautiful sunset over the water.



Krissy Frank  
**(L-R) Dakota and Brody Osceola join their mom, Tina, on the Indian Day Cruise in Naples Bay.**



Marisol Gonzalez  
**Minnie Doctor constructs a Seminole man doll at her booth during Okalee's Indian Day event.**

## Okalee Commemorates Indian Day

**BY MARISOL GONZALEZ**  
**Staff Reporter**

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Seminole Okalee Indian Village hosted their Fourth Annual Indian Day celebration on Sept. 26-27.

Attendees joined the festivities which included alligator wrestling, wildlife shows, music and interactive activities. This year, event organizers added otter feeding and even brought in a bear cub as one of their wildlife show attractions.

After the otter feeding, the animals' caretaker John Paul Jones entered the tank for a swim with the otters to the crowd's delight. Known to many as “Otter John,” he has raised these animals since they were cubs.

The weekend's activities ended with a performance by a Native American dance troupe performing their traditional native dances then an alligator wrestling show put on by James Holt. Other Okalee employees, Dexter Osborn and John Kenyon, also known as “Gator John,” joined Holt on stage along with Giselle Hosin who helped Holt tape the gator's mouth shut at the end of the show.

After the alligator wrestling, bystanders got their photograph taken with a baby gator as a keepsake.

Leoma Poore, manager of Okalee Indian Village, said that every year the Indian Day celebration gets bigger. She said event organizers geared this year's activities more toward the younger crowds.



Marisol Gonzalez  
**(L-R) Giselle Hosin hands Nettie Smith the baby alligator to have her picture taken.**



Nena Bolan  
**Jeanie Billie helps Emerson Billie, Jr. before the contest begins. (L-R) Emerson Billie, Jr., Janessa Nunez, Jagger Gaucim and Brandon Entry.**

## Non-Residents Commemorate Indian Day

**BY NENA BOLAN**  
**Freelance Reporter**

**OKEECHOBEE, Fla.** — A large proportion of the Tribe's 230 non-residents attended the Non-Resident Indian Day festivities on Sept. 28 at the Agri-Civic Center.

Jennifer Chadwick and Non-Resident Liaison Holly Tiger-Bowers supervised the well-entered clothing contest. The contest included all age races, from the eldest entrant, Alice Snow, 86, through the young babies at less than a year old.

The younger children also enjoyed three inflatable castles set up for them to play on. They even had a wide open space to run around in at the rodeo arena of the civic center. The older children and teens helped with the little ones the best they could, while still preparing for the Seminole patchwork contest.

Music DJ Zachary Battiest had a varied collection of tunes that appealed to the different generations in attendance. Disco and funk rhythms coaxed a few people into sporadic dance moves, and revived anyone who felt fatigued on a very humid day.

Later in the day, attendees enjoyed lunch together, before a horseshoe competition began in the afternoon.



Nena Bolan  
**Pretty in pink (L-R) Mckayla Snow, Taylor Holata and Rumor Juarez get ready for the Indian Day clothing contest.**

## Tampa Community Celebrates Indian Day

**BY CHRIS C. JENKINS**  
**Staff Reporter**

**TAMPA** — Tribal citizens, community members and guests gathered in the spirit of fun and tradition on Sept. 28 for the Indian Day festivities.

Several longstanding and traditional festival-type activities rounded out the day's activities. These included: a log peeling contest, beadwork, pony rides, the skillet toss, football, archery and an arts and crafts competition.

“It is a day to get together to celebrate, Tribal citizen Norman “Skooter” Bowers pointed out.

He said he appreciates the acknowledgement of the day nationwide and its historical impact and effect on all the youth and the elders in the Tribe as well.

“I think it is important for the kids to see this to know it is a part of their history,” Bowers said. “I also think our elders especially appreciate the day because they have been through all the hardships.”

Joanie Henry of the Tribe's Culture Dept. and Mayra Simmons of the Tampa Recreation Dept. also helped to coordinate the day's events. Henry said she assisted with Indian Day coordination for the past two years.

“It is good to get together to share in our culture and encourage the parents to continue to get involved,” Henry explained.

Storyteller Herbert Jim said he felt excited about the day.

“It was a very good day for me,” Jim said. “It was an opportunity to express my feelings on spirituality through stories.”



