

# The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

“Voice of the Unconquered”

50¢

www.seminoletribe.com

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April 29, 2005

## Tribal Council Sponsors Gospel Celebration

**By Nery Mejicano**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — The weather could not have been better, the sun shined on the Big Cypress Rodeo Arena, the few clouds passed leaving not one drop of rain. The day started with a prayer by Jonah Cypress, followed by the national anthem sang by Nicole Niles, one of the invited performers.

Alfonso Tigertail served as emcee, and did a wonderful job. His energy and dedication were obvious as he energized the crowd.

First on the stage was the Andy Buster, from the Miccosukee Tribe. He is well-known to Tribal citizens and has performed at various events hosted by the Tribe. Buster was followed by Jonah Cypress and his musical group, a well-known and beloved band that performs at almost any event in Big Cypress. The audience really liked the local performers.

Next on the stage was Nicole Miles, a national recording artist who also performed during the Ahfachkeke Festival, which the Tribe hosted on Jan. 15 to benefit the victims of the four hurricanes and the tsunami in Asia.

Some folks drove more than four

hours to hear the next performer. The Reverend Charles Johnson and the Revivers drove all the way from North Carolina and their arrival at the stage was greeted with a great deal of spiritually charged emotions. He brought the audience to their feet and their message of hope, love and salvation was spread with every note in their voices.

During the musical break after their performance, several Tribal and non-Tribal individuals requested that they be invited back.

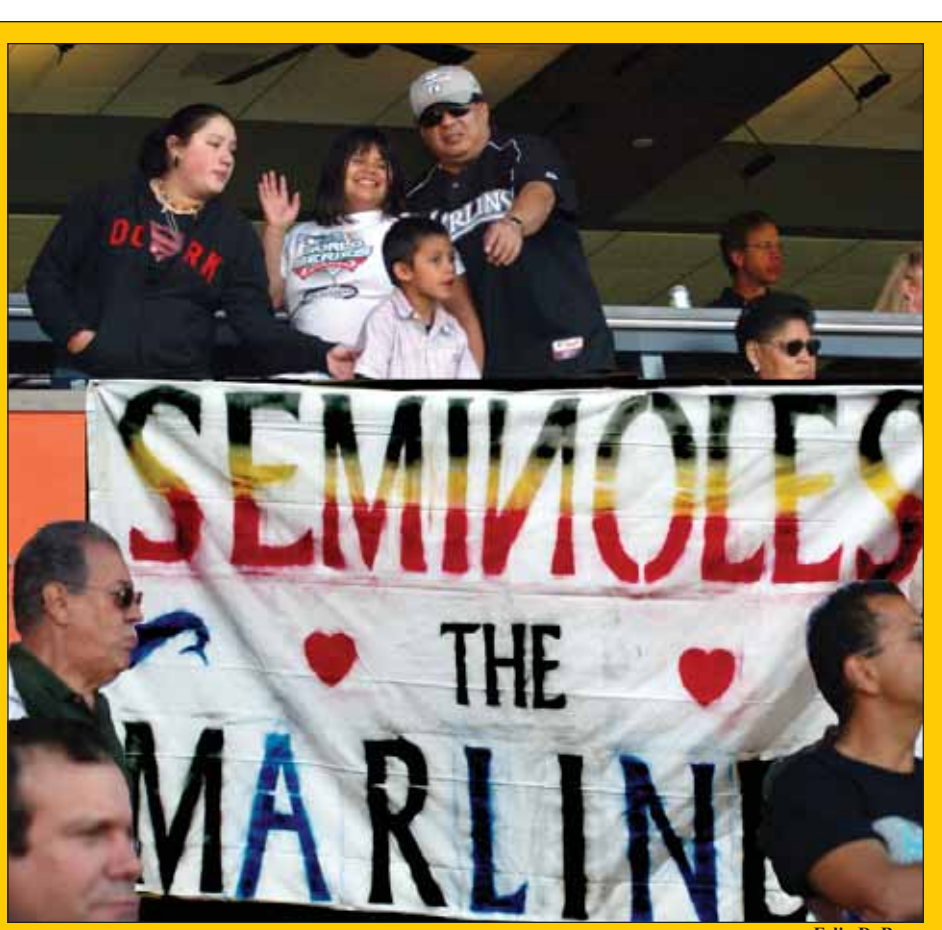
The last group to perform was the Crabb Family, a group who has won national acclaim by their talented and enlightened songs. They arrived from Nashville, Tenn. just a couple of hours prior to their stage performance. As the sun was setting in the everglades, their voices brought light to an audience, who seemed touched by their message.

This family has performed all over the nation, and has won several distinguished awards for their outstanding talent, wonderful music and ability to move those in attendance with their spiritual message.



The Crabb Family entertained Gospel Fest audiences.

Nery Mejicano



Felix DoBosz

(L-R) Jerri-Lee Bracus, Alexis Jumper, Aaron Ojlink and Ruggy Jumper show support for their favorite team on opening day.

## Seminole Punch In For Marlins Home Opener

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**MIAMI GARDENS, FL** — The Seminole citizens were gathered in the tribe's suite high above the baseball field of dreams high-fiving each other in celebration of the tremendous grand slam by Marlins right fielder Juan Encarnacion.

It was a glorious opening day for Marlins fans celebrating the new baseball season that had begun on April 5. Besides the new shiny black and silver uniforms, the Marlins cheerleaders—the “Mermaids”—got the fans excited and into the happy zone with their new eye-popping dance routines along the field foul lines.

On a beautiful clear day at Dolphin Stadium, and in front of a regular season record crowd of more than 57,000, the 2005 Marlins baseball season got underway with a big bang. The Seminole suite at Dolphins Stadium was packed with happy fans that were privileged to witness the new Marlins batting order that smashed pitcher John Smoltz and the visiting Atlanta Braves for 13 hits.

Smoltz knew he was in big trouble in the bottom of the first inning when the high pitch count he encountered began taking its toll on him. This led to a huge 5-run Marlins inning, capped off by a 2-out bases loaded grand slam by Juan Encarnacion. The Atlanta Braves were never able to fully recover after that big first inning whipping.

The Marlins won the game 9-0 because of their superior hitting and 2003 World Series MVP starter Josh Beckett's inspiring performance on the mound. He held the Braves to a couple of hits through six innings and struck out a total of six batters. Carlos Delgado, the Marlins new first baseman, went four-for-five in his debut as a

❖ See MARLINS, page 15

## New Stop Sign at Busy Intersection

**By Sergeant Al Signore, SPD**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Due to high traffic of pedestrians, Hollywood Tribal Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., in conjunction other Tribal programs and departments, has enabled North 64th Avenue and 30th Street to become a four way stop.

On April 21, a new stop sign was installed at the intersection of North 64th Avenue and 30th Street now making the highly used intersection into a four-way stop. Safety is the number one priority for adding this stop sign.

The four way intersection came as a result of being a needed pedestrian crossing due to the high traffic volumes and frequent pedestrian crossing particularly by elder residence and the children in the area that make their way to the Boys & Girls Club, recreation facilities, Education building and Hot Meals.

There have been many events leading to this project. One incident happened on March 10 at 9:50 a.m. where a three-car collision occurred at Charleston Street and North 64th Avenue.



Sergeant Al Signore

The new stop sign on 64th Avenue.

## Fearless Warrior Speaks About Drug Addiction

**Story by Judy Weeks**  
**IMMOKALEE** — Standing beneath the newly-constructed viewing stand in the Cultural Village at the Immokalee Seminole Youth and Livestock Ranch (ISL&LR), Basil Phillips addressed an audience of all ages at the Youth and Spring Block Party on March 25. As Mental Health Counselor for Family Services, Philips chose a very important topic intended to motivate youth.

Phillips began his discourse by saying, “I have a message for all of our young people; we love you and support you. I am very sad today because I know a fourteen year old in trouble.”

He then proceeded to tell a story about a young man who is not enjoying his family and friends today, but is sitting in a detention center, hoping someone will give him one more chance.

“Do you know how this could happen to him? He believed a lie. He was motivated by a man ‘living large’ as young people would say,” said Phillips.

The audience chuckled as he described the boy walking on the hem of his pants which would fit a huge man, no belt and a tent for a shirt. This boy was trying to fit in with what he thought were his peers. His mentor had been flashing lots of money, riding in a limousine to the sounds of vibrating bass and loud rap while surrounded by a multitude of “friends.” This lifestyle looked fabulous.

The part of the picture that the young man did not see was not wonderful. The dude in the limo did not have a home and did not take care of his family. He avoided them because he was embarrassed, felt out of place and ashamed. He

❖ See FEARLESS, page 13

## Tribe Sponsors West Coast Golf Tournament

**By Adelsa Williams**  
**LAS VEGAS, NV** — On April 15, Seminole golfers gathered in fabulous Las Vegas for a grand round of golf at the Bali Hai Golf Resort. Golfers traveled a long way from home to enjoy their own sponsored tournament by The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. and Tampa Liaison Richard Henry.

The event was open only to Tribal citizens and associates who were attending the annual Las Vegas, Paiute National All Indian golf tournament which took place the following two days. Fifty percent of their handicap was used and the format for the tournament was stroke play.

Awards were based on closest to the pin and long drive.

At early hours of the morning, enthusiastic golfers gathered at the infamous golf course. Besides the beautiful weather with moderate sunshine and a cool breeze, everyone enjoyed and experienced what the Professional Golf Association (PGA) once did.

The Bali Hai resort is famous for hosting the popular PGA's all men Big Break I & II television series filmed on the premises. The show is currently airing the all-women PGA series at a different golf course that draws an enormous number of viewers who enjoy the sport.

A total of 24 players cheerfully grouped after the tournament at the terrace of the golf course to await the results. Many discussed their skillful plan of

❖ See BALI HAI, page 15



Adelsa Williams

Seminole golfers in front of the beautiful Bali Hai Golf Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada.





Do you know who this lady and this boy are? Check the May 20th issue of the Seminole Tribune to find out.

Correction

In the April 8 issue of *The Seminole Tribune* Esther Buster was misidentified as Junior Cypress’s granddaughter; she is his daughter.

Attention Tribal Citizens

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The Seminole Tribune

If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday wish or poem to *The Seminole Tribune*, please contact the Editor-In-Chief Virginia Mitchell at (800) 683-7800, Ext. 1260. E-mail vmitchell@semtribe.com, fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

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Where Have the Elders Gone?

By Randy Eady  
[Editor's Note: Randy Eady is a former Course Chair/Assistant Professor of Cultural Anthropology and Squadron Commander at the US Air Force Academy coordinated activities for federally sponsored Native American/American Indian Heritage Month observances from 1993-1999 at the United States Air Force Academy. He's worked as a liaison between the Native American Development Corp. Of Montana-Wyoming and the Air Force Small Business Office to increase the use of Indian firms in contract awards and he's guided student groups to tribal and reservation visits to the Cheyenne and Crow in Wyoming and Montana and the Taos and Santa Ana Pueblos in New Mexico, among other accomplishments on his résumé. The opinions expressed in this editorial are his own.]

Has it struck anyone else odd that the only picture in the first flurry of media coverage of a school shooter in Minnesota was taken over seven years ago? What has happened in this young man's life since that photo of a demure looking nine-year-old was taken?

Having worked as an educator with boys ages 8-22 for more than 20 years in mentor training programs and spent more than a decade engaged with American Indian tribes, I find a possible explanation for these questions pointing toward an alarming trend. A trend that the president highlighted in his 2005 State of the Union Address and Laura Bush has made her personal cause as she travels the United States: the plight of our most-at-risk youth.

These children are growing up in homes without a father present, and studies show that an overwhelming number of violent criminals in the U.S. are males who grew up without fathers. Research has shown that the more children are connected to family, school, and community, the less likely they are to engage in risky behaviors.

Red Lake, Ojibwa elders frankly speak of a "cultural void" in their heritage that has led to an identity crisis with tribal youngsters. That is not a challenge only confronting reservation youth. The loss of a sense of community and a "character of self" necessary to build and support community seems to be evaporating.

In my mentor training programs, I held American Indian/First Citizen elders as exemplars. These were the individuals that guided youth on a journey toward adulthood by providing a supportive presence, a source of power and a place of self definition. I used Tribal elders because having worked on dozens of reservations (including managing the Federal Special Observance Program and getting the USAF Academy in Colorado established

as the first Service Academy to host a chapter of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society) permitted me to interact amongst tribal members with a high degree of trust and sensitivity.

I came to understand that cultural imperatives embedded in the Tribes are very distinct from the Western Anglo value set surrounding the reservation. It was also clear on the rez that Tribal elders/mentors—despite the laden social maladies—were vital to the resiliency of the Tribe. To put it another way, whereas Anglo culture, at the most fundamental interactional level, emphasizes "member-to-object" relations. That is, people perceived by the objects they possess. The pan American Indian culture underscores "member-to-experience" relations.

This means Native peoples' culture and identity are crafted by the churning of experience and having elders relate "lessons learned" to the young in a compelling, oral storyline narrative. It's in this way that tribal heritage and identity achieve a healthy balance to embrace the alienated with some social fabric of solidarity.

To see an example of the "cultural instruments" of this equilibrium in action go to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and follow the First Generations Riders social movement led by Ron His Horse is Thunder. Here, Lakota youth go through a magnetizing rite of passage and ritual of solidarity experience that strengthens identity and inculcates the values of the Tribe.

Tribal elders mentor youth on a journey from Sitting Bull's assassination site to the massacre site of Wounded Knee. This journey commemorates another Lakota chief named Big Foot's attempt to lead a band of 350 people across a trek of more than 300 miles to refuge on the Pine Ridge Reservation before they were massacred by the U.S. 7th Cavalry Regiment.

This two week event has become, as Vine White Hawk—the only women to participate in the inaugural 1986 ride put it—"one of the most important coming-of-age rituals that we have as a community. The grieving helps the children to accept who we are as a people and to grow from that. The hope is that these kids will someday become the young leaders and help our nation to once again become whole."

It is truly a testament to know how much the Lakota elders have invested in creating this culturally appropriate learning experience to help the tribe's youth understand where they come from, who they are and what they can do with their future. We are left to wonder if the Ojibwa elders of Red Lake can reassert themselves and create a similar type of social movement that models and makes a difference in their community.



Letters & E-mail

Please send all letters to 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, FL 33024 ♦ tribune@semtribe.com

Dear Editor,

I am taking my 8-year-old to the Big Cypress reservation tomorrow for an overnight stay. I am sure we will have a great time, from what is described online. However, I am more than a little disappointed that there will be no Seminoles as guides or story tellers, or so I'm told.

I don't mean to offend anyone, but I really don't appreciate being taught Seminole history, in the midst of the Seminole nation, by white people. For the \$200 we will spend tomorrow we could get that experience at Disney®.

As a non-white person myself, I can only speculate as to why Seminoles don't like the job as guides and storytellers. However, if they were compensated in a more creative way I am sure they could be persuaded to do the job. I would pay more money just to be assured Seminole guides and Seminole storytellers. I almost cancelled the trip when I learned there would be no Seminole storytellers. However, I already promised my daughter and she is excited to go.

I'm sure this complaint is common, if not always, expressed. I hope the Tribe will address this issue. Authenticity is critical if visitors are to feel they are getting their money's worth. If not, they won't recommend the attraction to their friends and they won't come back.

Please tell me, which of the attractions on the reservation are staffed by real Seminoles?

www.floridadriftwood.com

Dear www.floridadriftwood.com,

Thank you for your expressed interest in Seminole history and culture. I would like to take the opportunity to address the questions and issues you raise in your e-mail. Also, I wish to applaud the level of interest you have taken in our Tribe and the amount of care you put into learning about other cultures. Your 8-year old is very lucky to have a parent like yourself.

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, located on the Big Cypress Indian reservation is an incredible resource to learn about Seminole history and culture. Billie Swamp Safari is an incredible place to stay and learn about the environment and ecology of the Florida Everglades, the place in which most of the Seminoles of today call home.

First, to address the issue you raise in regards to the human resources employed by the Seminole Tribe of Florida and its enterprises, you would be pleased to know that the Tribe adopted a Tribal citizen first, native person second policy in regards to its hiring processes. This initiative was first introduced and by Chairman Mitchell Cypress and other supporting members of the Tribal Council.

There are Seminole Tribal citizens employed at the Billie Swamp Safari and they are assigned to various positions throughout the department. The tour guides employed by the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum are either Seminole Tribal citizens or members of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. The museum also has a significant number of Seminole Tribal citizens throughout the department and a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe.

Secondly, on the issue of learning about the Seminoles from "white people." Although, I can understand your point, I believe I may be able to offer a different perspective. Billie Swamp Safari is an enterprise designed to appeal to the public's eco-tourism interest. Most visitors enjoy the splendor of the sawgrass,

the immense amount of alligators peering out of the water, and some of the most beautiful Everglades sunsets ever seen.

The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, however, supplements the visit to the Safari because it is a place to learn. The museum is the resource for Seminole historic information, preservation and academia. The museum is designed to educate the visitor at whatever level or pace the visitor wishes. Therefore the Tribe employs the best and brightest in regards to its professional staff.

The Museum Director David Blackard is not a Tribal citizen; however he is the foremost authority in the field of Seminole history, specifically Seminole patchwork, baskets and dolls. He brings to the Seminole's Museum the level of professionalism that lets the museum world know that we are not a room full of showcases and souvenirs, but a permanent fixture responsible for preservation and education.

Those archivists and curators employed by the Tribe for the Museum are the best in their field which demonstrates the Tribe's commitment towards preservation and education. To that end, the museum is also going to begin a Community Outreach Program, supervised by a Tribal citizen, will focus on recruiting Tribal citizens interested in the liberal arts to fill those types of positions as educators, anthropologists, historians, historic preservation specialists, etc.

I can only hope that your experience in Big Cypress is a pleasant one and your quest for information on the Seminoles is successful.

Tina Marie Osceola, Executive Director  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

Dear Cindy Malin and Lucy Evanicki from Florida Seminole Tourism,  
What an amazing adventure! The Hard Rock Hotel & Casino is simply wonderful and Florida is lucky to have such a first class hotel. I'm amazed at how well the property looks and functions—it could compete on the Vegas strip. I'm extremely excited to help you promote this gem.

In Big Cypress we were just overwhelmed by the natural beauty of the area. Everyone was so kindly and gracious. Chris from the museum gave me a very informative tour of the museum and explained how the Seminole women ruled the roost in their Tribe. He also pointed out how colorfully and carefully Seminole women dressed, declaring they were the top fashion models of the Indian nations because of their care in appearance.

We did the day-night Eco Tours in the swamp buggy. Gus One Bear was our guide at night. Jonathan was wonderful to us. We did the Critter and Alligator shows, airboat ride and Indian storytelling and enjoyed the unique experience of the chickee dorm. Wow! This place is truly amazing. There were German, UK and Swedish visitors too.  
Vanessa Walter  
Director of Public Relations  
Visit Florida

Dear Mr. Steven Bowers:  
The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) would be honored if members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida (namely the Seminole Color Guard) were able to attend the National Powwow to be held at the MCI Center on August 12-14 as NMAI's official color guard. Through the advisement of an

objective and legitimate perspective, NMAI wishes to make inclusive those integrities that best exemplify the fiber and character of Powwow peoples.

The National Powwow will offer the Seminole Color Guard an opportunity to parade the colors of those respective nations, domestically and Tribally, as well as convey the concerns of devotion and sacrifice to which it has served. It has been mentioned before in our proposal letter to the Chairman that the substance of our format primarily emphasizes the origins of the Powwow as distinctly Plains, we cannot overlook those significant contributions and adherences that are expressed endemically in the broader contexts of Tribal people on the whole.

As our plans for the powwow develop further, we will be apprising our staff and participants of the programs and activities that may be of interest or consideration in terms of the length and breadth of one's stay. In regards to the details of the acceptance we can discuss those issues or concerns when your resolve has been affirmed.

Terry Snowball  
National Powwow Assistant  
Project Manager  
Community Services

Dear Editor,

I would like to place an advertisement for an upcoming event in your paper. St. Lucie County will turn 100 years old on July 2. We have planned a full day of events to be held on the St. Lucie County Fairgrounds Equestrian & Event Center.