Chris C. Jenkins  
**Tribal citizen Herbert Jim (C) tells stories to the audience of Tribal youth and adults.**



Chris C. Jenkins  
**Linda Jane Henry gears up for her throw in the skillet toss competition.**



Chris C. Jenkins  
**Joanie Henry tests her log peeling skills in competition.**

### Tampa Indian Day Contest Results

Skillet Toss: Senior Women: 1. Nancy Billie, 2. Susie Doctor, 3. Peggy Cubis, 4. Linda O. Henry; Women: 1. Debbie Henry, 2. Michael J. Jimmie, 3. Linda J. Henry, 4. Carol Foret; Girls, Ages 7-12: 1. Jamie Walkingstick, 2. Kanika Walkingstick, 3. Melody Urbina, 4. Christina Clark; Girls, Ages 13-17: 1. Shanda Cypress, 2. Stacy Smith, 3. Dylanie Henry, 4. Phydra Clark. Log Peeling: Senior Women: 1. Susie Doctor, 2. Nancy Frank, 3. Peggy Cubis; Women: 1. Michael J. Jimmie, 2. Carol Foret, 3. April Baker, 4. Joanie Henry; Senior Men: 1. Michael Cypress: Men: 1. Ronnie Doctor, 2. Chris Jimmie, 3. Wilson Bowers, 4. Marty Tommie Jr. Archery: Men: 1. Ismael Colon Jr. 2. Josh Smith, 3. Chris Jimmie, 4. Wilson Bowers; Senior Men: 1. Michael Cypress; Boys, Ages 7-12: 1. Devin Osceola, 2. Ethan Smith, 3. William Cypress, 4. Tyrek La Sane; Boys, Ages 13-17: 1. Chris Garcia, 2. Preston Osceola. Clothing: 1. Kyle Henry, 2. (tied) Stacy

Smith, Debbie Henry 3. Penny Jimmie Adult men (18-33 yrs old): 1. Chris Jimmie, 2. Wilson Bowers, 3. Curtis Motlow Jimmie Adult men (34-49 yrs old): 1. Ronnie Doctor, 2. Jimmie Osceola Senior women (50 yrs and over): 1. Linda Storm, 2. Susie Doctor, 3. Maggie Garcia, 4. Jane Osceola Senior men (50 yrs and over): 1. Bobby Henry, 2. Mike Cypress Infant girls (0-3 yrs old): 1. Mckanna Smith, 2. Jesseca Jimmie, 3. Penny K. Jimmie, 4. Avery Miller Infant boys (0-3 yrs old): 1. Eli Jimmie, 2. Shane Clay, 3. Antron Froster, 4. Jason Yeampierre Junior girls (4-12 yrs old): 1. Noami Osceola, 2. Christina Clark, 3. Corrina Smith, 4. Maya Smith Junior boys (4-12 yrs old): 1. Angel Dillon, 2. Owen Urbina, 3. Issac Urbina, 4. Ricky Dillon Teen girls (13-17 yrs old): 1. Phaydra Clark, 2. Dylanie Henry, 3. Stacy Smith, 4. Shanda Cypress Teen boys (13-17 yrs old): 1. Joel P. Foret Adult women (18-33 yrs old): 1. Sierra Simmons, 2. Alana

Henry, 3. Kaylin Henry, 4. Melody Yeampierre Adult women (34-49 yrs old): 1. Mayra Simmons Adults (wood carving 18-34 yrs old): 1. Wilson Bowers Adults Bead work (18-34 yrs old): 1. Linda Jane Henry, 2. Sierra Simmons Clothing (18-34 yrs old): 1. Penny Jimmie, 2. Micheal Jean Jimmie, 3. Colleen Henry, 4. Herbert Jim Drawing (18-34 yrs old): 1. Wilson Bowers, 2. Carmelina Machevelli Basket (18-34 yrs old): 1. Debbie Henry Patchwork (18-34 yrs old): 1. Stephanie Johns, 2. Micheal Jean Jimmie, 3. Colleen Henry, 4. Alana Henry Seniors clothing (50 and over): 1. Peggy Cubis, 2. Nancy Frank, 3. Susie Doctor, 4. Linda Storm Seniors basket (50 and over): 1. Maggie Garcia, 2. Annie O. Henry Seniors Bead work (50 and over): 1. Linda Storm, 2. Nancy Frank, 3. Annie O. Henry Wood carving-drawing (50 and over): 1. Susie Doctor, 2. Maggie Garcia.