I want to invite Seminole crafters to set up a tent outside to promote and sell their hand made products. The Seminoles are part of St. Lucie County's history and should attend the event. Thank you in advance for your help.

Sherry McCorkle  
St. Lucie County Fairgrounds  
Manager  
Parks & Recreation

Dear Ms. McCorkle,  
Thank you for your kind invitation and recognition of the Seminole Tribe of Florida's significance to your county. We would be more than pleased to participate in your event. Your contact person will be Joe Guerue.

Joe will arrange to have a tent and a museum membership booth and arts and crafts vendors. One question he will have of you is how big of a tent would you be able to accommodate. We would like to have the space to put up a 20-by-40 or 30-by-30 if at all possible.

Tina Osceola, Executive Director  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

Photo Quiz Answer



Louise Billie



# Happy First Birthday Trading Post

**By Susan Etxebarrria**  
**BRIGHTON** — The first anniversary celebrating the transformation of the Brighton Trading Post Convenience Store was held on April 2. The celebration was a fun-filled affair, which commemorated the conversion from little ole' country store into the modern-day retail center known as the Trading Post.

Fifty lucky winners received \$25 gas gift certificates; most were shoppers who entered the drawing earlier in the week when they stopped for gas and snacks. Brighton Council Representative Roger Smith, Brighton Board Representative Johnny Jones, President Moses Osceola and the Brighton Trading Post contributed the prize money.

It was also a happy day for all who worked this past year at the Brighton Trading Post under the



(L-R) Trading Post Manager Kevin Osceola, Charlene Baker, Sandy Osceola and Board President Moses Osceola.

Johnny Jones said one of the goals of the board was to create a convenient place for the residents and employees at Brighton to gas up without being gouged. The stores location on SR 721 is a good location for the gas business, as well, since there is a constant flow of traffic on that road that connects SR 78 to SR 70.

“You wouldn’t think gas would make that much difference in the revenues, but it did,” said Jones.

Another source of new revenue has been the sales of tobacco products. After Tribal citizen Carl Baxley closed his popular tobacco in nearby Lakeport, Fla., the management of the Brighton Trading Post jumped at the chance to offer cheaper tobacco prices to his former customers. People continue to drive long distances to stock up on cigarettes.

So, where are all the profits going; you might ask. According to Moses Osceola, the Board “share[s] profits with the Tribal members and we retain some profits for reinvestment.” He said the Board has recognized this site as a potential commercial site for additional services, he said. Some reinvestment monies may be used to establish a car wash, which is essential to those whose car suffers from dirty windshields due to dusty country roads.

Another idea being discussed is to establish a mini-financial center where Tribal citizens, campground residents, and the general public can go to pay utility bills, get check cashing, buy stamps, mail packages, and perhaps use an ATM machine, according to Jones. The closest service of this kind is a about a 15-mile drive.

Jones said this idea would be presented to the community before anything is done. He said that lots of people have worked on this venture and that ideas have come from many people throughout the years. The Board is looking at each and every possibility for the future.



Customers dined on hotdog's at the birthday celebration.

dedicated management of Kevin Osceola. Under his management, the staff has grown to nine hard-working employees who seem to be happy with their jobs since the turnover is zero. Osceola describes the renovated store as a friendly, quiet place.

“The first thing people say they notice is the cleanliness,” Osceola said.

The Trading Post stores established at Brighton and Big Cypress are under the mantle of the Board’s responsibilities. He said that the Brighton Trading Post has increased sales by an astonishing 600 percent since adding gas pumps.

“It has been a year now since we began fuel sales and it has proven to be an economically significant step,” said Moses Osceola. “The Board’s mission is to develop new opportunities for profit and to better manage existing ones.”

# The ‘Playmaker’ Visits Chairman Office

**By Felix DoBosz**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Football legend, and Broward County native Michael Irvin stopped by the Hollywood Tribal Headquarters on April 12 to chat with Chairman Mitchell Cypress.

Irvin was recruited by legendary Coach Howard Schnellenberger for the University of Miami (UM); his team later went on to capture the College National Championship in 1987. Cypress and Irvin shared a couple of laughs over recollections of Schnellenberger’s recruitment process at UM.

While at UM, Irvin set school records for his 143 catches, 2,423 yards, and 26 touchdowns. He was voted All American in 1988. He was drafted into the NFL by Coach Jimmy Johnson in 1988 and his Dallas Cowboys team won three Super Bowl championships. He established himself over more than 12



Michael Irvin (left) during his visit with Chairman Mitchell Cypress.

seasons as one of the NFL’s best wide receivers. The final catch of his career was number 750, tying him for tenth in NFL history. Irvin holds every significant receiving record for the Dallas Cowboys and is ninth in receiving yards in league’s history.

# ‘Indian Pride’ TV Show Focuses on Seminole Tribe of Florida

**By Iretta Tiger**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — Prairie Public Television, a company that develops programs for the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), is developing a new weekly cultural television magazine titled Indian Pride. The 30 minute programs will touch upon the historical past of the 562 Indian Nations of North America but its true aim is to bring to light current Native American issues.

For three days Junikae Randall, co-producer and Indian Pride host, and Bob Dambach, Director of Television Programming and Production for Prairie Public Television, visited with the Seminole Tribe. Indian Pride interviewed several Tribal citizens and toured the Big Cypress, Hollywood and Brighton reservations gathering information and filming everything they could about our tribe.

It may seem like it would be too much information to put into a half hour show but the subject of each show will not be about one specific Tribe. Each episode will focus on a Native American issue such as Indian treaties and Indian sports and will incorporate the footage of the different tribes that pertains to the topic.

Randall, a Turtle Mountain Chippewa, is the show’s creator and developed the show for five years. Her goal is to educate and inform everyone, including natives, about the 652 Tribes. This goal will be achieved through PBS and its educational pro-



Indian Pride cameraman Travis Jensen films while on the the airboat at Billie Swamp Safari.

guests will be interviewed and can discuss the topic of the show. Randall and Dambach hope to return to the Seminole Tribe to gather more information. One of Randall’s wishes is to interview Betty Mae Jumper.



Junikae Randall (right), Indian Pride host interviews Tribal citizen Joel Frank Sr. (left).

gramming television in the classroom. An educational website is also being developed where various resources will be made available. Indian Pride will also provide a forum where

Though no exact date has been set, the show should air in early fall 2005. Stay tuned to your local PBS station or visit [www.prairiepublic.org](http://www.prairiepublic.org) for more information.

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# Rez Hosts Two Days of Cultural Classes and Demonstrations

## Rez Hosts Two Days of Culture

By Iretta Tiger

**HOLLYWOOD** — It was time to bring all your gear and get ready to work. April 15 and 16 were culture days at the Hollywood gym. Tribal citizens of all ages were welcome to come and work on cultural projects or learn a new skill. There was beadwork, carving, patchwork, doll making, basket making and illustration. Virginia Osceola taught the art of making shakers. For those who are not familiar with shakers, they are an instrument worn by Seminole women during the Green Corn Dance. They are worn on the calves and have a particular sound.



**Virginia Osceola demonstrates the ancient art of shaker making.**



**(L-R) Courtney Osceola and Lavonne Kippenberger practice their beadwork.**

On Saturday, the whole day was dedicated to cultural events; from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. the workshops were available. After the workshops closed, several rounds of stickball were played. The games were divided into age groups to allow the children a chance to really play. Many people came and participated, but the organizers would like to see more. Come and share your skills at the next culture day; the next date will soon be announced. You can also contact Vivian Delgado or Donna Turtle at (954) 989-6840.

# Is That Made By A Seminole Indian?

By Wanda Bowers

That is the most common question I hear nowadays, even from a Seminole. I remember about 10-13 years ago, I went to the cultural class that was started up by our Education department here on the Hollywood reservation. I was at home with two small kids to raise so this was my chance to learn how to make patchwork and to make some extra money on the side while I wasn't working. I hoped someday to start sewing full time. I love making my patchwork and to let people know I could. It would be something that I could teach my kids some day when they got older. Well, I am still working, but still do some patchwork on my leisure time. As time goes on, I have learned that not only do I and my daughter know how to make patchwork, but every Tom, Dick and Jane out there knows how to make it too. Where does the pride come in? Sometimes people buy something, thinking that a Seminole Indian made it, or wear something thinking that a Seminole Indian made it. Later they come to find out that it was only partially made by a Seminole, however, the other part wasn't. Is that OK? But, then you ask yourself what part was made by whom. Is that OK? From one Seminole patchwork sewer to another that is not OK with me. Where does it stop? Or can we stop it? Is it to late to stop it? Do you believe people when they say "Yes, I made it." I can name every Seminole Indian lady that's made patchwork for me or who has put it into my skirts and blouses and swear to it. Can you? Or do we start putting on labels that say: "Made by Japanese,

taught by Seminole," or "Made by Polynesian, taught by Seminole" I could probably keep going; but where does it stop? I don't think our lady sewers, Mary Jene Koenes, Judybill Osceola, Annie Jumper, Nancy Motlow and Maydel Osceola, to mention a few, like it at all. However, they are traditional and are not going to say anything—it's up to us to stop it. These ladies are well known for their Seminole patchwork, so we need to keep it that way. There should not be anything generic in the Seminole Tribe. I've always stood by my Tribal citizens and my Tribe, in the preservation of our culture. I love going to all the culture gatherings that my reservation holds to learn what I can about our culture in order to preserve traditions. You must teach it, or as they say pass it down, but, let's teach it to each other. With me it's my designs, my patchwork. I want to save my patchwork. Now I guess I have to put on my patchwork "Made by a real Seminole Indian- Wanda Bowers." All I am saying is that when we employ non-Tribal people within our Tribe, especially in our Culture department, they learn our patchwork. When they no longer work within the Tribe they think it's acceptable to keep making it for their livelihood, but I don't think so. What they do is make our own patchwork and sell it right back to us at a cheaper price. Now that's not right, and we're buying it, but not me. We are watching you, so stop it. Where's the pride? This is just something to think about. This problem is getting bigger and it is not going to go away. As they say "Support Native Made."

# VIP Celebrity Gala, Auction Benefits Charity

By Felix DoBosz

**HOLLYWOOD** — On April 16th, the VIP Celebrity Gala and Auction was held at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino to benefit the Reach for the Stars Foundation. At 7 p.m. the silent auction started while guests consumed adult beverages and munched on hors d'oeuvres as they viewed, evaluated, and signed up for rare auction items used in raising money for the cystic fibrosis charity. More than 100 items were displayed to be bid on for such a worthy cause. Some of the auction items were quite impressive, others were typical luxury jewelry items such as gold and diamond watches, earrings, necklaces. Many sports fans and sports entertainers mingled in front of autographed football uniformed jerseys, helmets, footballs and basketballs.



**Shaq's infamous size 22 shoe was up for bid.**

his shtick. Then it was time for the closing remarks and gourmet deserts.

The Reach for the Stars Foundation Benefiting Individuals with Cystic Fibrosis is held annually. This is the Third Annual Stars 4 Stars Weekend. It ran from April 15-17 at the Club at Emerald Hills and the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. According to the display on the website, The Stars 4 Stars Weekend has become one of South Florida's star-studded premier fund-raisers. These events featured the Jay Fiedler Celebrity Golf Classic Presented by Capital Real Estate Group, the VIP Celebrity Gala and Auction sponsored by the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, and a new addition, the R4Stars Charity Poker Tournament. Stars 4 Stars Weekend benefits the Reach for the Stars Foundation.

The Foundation is dedicated to providing individuals afflicted with cystic fibrosis and their families with the resources, knowledge and support necessary to manage their unrelenting battle with this insidious disease. Cystic Fibrosis is not only physically debilitating, but carries a heavy financial and psychological burden for families. The Reach for the Stars Foundation's mission is to help these individuals and families with these burdens so they can survive to see a cure.

## Cystic Fibrosis (CF)

CF is a genetic disorder that affects the respiratory, digestive and reproductive systems. There are approximately 30,000 people in the United States with CF, 3,000 in Canada and 30,000 in other areas of the world. In the U.S., there are approximately 2,500 new cases diagnosed each year. Currently, there is no cure for CF, but there are many promising new treatments in use and even more on the horizon. The median life expectancy for a person with CF is now 32 and only thirty years ago, a CF patient was not expected to reach adulthood. Many people even live into their fifties and sixties. An article in the October 11, 2000, issue of The Journal of the American Medical Association (Wang, et al) discusses a possible connection between the gene responsible for cystic fibrosis and chronic rhino sinusitis.

Rhino sinusitis refers to inflammation of the mucous membranes that line the nose and facial sinuses. The facial sinuses are the cavities that surround the nose and are part of the upper respiratory tract. CF is an inherited condition affecting the glands that produce mucus, tears, sweat, saliva and digestive juices.

To learn more about CF please visit <http://www.cysticfibrosis.com> and <http://www.r4stars.org>



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# The Journey Home Performance

## The Stories of Native Foster Children and Adoptees

**Submitted by Intermedia Arts**  
What: The Journey Home: The Stories of Native Foster Children and Adoptees  
When: May 7 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Who: Tamara Buffalo, with support from Intermedia Arts  
Where: Intermedia Arts, 2822 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408  
How: Free admission, Reception to follow both performances

Tamara Buffalo, with support from Intermedia Arts, presents "The Journey Home: The Stories of Native Foster Children and Adoptees," the moving personal stories based on workshops led by Tamara Buffalo. Native American adoptees were able to participate in storytelling and writing workshops to tell their tales.

The Journey Home connects the oral tradition of storytelling with contemporary issues that face the Native American community. Native American adoptees create new stories that bring Native American people out of the past and into the complexities of modern life. This community event will raise awareness of the hidden history of foster care and adoption in Native American communities.

"Storytelling is an important aspect of Ojibwe culture," said Buffalo. "My ability to tell a good tale can be used as a tool for teaching and connecting. Even though I grew up outside of my Native community and culture, my stories helped me to become a part of the community that I had lost. Adoption is part of the contemporary tales that Native people need to tell."

Buffalo is a published author, poet and visual artist. She has been the recipient of several writing awards and reads her work frequently in various locations in Minneapolis, Minn. In 1992, she received the Loft Inroads Literature award and in 2003, she received a Jerome Foundation Writing



Submitted by Intermedia Arts

The stories of native adoptees make it to the public.

Fellowship award from SASE: The Write Place.

Her teaching experience includes instructing undergraduate courses at the University of Minnesota in women studies and American Indian literature, teaching composition at Native American Educational Services College in Minneapolis, and conducting a series of improvisational workshops for teens with SteppingStone Theatre in St. Paul, Minn.

Buffalo has exhibited her visual art at Intermedia Arts and Two Rivers Gallery in Minneapolis. She is a Tribal member of the White Earth Anishinabe Tribe, and is a mother and grandmother.

Admission is free. A reception is to follow both performances. Intermedia Arts is located at 2822 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408. For more information call Intermedia Arts at (612) 871-4444 or visit [www.intermediaarts.org](http://www.intermediaarts.org).



## Wounded Knee: The Museum in Third Season

**Submitted by Daniel Draper**

**HOLLYWOOD** — Wounded Knee: The Museum opens for its third season on May 1. The museum will continue to expand on the story of a small band of Lakota families who became the focus of the past major military operation of the U.S. army in its century's long effort to subdue the Native American tribes.

New at the museum this year are: "The Treaty of 1868" A facsimile of the 1868 treaty between the Lakota nation and the U.S. government. It has been carefully reproduced from the original and shows provisions negotiated after Red Cloud successfully closed the Bozeman Trail. Visitors will be able to see what was delivered, "Adaptable Lakota" A brief description of life among the Lakota before and after contact with European-based cultures."

This exhibit demonstrates the creative adaptability of the Lakota people and "The Children's Corner" In the Children's Corner, younger visitors can enjoy a multi-sensory experience with exhibits tailored to their interests. Included are audio, visual, and tactile displays about Lakota babies, growing up as a girl, growing up as a boy, games and toys, food and clothes, and how people chose their names.

Wounded Knee: The Museum is located at Exit 110 on Interstate 90 in Wall, South Dakota. It is open 8:30 a.m.-5:50 p.m., seven days a week. Contact the museum by phone at (605) 279-2573 or on the web at [www.woundedkneemuseum.org](http://www.woundedkneemuseum.org).

For more information Contact Daniel Draper, Public Information Office, Wounded Knee: The Museum (970) 226-3218.

## NASD Foundation Funds Investor Education Program for Native Americans

**Submitted by Sarah Bohn, NASD**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — The NASD Investor Education Foundation has awarded a grant of \$87,000 to First Nations in Fredericksburg, Va., to develop and deliver educational materials on investing and the markets to Native Americans.

First Nations is the only national Native American-led organization dedicated to helping Native Americans develop their assets and control their economic futures in ways appropriate to their cultures. The NASD Foundation's grant will be used to develop "Investment Skills for Families," a curriculum that will become a component of "Building Native Communities," a financial education series introduced by First Nations in 2001.

"Too many investors have limited access to opportunities for even the most basic financial education," said Robert R. Glauber, Chairman and CEO of NASD, who also serves as Chairman of the NASD Investor Education Foundation. "This program offers opportunities for investor education, and one that is keyed to the context and history of the Native American cultures and communities."

"For 24 years, First Nations has been helping Native people and organizations build on their strengths," said First Nations Founder and President Rebecca Adamson. "We founded the first micro-enterprise loan fund in the United States on the Pine Ridge Reservation, helped start credit unions on reservation and, through First Nations Oweesta Corp., channel

capital to reservations. Now we are honored to work with NASD to strengthen Native peoples' financial knowledge."

Adamson has been recognized nationally and internationally for her innovative work with indigenous peoples around the globe.

"Native people understand assets, wealth, savings, investment, yield and other such concepts in the natural world. Our job is to translate that knowledge into the institutional framework of modern financial markets," said Gelvin Stevenson, who will author the curriculum.

Stevenson, a Cherokee from Oklahoma, has served on the First Nations board for nearly 20 years. He has a Ph.D. in economics and formerly wrote and edited at *BusinessWeek* magazine.

The NASD Investor Education Foundation, established in 2003, supports educational programs and research with the goal of providing investors with high-quality, easily accessible information and tools to better understand investing and the markets. The Foundation recently awarded more than \$1 million in total to 11 organizations, including First Nations, for new educational programs and research projects targeting the underserved segments of the population. For details about grant programs and other new initiatives of the Foundation, visit [www.nasdfoundation.org](http://www.nasdfoundation.org).

For more information, visit [www.nasd.com](http://www.nasd.com).



## Hollywood, California Media Association Seeks Native American Talent

**Submitted by Frank Blythe**

**HOLLYWOOD, CA** — Thunder Mountain Media in association with BannerCaswell Productions is developing various projects in the television and home video marketplace. The first project is a reality-type show that features the outdoors, currently being developed subject to a non-disclosure agreement, which is entertainment speak for top secret.

The first step is a nationwide talent search for Native American men and women between the ages of 18 and 50 who love the outdoors and are comfortable with animals and nature. Most importantly, Thunder Mountain Media is looking for Native American people that, as they say in Hollywood, "eat up the camera" The producers are searching for people who look good, can deliver lines on camera and have the desire and ability to work hard.

Interested applicants should visit the website ([www.thundermountainmedia.com](http://www.thundermountainmedia.com)) for more information. The deadline is with a deadline of May 13.

Thunder Mountain Media is a partnership between two leaders of the Native American community:

longtime PBS Executive Producer Frank Blythe (Native American Public Telecommunications) and veteran economic development and community consultant, Syd Beane (National American Indian Development Corporation). BannerCaswell Productions is Chuck Banner and Ben Caswell, television professionals who started working together over ten years ago while at Bob Banner Associates (Star Search, Showtime at the Apollo, etc.).

In 2001, Blythe, Beane, Banner and Caswell worked together with actor/singer Floyd Red Crow Westerman and two-time Grammy Award-winning music producer/singer Tom Bee to produce XIT: Without Reservation, the 30th Anniversary concert special for PBS and home video.

Thunder Mountain Media is part of a larger coalition to help create culturally relevant content for mainstream consumption. The Native Media and Technology Network (NMTN) has the mission of building media capacity and entertainment job opportunities in Native American communities.