# Hollywood Community Celebrates Culture on Indian Day

BY MARISOL GONZALEZ  
Staff Reporter

The majority of the Hollywood community's Indian Day festivities took place on the ball field on Sept. 26. All the activities were aimed at preserving Seminole culture on this national holiday, and Tribal citizens young and old partook in the fun.

The morning's activities began with a frybread and pumpkin bread-making contest. Other activities that took place included: stickball, log peeling, horseshoes, a pie eating contest and a 40 yard dash race.

While the competitors kept busy on the field, culture workshops took place inside the gym. Elders demonstrated their skills and knowledge as they showed others how to make traditional dolls, baskets and beaded jewelry, as well as how to sew patchwork and clothing.

The Culture and Language Departments provided the lunch and dinner. They

prepared food under the cook chickees near the Boys & Girls Club.

Language Coordinator at the Boys & Girls Club Jo M. North said they had the chickees rebuilt in only two weeks for the Indian Day events. North said the club uses the chickees as a learning/activity center, almost like an outdoor classroom.

Prior to Indian Day, the preschool children and staff had a traditional lunch and played a game of stickball on the field in celebration of Indian Day.

Two other activities took place off-site, the Hollywood Indian Day Bowling Tournament and the Marcella Green Memorial Golf Tournament. The bowling tournament took place at the AMF Lanes in Pembroke Pines, and the golf tournament at Bonaventure Country Club in Weston.

Six years ago, when the first Marcella Green Memorial Golf Tournament took place, Hollywood Tribal Council Rep. Max

B. Osceola Jr. declared it the official Indian Day golf tournament. The host teams for this tournament included Jeremy Bowers, Paula Bowers-Sanchez, Brett Green and Robert Green Jr., as well as Bob Green Sr., Chesna Bowers, Shannon Green and Natalie Jumper; Marcella's closest family members.

Paula Bowers-Sanchez, Marcella's sister, said honoring her memory at this annual tournament reminds the family of the times they spent together and how much they miss Marcella. Bob Green Sr. said if Marcella wasn't golfing, she would accompany him and their sons to father/son tournaments. Green said Marcella genuinely enjoyed the game of golf, even just as a spectator.

"The last father/son tournament that she went to with us before she passed, my son and I placed first," he said.



Marisol Gonzalez

Joey Puente (R) attempts to catch the ball during the children's round of the traditional Seminole game of stickball.



Marisol Gonzalez

Elliott Young, who helped his team claim second place, takes a swing in the golf tourney.



Shelley Marmor

First place winner in the senior frybread competition Annie Jumper monitors her winning entry.



Marisol Gonzalez

The preschoolers wear crowns made of medicine colors for their luncheon.



Marisol Gonzalez

Leslie Osceola aims for the basket and went on to place second in the 2-On-2 contest during the women's basketball tournament.



Marisol Gonzalez

Mahokin Tiger (R), who placed first, checks out his competition in the men's pie eating event.



Shelley Marmor

Barbara Billie, who went on to place fourth in the women's division, prepares her frybread.



Shelley Marmor

First place finisher in the women's division, Natoshia Osceola, peels the log in 3:20.



Marisol Gonzalez

(L-R) Latisha Moore, Natoshia Osceola and Ja'Kailee Stewart make frybread dough for their Pre-school lunch.



Shelley Marmor

Stephen Bowers, who took first place in the senior log peeling competition.

## Hollywood Indian Day Contest Results

**Marcella Green Memorial Golf Tournament:** 1. Jackie Thompson, Clifford Boodram, David Osceola and Dale Franklin, 2. Elliott Young, Leroy Kings, Anthony Castrenze and Pete Russo, 3. Ken Campbell, Fred Hopkins, Lutchford Singh and Russ Danser.

**Frybread/Pumpkin Bread:** Men 18-54: 1. Austin Billie, 2. Jimmie J. Osceola, 3. Eric Osceola; Women 18-54: 1. Francine Osceola, 2. Rhonda Jumper, 3. Wanda Billie, 4. Barbara Billie, 5. Nettie Stewart; Women 55 and Older: 1. Annie Jumper, 2. Betty Osceola, 3. Maydell Osceola.