## Native American Housing

### Enhancement Act Passes in House

**HR 797 would remove significant barriers to Tribes in housing; access to YouthBuild is among provisions**

**Submitted by American Indian Housing Council**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Hopes for equitable housing in Indian Country received a major boost with the April 6 House passage of H.R. 797, the Native American Housing Enhancement Act (NAHEA). This act would improve Tribal access to or flexibility in federal housing funding on three counts. In his statement on the House floor in the moments leading up to the voice vote, the bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Rick Renzi (R-AZ), made clear that he was paying attention to a voter population whose needs and concerns all too often go unnoticed.

"While visiting with my Navajo and Apache constituents, I have learned that there is a need for a focus on long-term housing planning," Renzi said. "If we can help Tribes be flexible with their grant money we will see great projects such as Apache Dawn, a multi-phase construction development by the White Mountain Apache that was built because they were able to be flexible and creative with their funding."

Co-sponsor Jim Matheson (D-UT), who toured some Native American homes, and supporter Stephanie Herseth (D-SD) also spoke of the need for the NAHEA.

"It is unacceptable that modern day Americans live in such substandard housing," said Matheson. "Many of the issues contributing to the problem are complicated, but the provisions in this bill assist with stretching existing resources and creating flexibility for the delivery of housing Native Americans."

Herseth, describing severely cold winter weather as well as overcrowded and substandard living conditions on reservations in her state, said adequate housing for people in Tribal communities is "truly a matter of life and death."

The passage of the NAHEA in the House will facilitate passage of a companion bill that has been introduced in the Senate, where it has support on both sides of the aisle and from the committee chairman of jurisdiction, the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) is reporting. The bill will provide Tribes unrestricted access to funds

from the Native American Housing Block Grant (the primary source of federal Indian housing funding) even if they still retain program income from previous years. This provision is crucial in order not to create a disincentive for Tribes to generate income or plan for their future developments, Renzi explained.

The bill will also allow Indian preference in housing programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, bringing them in line with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs.

"It is not a race issue," Renzi explained. "Indian preference recognizes the political designation of Tribes as sovereign entities with whom we have entered into a government-to-government relationship." NAIHC leaders commented on the bill in terms of fulfilling the vision of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), which ushered in the current era of Indian housing.

"This legislation will help in the implementation of both the housing assistance and the self-determination called for in NAHASDA," said Chester Carl, NAIHC Chairman.

"While widespread and severe need still exists, recently documented progress in housing and other socioeconomic factors shows that Tribal self-determination works-and by that virtue Tribal governments should have the same access to vital tools that other governments have in this country," said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon.

Ironically it was NAHASDA that prohibited Tribes from continuing to access the popular YouthBuild life skills / home construction program. The NAHEA will reinstate that access, which Indian housing advocates have been seeking for a long time, citing a particular need for YouthBuild in Tribal communities. Despite the aforementioned improvements in Indian Country, Tribal youth as a group remain more troubled than their counterparts in other U.S. populations-and on that point there's more than just grim statistics, Renzi indicated.

"Current tragic events make clear the need to allow these children to participate in a program that will build stronger neighborhoods, more self-esteem and make a difference for their future."



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## Education ♦ Emahaayeeke ♦ Kerretv

### Tribe Participates in Community Reading Day

By Adelsa Williams

PEMBROKE PINES, FL

— On March 30, Pembroke Pines Charter Elementary School hosted the annual Community Reading Day. Members of the community were invited to come and share a book with the students. This year's reading day theme was "Share a tale."

Big Cypress Library

Director John Fraser represented the Seminole Tribe of Florida. He read to third and fourth graders in three scheduled sessions. Stories included "Little Frog" and "Possums" from Betty Mae Jumper's "Legend of the Seminoles" book.

One student was eager to share with the class what he learned from the "Possum" story.

"The moral of the story is to not make fun of people because of what they do or don't have," he said.

During the reading, Fraser also explained to the students about patchwork which is included in the book and for "show and tell" he wore a traditional Seminole jacket.

"Do Seminoles still wear those jackets?" asked an enthusiastic student.

For the students' enjoyment, Fraser also handed out a coloring book called "Seminole Colors."

The students seemed excited to learn more of the history of the Florida Seminoles. After the reading sessions, they raised their hand to either ask Fraser a question about the Seminoles or to share their stories of their previous field trip visits to the Billie Swamp Safari on the Big Cypress reservation and the annual Seminole Tribal Fair.

"The questioning took us past the scheduled time for each class, with the last class almost an hour, and it could have been longer if they hadn't needed to



Adelsa Williams

John Fraser reads from Betty Mae's "Legends of the Seminoles."

get ready for their buses," said Fraser.

One of the fourth grade teachers, Celeste Doherty, commented that it was a great idea to invite a reader from the Seminole Tribe, saying, "This is great, in this class we do a lot of Florida history."

The event is designed to encourage students to read. The beneficial cause causes a huge impact in the fight for literacy and writing skills. At the same time, students and teachers have the opportunity to interact with a representative of the business community. Through sharing time and stories, business volunteers, students and teachers are able to interact together while learning about the importance of literacy.

### Annual Preschool Fun Day

By Iretta Tiger

**HOLLYWOOD** — On April 4, the Hollywood Preschool held its annual Fun Day. The children enjoyed a morning filled with sack races, relay racing, a golf balancing game and a soccer ball kick game.

Many parents and relatives came out to cheer on their children and some joined in the games.

Two special sack races closed the games.

The first race was between the parents. Most contestants made it back to the finish line, but there were a couple of wipe-outs.

The second race involved several Seminole Police Department officers. One officer in particular took advantage of a hole in the bottom of his bag. He expanded the hole and instead of hopping the second half of the race he ran it!

Fun Day came to an end with medals and certificates given to all participants.



Iretta Tiger

These preschoolers made their own shade during their break from game-playing.



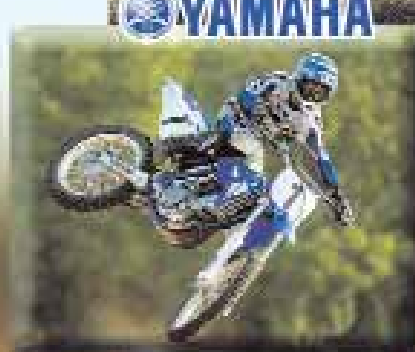
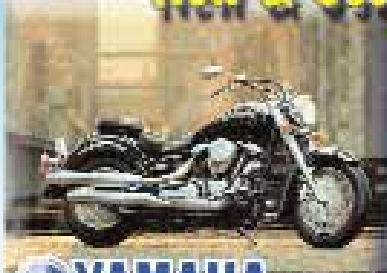
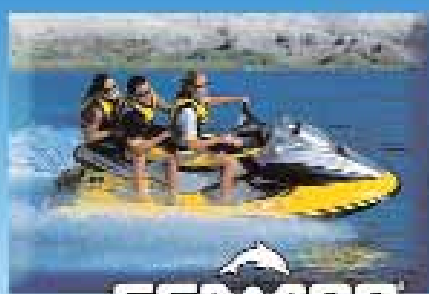
Iretta Tiger

Even the adults got in on the fun and sac raced with the preschoolers.

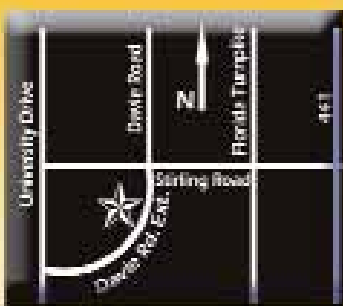
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1. Age 7yrs. – 18yrs. (by 7/6)
2. Tribal member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida
3. Hollywood resident and Hollywood non resident
4. Must participate in all activities
5. All children must submit a paragraph or two toward the end of the trip.
6. Parents must accompany children at all times.
7. Must return completed application by Tuesday, June 21, 2005 at 5:00pm.
8. Substance free activity

During this year's 2005, the Hollywood Youth Conference participants will be traveling to Castillo De San Marco in St. Augustine, Florida. They will also travel to Charleston, South Carolina to visit Fort Moultrie. This trip is to give our youth a brief history into our past and we encourage the youth who meet the requirements to apply. There are limited spaces available, so this will be on a first come first serve policy. Youth are to be accompanied by an adult, and maximum of two adults per family will be allowed to attend. Lodging and food will be paid for, but families must cover all other expenses.

If you are interested, pick up your application  
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# Kindergarten Summer Program 2005

**Submitted by Lynn Himebauch, Education Advisor**

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Seminole Education department is proud to announce that once again your graduating preschool child will have the opportunity to build on his or her successes in preschool and enroll in six fun-filled, educationally stimulating weeks of kindergarten preparedness.

This kindergarten simulation is designed specifically for those children who meet the Florida state enrollment guidelines and will be attending kindergarten for the 2005–2006 school year. The summer program begins on June 6 and concludes on July 15. School will not be held on the 4th of July.

This year's session will focus on reading readiness. Each day your child will bring home a book. Instructors are asking that parents read to the child and have the child "read" the story to you.

Other areas of study will include the development of fine motor skills, recognition of days of the week, months in the year, pattern shapes, numbers and colors.

Ms. Fila and Ms. Dorsett will return as instructors for the kindergarten summer program. Teachers will arrive at 7:30 a.m., a light breakfast will be served from 8–8:30 a.m., lunch at 11:30 and parents can pick up their children between noon and 12:30 p.m.

Applications are available at Hollywood Preschool or at the Education office on the third floor of the DSO building. Applications should be returned to Education Advisor Lynn Himebauch by May 13. Space is limited to the first 20 eligible applicants.

For more information please, contact Lynn Himebauch at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1318.

# Summer Youth Work Experience Program

**Submitted by Patricia Wind**

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Education department is currently taking applications for the Summer High School & College Internship Work Experience Program. Applications may be picked up and returned to the Education Advisor on each reservation.

This program is for all Native American students, ages 14–21 who are in high school, college, or attending GED classes. Applications must be in no later than 5 p.m. on May 2. This is an eight week pro-

gram which will begin June 6 thru July 29.

An orientation meeting will be held in the Hollywood Tribal Auditorium on June 3 at 12 p.m. for all those hired for the summer work experience.

The Education and the Human Resources departments have partnered to make the work experience as helpful as possible to the students in meeting individual goals. For more information or assistance please contact Pat Wind at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1313 or Angel Torres at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1036.

# Seminole Garners Academic Honor

**BOCA RATON, FL** — On April 1, Lynn University held an Honors Convocation at the Green Center located on the university campus. In attendance were faculty and honored guest for the Academic Honors, Academic Honor Society, and President's Honor Society.

To be considered for the Academic Honor a student must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher. Tribal citizen Alexandra Frank has a GPA of 3.72, just three-tenths of a point shy of the President's Honor Society, but qualifying for the Academic Honor Society.

A special luncheon was held to honor the 283 honors recipients where they were presented with a certificate stating the honor they received. The Address given by Dr. Michael Wolfe, Executive Director of Kappa Delta Pi, was a speech that offered wisdom about taking academics in stride with the world that surrounds a student.

He mentioned that not every student could be lumped together in regards to circumstance and that everyone learns at different levels during their education tenure. He expressed that even great minds like Albert Einstein were not great geniuses at first, but with nurturing those great minds went on to establish new formulas to create an advanced future.

Wolfe encouraged student and teacher to

keep their minds and eyes open to that fact that education is an important stepping stone to having a complete and happy future. And with each other working toward helping the student finish the goal of earning a degree this task can be accomplished.

As for Alexandra Frank, who is getting her bachelor's degree in communications, she is thinking of taking further steps for earning a masters degree in film. Balancing school, work, childcare and fighting with her cat, Frank appreciates the accolades that has come due to her hard work and enjoying what she learns.

Alexandra would like to thank the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Education department, Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., her mother Edna Frank, her sister Corinna, her boy Kyreil Josh, Maureen Vass, Pat Jagiel, Donna Cizmar, Teresa Colaluca, Rhonda Bain, Diane Frank, and the rest of her family.

She would also like to give homage to those who have passed on but were a great inspiration to her, Bobby Frank for teaching her to work hard, Ethel Santiago, Nancy Frank Wareham, and June Tiger for their words of wisdom in never letting anyone pick up the slack for you when you can do it for yourself.



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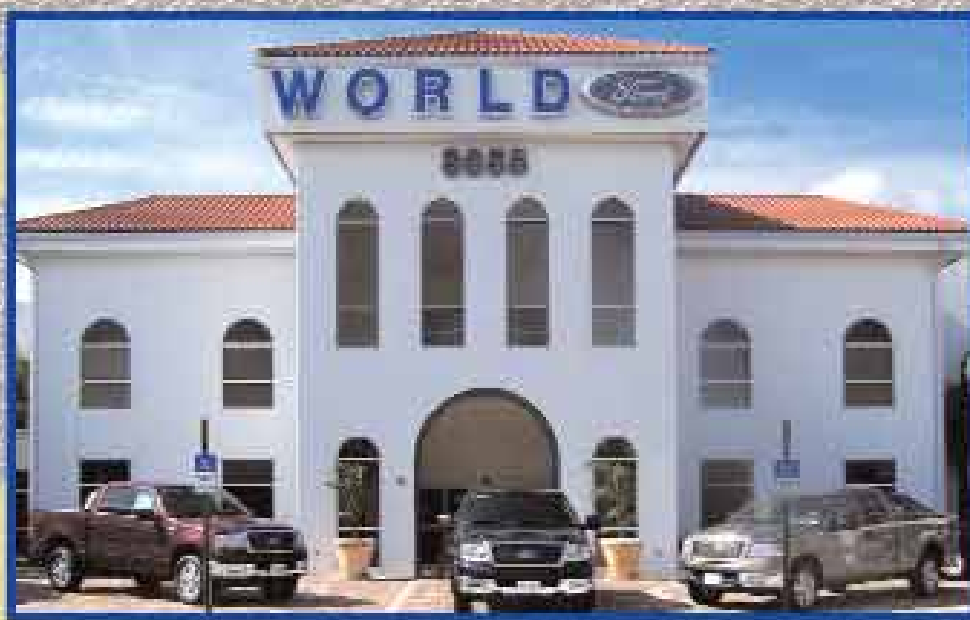
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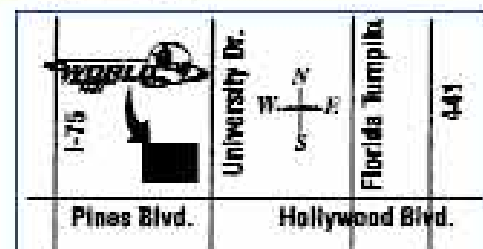
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# Tribe's Cattle ID System is a Model for Rest of State

**By Susan Ettxebarria**  
**BRIGHTON** — When it comes to raising cattle no one does it better than the Seminoles. In Florida, no one today has done it longer. So it should come as no surprise that the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. is leading the state in the creation of an animal identification system that may become a model for the rest of the state's cattle industry.

On March 31, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Charles Bronson visited the Seminole Tribe's Cattle and Land Operations at the Brighton Indian reservation to usher in one of Florida's first pilot projects in electronic animal identification.

"It is a pleasure for me once again to be here at Brighton Reservation," said Bronson. "You are the people who have run more cattle in the state than anyone in the past 500 years. The Tribe has a rich history in the cattle industry."

As the Tribe is taking a lead in the tourism industry, so too, the Tribe's role in the cattle industry is about to make its mark.

"The Seminole Tribe is taking the lead in this

slow although a number of states do have pilot projects or mandated programs proposed. To date, animal identification is currently voluntary but a mandatory system may be in place as early as 2007, according to a USDA website report. The United States Animal Identification Plan's (USAIP) website, [www.usaip.info](http://www.usaip.info), states that a national system is needed to "maintain the economic viability of American animal agriculture." The plan will enhance "disease preparedness by rapidly identifying animals exposed to disease, thus allowing quick detection, containment, and elimination of disease threats."

It is the importance of this issue that brought the Bronson to Brighton. The commissioner, special guests, Tribal dignitaries, photographers, reporters and agricultural educators and writers observed a live demonstration of the computerized tagging process taking place on an isolated working ranch at the reservation. A herd of cows, rounded up for their annual spring vaccinations, were about to enter the computer age and become one of the selected herds involved in a food safety program of national significance.

After the outbreaks of mad cow disease that led to 110 deaths by the end of March 2002 in England, steps were taken by the European Union, England, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and other nations, to develop a national animal ID system that enables secure traceability of animals and animal products. Japan restored consumer confidence by creating a national ID system after a case of mad cow disease was detected in September 2001. As more and more countries adopt these systems, the pressure is on for the U.S. to mandate a system.

Also an emerging issue of concern is the potential threat of agri-bioterrorism. Any attack aimed at the food supply and agriculture infrastructure would create an economic crisis for the livestock producers, food retailers and the restaurant industry if it is not detected, traced, contained and prevented from spreading within hours.

For all these reasons, the Seminole herds have been going through the special tagging process for the past two months. Each cow receives a number that is assigned to that animal alone and never changes, much like social security numbers are assigned to humans. Radio Frequency Identification, or electronic ID, is currently the preferred method for individual animal identification. The number corresponds to the "button" in the ear that contains a 15-digit ear code that can be read by scanner much like foods scanned at a grocery store. The ID system works with a specialized software program that can download information recorded on site about each cow and its history of movement, health and weight gain which offers a sophisticated but simple to use management tool at Cattle and Land Operations headquarters.

This project will have many benefits for the Tribe. Secure systems help maintain a higher standard of food safety and quality assurance; they help limit the spread of animal disease; they prevent wide scale livestock producer losses to disease presence, they reduce cost of government control, intervention and eradication.

Board President Moses Osceola spoke about the economic ramifications of being able to market beef with a seal of assurance that the most stringent safety standards are being met by the Tribe.

"I am proud to be a part of this brand new system," Osceola said. "Not only will it make it possible to track diseases back to their origin and provide greater consumer safety, it will alleviate consumer concerns. It will also enhance the marketability of our cattle to foreign trade."

If the ultimate goal of the Board is to increase profits for the Tribe then this has great poten-



Florida Agricultural Commissioner Charles Bronson (center) holds up an example of what the ID button will look like once its inside the cow's ear.



Tribal Extension Agent Michael Bond (right) explains the animal ID tagging process to a reporter from NBC 2.

The camera crews from Channel 12 of West Palm Beach, Fla., Channel NBC 2 of Fort Myers, Fla. and the Tribe's own Broadcasting department filmed most of the day's events. In an effort to get the best footage of the skilled Seminole cowboys working shoot-side with the cattle, the media climbed fences to get shots of the cowhands inserting a computer chip or "button" about the size of a quarter into the left ear of each cow at a fairly precise location. It was dramatic footage as seen later on two nightly newscasts.

Following the demonstration, a press conference was held under a tent in a side pasture. Before Tribal citizens and the commissioner spoke and answered questions. Tribal Extension Agent Michael Bond introduced the program and explained how it works. Funded by a \$98,000

pilot program and I hope other beef producers will get on board," said Bronson.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture made creation of a national animal ID system a priority in December 2003 after a single case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a dairy cow, also known as mad cow disease, was reported in Washington State. There were also increased concerns that terrorists could target the agriculture industry.

The pace of implementation has been very

grant from the USDA, this project involves tagging of approximately 10,000 head of Seminole cattle with electronic computer chips that allow the state to eventually track an animal from its birth to the grocery store shelf.

Such a system gives health officials the means to trace the movement of any animal diagnosed with an A-list communicable disease, including foot and mouth and mad cow disease, within 48 hours of discovering the disease.

tial for the future.

As Michael Bond pointed out, Japan's ban on imports of American beef due to a lack of a national animal ID system accounted for a 10 percent loss in export to U.S. cattle producers.

"Recently, Japan has been talking about opening up their markets to U.S. beef again," he said. "Point of source monitoring is one of the issues."

The growth in global trade and consumer concerns for food safety require more effective animal identification and verification systems than the simple manual recording and reading of ear tags which have been used in national disease eradication programs in the past. The Seminole Tribe's participation in this project will become part of a developing model for the statewide cattle industry.