**Log Peeling:** Senior Men: 1. Stephen Bowers; Senior Women: 1. Juanita Osceola; Women: 1. Natoshia Osceola, 2. Tammy Osceola, 3. Doreen M. Osceola, 4. Leslie Osceola, 4. Donna Turtle, 4. Regina Thinn; Men: 1. Jimmy J. Osceola, 2. Chucky Osceola, 3. Eric Osceola, 4. Matt Osceola, 5. Jay Stewart, 5. Mahokin Tiger.

**40 Yard Dash:** Boys 11 and Younger: 1. Nathan Jim, 2. Luke Baxley, 3. Tameron Wilcox; Girls 11 and Younger: 1. Amaya Baxley, 2. Skyia Osceola, 3. Hailee Osceola; Boys 12-14: 1. Huston Osceola, 2. Jessie Holdiness, 3. Justin Frank; Girls 12-14: 1. Tiffany Baker, 2. Jennifer Holdiness, 3. Katia Jim; Boys 15-17: 1. Taylor Osceola; Men 18-49: 1. Travis Osceola, 2. Greg Thomas, 3. Leon Wilcox Jr., Women 18-49: Maggie Puento, 2. Cassandra Jones, 3. Valerie Holata; Men 50 and Older: 1. David Jumper; Women 50 and Older: 1. D. Marlene Smith.

**Pie Eating Contest:** Youth 17 and Younger: 1. Marissa DiCarlo, 2. Tiffany Baker, 3. Jennifer Holdiness; Women 18 and Older: 1.

Nettie Doctor, 2. Natoshia Osceola, 3. D. Marlene Osceola; Men 18 and Older: 1. Mahokin Tiger, 2. Boeltner Jumper, 3. Gary Frank.

**Sillet Toss:** Women 18-34: 1. Ciara Billie-Guerue, 2. Cassandra Jones, 3. Kelly Tiger-

Osceola and Amaya Baxley, 2. Phyllis Osceola and Zoey Puente, 3. Anthony Gentry and Pernell Bert; Ages 12-14: 1. Terrell Primeaux and Jonathan Bowers, 2. Adahma Sirota and Tous Jumper Jr., 3. Jennifer Holdiness and Katin Jim; Ages 15-17: 1. Jessica Osceola and Kaylan Osceola, 2. Krystle Young and Kristy Johns; Ages 18-49: 1. Leon Wilcox Sr. and Leon Wilcox Jr., 2. Tracey Smith and Darrin Osceola, 3. Nathan Doctor and Toby Johns.

**Horseshoes Tournament:** Women's Singles: 1. Janel Billie, 2. Nadine Tommie, 3. Twila Billie; Women's Doubles: 1. Twila Billie and Yvette Jumper, 2. Patricia Wilcox and Cassandra Jones; Men's Singles: 1. Leon Wilcox, 2. Matthew Osceola, 3. Chuckie Osceola; Men's Doubles: 1. Leon Wilcox Sr. and Leon Wilcox Jr., 2. Tony Billie and Mingo Jones, 3. Herbert Burt and Tracey Smith.

**2-On-2 Basketball:** 50 and Older: 1. Chucky Osceola and Mingo Jones; Women 18-49: 1. Maggie Puento and Cassandra Jones, 2. Leslie Osceola and Michelle Osceola; Men 18-49: 1. Jerome Davis and Lee Stewart; Co-Ed 18-49: 1. Jerome Davis and Maggie Puento, 2. Leon Wilcox and Cassandra Jones; Youth 15-17: 1. Taylor Osceola and Leon Pewo, 2. Malachi Baker and Tia Baker, 3. Whitney Osceola; Youth 12-14: 1. Malari Baker and Terri Baker, 2. Kaylan Osceola and Jessica Osceola, 3. Jordan Baker and Taylor Battiest; Youth 11 and Younger: 1. Skyia Osceola and Amaya Baxley, 2. Phyllis Osceola and Zoey Puente.



Marisol Gonzalez

Marissa DiCarlo placed first in the 17 and younger pie eating contest.

tail; Women 35 and Older: 1. D. Marlene Smith, 2. Leslie Osceola, 3. Bonnie Motlow, Egg Toss: Ages 11 and Younger: 1. Skyia