Though there was much excitement at this pastoral press conference, some people present who worked many long hours on this pilot project from the beginning, need to be recognized. Natural Resources Director Don Robertson and the Assistant Director Alex Johns researched and organized the effort and are now consultants in this process.

"We hope the beef producers in the state of Florida will take a look at this and jump on board," Robertson said.

Others involved are Amos Tiger who serves as the Tribe's liaison with the Department of Agriculture. Staff Training with the cowhands took place and they adapted quickly and became quite efficient at inserting the chip. Leoma Simmons is managing the new system database and will be responsible for compiling the reports. Allen Huff has been responsible for notifying the media about this important role the Tribe is playing in food safety. He reported that after the media broadcasts were aired and news articles were published the phones have been ringing off the hook at the Cattle and Land Operations offices.

Already producers in the cattle industry want to know how the system works while other industry-related businesses are seeking to build relationships with the Tribe in pursuing the opportunities to compete in the global beef market.

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# Wellness Village Will Soon be a Reality

Construction to Start in July 2005

All great accomplishments begin with a need and a dream. In mid-2002, when Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress was attending a Wellness Conference, he was asked by Tribal member Lenny Jim why the Tribe doesn't have an addiction treatment program. The seed was planted and the dream was born.

Councilman Cypress researched the issue, and found that The Seminole Tribe of Florida has contracted with outside providers for many years for the delivery of treatment and rehabilitative services not available within the Tribe's resources.

The therapeutic outcomes had been difficult to evaluate. The relapse rate for those individuals attending contracted services had been unacceptably high. The cost of treatment has also continued to escalate in spite of the active efforts of the Tribe's Family Services Program to contain it.

The Seminole Wellness Village is the result of the vision of Councilman Cypress and other Tribal citizens to offer their families an opportunity to heal, grow and change in an environment that is familiar, respectful and culturally appropriate. The goal of the facility is to help Tribal citizens return from rehabilitation as healthy and productive mem-

bers of their communities.

Upon returning to Big Cypress from the Wellness Conference, Cypress approached Nery Mejicano, then the supervisor of BC's Family Services Program, to put together a proposal for an addiction residential treatment program to be located in the community. Mejicano has an extensive background in addiction treatment and program design and management, having spent more than 30 years in the field.

The initial plan was to remodel the old Big Cypress Child Care Center, and convert it into a 16 bed treatment facility, which, while a start, would have been insufficient to meet the long-term needs of the Tribe. After much discussion with Tribal citizens and members of the recovering community, Cypress decided that it would be better to build a new facility than to remodel the old building.

Cypress approached Joe Weinberg of The Cordish Company and Power Plant Entertainment, the developer of the Tribe's Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino projects, who, after taking a look at the proposal, decided to provide the funding for a new facility. Principals in The Cordish Company and Power Plant Entertainment have a long history of

philanthropic giving throughout the U.S. and abroad.

In discussions with The Cordish Company, the vision expanded to the building of a facility that would provide comprehensive services, not only to individuals suffering from addictive disorders, but to include families and children, as well as the community at large. The Cordish Company is recognized as one of the premier development companies in the country. In addition to providing funding for the project, they will be overseeing the design and construction of the new Seminole Wellness Village.

The next step was to find an appropriate setting for the building of this facility, which by now had grown to 70 beds and the provision for intensive residential treatment for chemically dependent individuals, a transitional facility and services to individuals suffering from obesity and eating disorders, as well as their families and children. The search was on.

Given the central location of Big Cypress to the other Reservations and the availability of land, it was here that a search for a site led to a 13 acre parcel that is the perfect location. The site is next to the west feeder canal and isolated from businesses and residences. The land is lush with natural vegetation that includes pines, palms and other native plants. Five of these acres were already cleared as it had been previously used as a farm and was considered "disturbed land".

It took almost one year of negotiations with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Agencies, the Seminole historical preservation staff and several other agencies and programs to obtain the required permits.

In mid 2003, the project began to take shape by the addition of the architectural firm PBS&J Civic and Resorts Architectural "Design Studio," based in Orlando, Fla. In addition to architectural design, PBS&J offers a full range of services that include civil, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineering.

From the beginning, the design staff of PBS&J has painstakingly researched the history, traditions and structures of the Seminole Tribe as well



Submitted by Nery Mejicano

A 3-D model of the village.

as carefully studying the proposed site so that the buildings and structures will fit into the environment with minimal disruption of the wooded areas of the land and its wildlife. The result has been a very functional and beautifully designed facility that will be a model not only in Indian Country, but throughout the entire country for the provision of family and community comprehensive treatment services.

The present design is for a 70 bed facility that will include a 40 bed intensive residential program as well as 30 bed transitional facility, or half-way house. In addition, the design calls for an administration and counseling building which will contain a large group therapy room, family counseling areas, and staff offices.

Next to the administrative area is a dining/kitchen facility that will serve both facilities, and includes a specialized kitchen for use by individuals of families suffering from obesity and other eating disorders. As an integral part of this healing complex, a gymnasium is planned that will have aerobic and weight training rooms, as well as an outdoor covered basketball court.

The present cleared area, consisting of five acres, will have a walking path and a ropes course, as well as recreational areas for the client and their families. A landscaping architect has been hired to ensure that all landscaping preserves and enhances the natural beauty of the land. The projected start for land preparation on the project is July 2005, with project completion estimated in September of 2006.



Submitted by Nery Mejicano

The plans for the Seminole Wellness Village.

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### Dear Counselor,

I am new in the recovery program. I attend meetings and follow the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions of the program. I am in a loving relationship with a young lady that puts up with me. The young lady and I have a lot in common. We are both Seminoles, we both enjoy to participate in cultural activities and we enjoy traveling.

I am 24 and my girlfriend is 22. My problem is my anger. I have a short fuse. I am always angry and on the verge to explode at any time. My girlfriend thinks I am a time bomb. I do not want to lose my recovery or my girlfriend because of my anger. I am not physically abusive, but my fuse is getting shorter and shorter.

Signed,  
New in Recovery

### Dear New in Recovery,

Your journey on the road to recovery is full of hope. Competence is the ability to understand your own feelings. The highest form of mental health is to realize that there are options, that there are choices. The Seminole Tribe and other Native Americans suffered loss of personal life, land, resources and culture as outsiders influence started to eradicate your tribal traditions. You were left with helplessness, hopelessness, sadness, despair, shame and anger.

The road that you are on will raise you from the ashes of the pain as you join forces with other Native Americans in a bond of brotherhood of modern day warriors, fighting to find healing, wisdom and self empowerment. One of the issues many recovering alcoholics and drug dependent persons have difficulty

coping with is anger. Anger is the number one cause of relapse.

Mismanagement of anger can pose a threat to sobriety and problems in relationship with others. Your problem with anger may occur for several reasons. You must understand that in some instances much of your difficulty with anger is related to self-anger you have through oppression and historical trauma.

As a beginner in the recovery process, and

your issue with anger, I have a word of advice for you: The size of a man can be measured by the size of the thing that makes him angry. The preceding may help you recognize and deal with anger in a constructive manner. You must learn to recognize angry feelings.

You must be aware of when you are angry. How does your anger show? You have to look for anger clues. The physical signs of anger may include such things as headaches, tension in your stomach, or rapid speech. The psychological signs may include revenge fantasies, increased thought of using alcohol, or drugs or feeling depressed. The behavioral signs may include increased argumentativeness with others, or showing aggressive behavior in your interactions with others.

"Honesty gets us sober," Bill Wilson once said. "But tolerance keeps us sober." I encourage you to

contact and make an appointment with the Family Services department. A counselor will be assigned to you to develop an anger management program. The counseling sessions will help you deal with your sobriety and anger. Anger is a human emotion, how you deal with it defines you as a person.

Signed,  
Counselor

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# SPD Holds Sexual Assault Prevention Seminar

## 'Helping Woman Get the Power Back Through Knowledge'

**By Melissa Sherman**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On April 4 the Seminole Police Department (SPD) hosted a sexual assault prevention presentation in the Auditorium of the Hollywood Headquarters. The presentation was given by Detectives Steve Lopez and Henri Suissa, who say they both share a passion for educating the community and keeping it a safe place.

Detectives Suissa and Lopez are not your average officers. Suissa, is a licensed clinical social worker who possesses a master's degree in clinical social work and psychology and has substantial experience in treating, working, and dealing with issues of rape, incest and molestation.

Lopez also has a master's degree, though his is in criminal justice. He has a wide range of experience in investigating, case filing and prosecuting perpetrators of sex crimes. His ability to recognize, identify, and work with victims of sex crimes is a tremendous asset to the community.

Sexual assault by definition of Florida Statue 797.011 is; oral, anal, or vaginal penetration by or union with the sexual organ of another or the oral, anal or vaginal penetration of another with any other object.

Statistic say a rape occurs every six minutes in the U.S. and unfortunately these assaults are the most under reported crime in the country, in the past victims were afraid or embarrassed to step up and seek help, but those were times of the past. More and more victims are reporting sexual assaults with out feeling victimized and chastised.

"You can be a victim," said Lopez. "We don't want you to walk around paranoid, just heighten your sense of awareness."

Lopez said the most common location for a rape is at the victims' home, the second location is the rapist's home, the third is the rapist's vehicle. According to Lopez, "Knowledge is power" when it comes to understanding how to avoid victimization.

Fifty percent of the victims often know the offender; they may be family, an acquaintance or a family friend. Date rapes are the most under reported rape because the victim knows the offender and a bond between the two has already been formed. Also the victim feels more resentful because they trusted the offender; however, Suissa reiterated "No means no!"

Many victims do not report if they have been assaulted for many reasons, one is they are embarrassed of the crime that has been acted against them and do not want to tell a police officer that may not have the compassion to care about there feelings.

Suissa told a story about an ex-girlfriend that had been assaulted in college and how it takes a trained individual to help someone with these damaged feelings and struggles. This is what led him to his education in social work and they want to assure the community that they are there to help them and not to be afraid to come to them for help.

In the near future SPD will be holding more of these presentations on other reservations and even some self defense classes.



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# Rodeo ♦ Ko-waa-ye Esh-ham-pa-lèesh-ke ♦ Curakko Ohapoketv



Tabitha Osceola

Rodeo star Adrienne Cypress gets ready to show her stuff.

## EIRA Rodeo Stars Show Their Skills

By Tabitha Osceola

**BRIGHTON**—Another successful rodeo for the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) and its members on April 9 at the Brighton rodeo arena. Each event carried its own excitement and as the season approaches midway—meaning you might start to be picking your favorite cowboy or cowgirl to win champion and even with the points so close between contestants. All the cowboys and cowgirls on Saturday night came out just to have fun, though of course, they hope to walk away the big winner.

The mutton bustin' was a real treat to watch as Chastity Harmon walked away the winner. In the pony riding category, the Bearden brothers are the only competitors for the evening and Timothy was able to ride on his wild pony for 3.76 seconds to take the first place from his brothers.

The junior breakaway contestants had a really hard time as the calves were quick leaving. Only one contestant, Hilliard Gopher, caught his calf. His time was 43.53 seconds.

In the sanctioned events some contestants had as hard of a night as the little kids especially in the calf roping event; the calves again had the jump on the roper. That was until Naha Jumper's turn. He was able to catch his calf, tie it down in 16 seconds—not Jumper's best time, but it gave him the first place for the night.

The 50 and older breakaway event was also another event where the calves had the advantage. Moses Jumper, however, did walk away the winner after roping his calf with a time of 6.3 seconds. The

duo of Marvin Bowers as header and Happy Jumper, the last team out, won the team roping with a quick time of 8.94 seconds.

Although the Saturday night rodeo stock in Brighton was tough on the competitors, if you were to ask any of the competitors they would say they wouldn't have it any other way.

Rodeo results: Mutton Bustin': 1. Chastity Harmon, 2. Joel Puente, 3. Sean Osceola; Pony Riding: 1. Timothy Bearden, 2. William Bearden; Calf Riding: 1. Andre Jumper, 2. Brantley Osceola, 3. Kelton Smedley; Steer Riding: 1. JJ John, 2. Josh Johns; Jr. Bull Riding: 1. Dayne Johns, 2. Ethan Gopher, 3. Garrett Anderson; Jr. Breakaway: 1. Hilliard Gopher; 4-8 Barrels: 1. Kalgary Johns, 2. Jobe Johns, 3. Blevins Jumper, 4. Ahnie Jumper; 9-12 Barrels: 1. Nauthkee Henry, 2. Janae Braswell, 3. Andre Jumper, 4. JJ John; 13-18 Barrels: 1. Shadow Billie, 2. Taylor Johns; Jr. Bareback: 1. Jacoby Johns; 50 and older Breakaway: 1. Moses Jumper, 2. Norman Johns; Bareback: 1. Adam Turtle; Steer Wrestling: 1. Jason Grasshopper, 2. Jeff Johns, 3. Rodney Osceola; Saddle Bronc: No qualified rides; Calf Roping: 1. Naha Jumper, 2. John McCabe, 3. Happy Jumper; Breakaway Roping: 1. Billie Tiger, 2. Boogie Jumper, 3. Shelby Osceola; Team Roping: 1. Marvin Bowers/Happy Jumper, 2. Amos/Billie Tiger, 3. Billie Joe Johns/Rudy Osceola, 4. Jeff Johns/Todd Johns; Barrel Racing: 1. Tess Duchenaux, 2. Carrera Gopher, 3. Mackenzie Johns, 4. Clarissa Bowers; Bull Riding: 1. Koty Brugh, 2. Shawn Best Jr.

## Rodeo Pro Hosts Roping Clinic at ISY&LR

By Judy Weeks

**IMMOKALEE** — The Immokalee Seminole Youth and Livestock Ranch (ISY&LR) geared up April 16-17 for a roping clinic at the John Jimmie Memorial Arena. The emphasis both days was on Tribal youth.

ISY&LR Director Benny Motlow enlisted the professional services of Tom Bourne of Chapel Hill, Tenn. Bourne was the 1989 International Pro Rodeo Association Champion heeler had qualified for the National Finals Rodeo in 1996. He is currently following the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) circuit in the Southeastern U.S., and teaching seminars.

Bourne's heading partner is Ross Lowrie of Summerville, Ga. He is a past PRCA All Around winner and Professional Cowboy Association Team Roping champion. Most recently Lowrie took second place at the George Strait International. He is also touring on the PRCA circuit. This roping duo conducts seminars for all ages, but admits to enjoying teaching kids the most.

"Although they have short attention spans, they are like molding new clay," Lowrie said. "Most children are either beginners or young enough to accept instruction and attempt to correct their prob-



Judy Weeks

Taylor Fulton Osceola slick horns the roping dummy.

After a fried chicken dinner, it was back to the arena for practice, practice and more practice. By the time the weekend was over, both young and old had benefited from their experiences.

The youngest member of the group, three-year-old K.J. Davis had so much fun that he spent Saturday evening at home trying to throw a rope around a bucket. He got mad when they made him quit because it was getting dark. His brother, Kenny Joe Jr., was catching on the dummies and had a blast riding his new horse.

Although Andre Jumper has been roping for a year or so, he picked up a lot of good tips for improvement. His younger brother, Blevyns Jumper, roped from horseback for the first time this weekend.

Cody and Chad Motlow, Randy Osceola and Taylor Fulton Osceola have been taking lessons at the Youth Ranch on Saturdays. This clinic brought a vast improvement for each of them. Cody worked on his skills and plans to team up with Andre Jumper for their team roping debut in Eastern Indian Rodeo Association at the Cinco de Mayo Rodeo in a few weeks.

Chad Motlow and Taylor Fulton Osceola not only put in some long, successful hours on the dummies, but really enjoyed catching the Heel-O-Matic Steer. Jessica Osceola had shown no interest in roping until she surprised everyone by picking up a rope and the next thing you know she was catching the dummy.

Another success story is Randy Osceola. He has practiced on the ground a lot but never wanted to try a horse. Not only did he end the weekend riding, but was backing the horse into the heading box and trailing cows. Way to go Randy!



Judy Weeks

Students and teacher participants from the roping clinic.

lems. Adults, on the other hand, have usually adopted a set routine and developed long standing habits which are hard to break."

The clinic kicked off Saturday morning with an introduction to basic roping fundamentals. Starting with ground work, they introduced beginners to the rope and cow's head. Some of the youth have already been attending classes at the ranch on Saturday mornings and required evaluation to determine their roping levels.

By mid-morning they progressed to the Heel-O-Matic, where they practiced learning how to control their rope on a moving object. Before breaking for lunch the boys and girls had an opportunity to work not only with the life size mechanical steer but also Heel-O-Matics smaller version referred to as "the goat." Both are designed for still use, but can be pulled behind the gator or other motorized vehicles.

Saturday evening, Motlow opened the arena to the public for a Three Head Round Robin and a One Head Average roping. It was a fun night for every one with some of the students from the seminar not only participating but placing among the winners.

Sunday's activities followed a similar schedule and by 10 a.m. the group were already working on livestock. Bourne and Lowrie spent a great deal of time on individual instruction and helping the youth develop their roping techniques. Emphasis was placed on correct positioning and controlling the horses.

After a strenuous morning of lessons, the students and their teachers assembled on the concession stand porch for a cowboy church service. Big Cypress resident Josh Jumper led the group in an opening prayer before teaching a short meaningful Sunday School lesson.

Speaking in a comfortable, simple manner which was easy for the children to comprehend, Jumper read from the Old Testament Book of Psalms 46 Verses 1 and 10. As he explained the meaning of the text, he asked questions and encouraged participation by the children



Judy Weeks

Randy Osceola enters the heading box for the first time.

ISY&LR Secretary Jaime Yzaguirre came by to check on the progress.

"I am so proud of these children," she said. "A short time ago, they couldn't even hold a rope and look at them running down the arena after cows. They are a hard working, determined little group and certainly are becoming role models for the community."

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end and this clinic was no exception. Bourne and Lowrie gathered everyone on the porch and asked them individually what they had learned. Without coaching, the children responded quickly and made some very insightful comments.

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### Payment Info for BC 4-H'ers

**Submitted by Candi Mancil, BC 4-H**

The Florida Cooperative Extension Department (4-H) is advising all future steer club members that you must be in contact with the cattle owner and make arrangements for payment before you get the steer. This is due to problems in the past with non-payment to cattle owners.

The cattle owners are hard working people who take their cattle ownership very seriously, and everyone needs to respect their requirements to purchase one of their steers. So let's continue to make this year even better than the last.

**Dear 4-H,**

We would like to thank all the 4-H members from Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee who participated in the 4-H Show and Sale held in Big Cypress. You children did a wonderful job again this year, and your hard work and effort really showed.

It was nice to see all of you children participating with 4-H and we would like to see more people join. Keep up the good work and we hope to see you again at the next Show and Sale.

Thanks again for inviting us,  
**Richard Bowers,**  
Programs Manager/Rock Mining  
Paul Bowers Sr.,  
BC Board Representative

| Tentative 2005 EIRA Rodeo Schedule   |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Cinco De Mayo Rodeo<br>Immokalee, Fla., May 7<br>Kids rodeo at 6 p.m. – Sanctioned rodeo at 8 p.m.<br>Call In Monday May 2 and Tuesday May 3         | Kids rodeo at 6 p.m. – Sanctioned rodeo at 8 p.m.<br>Call in Monday June 27 and Tuesday June 28 |  |
| Memorial Weekend Rodeo<br>Big Cypress, Fla., May 21<br>Kids rodeo at 6 p.m. – Sanctioned rodeo at 8 p.m.<br>Call in Monday May 16 and Tuesday May 17 | Hollywood Rodeo<br>Big Cypress, Fla., July 23<br>Call in Monday July 18 Tuesday July 19         | Clewiston Rodeo–Tentative<br>Clewiston, Fla. |
| Josiah Johns Memorial Rodeo<br>Brighton, Fla., July 2  | Please call (863) 763-4128, Ext. 124 for all rodeos.  |  |



# ❖ Fearless

Continued from page 1

knew that his family could see through the black curtain that surrounded his artificial life—a life that did not include love and true companionship. He told himself those things don’t matter, I don’t need them.

His so-called “friends” were a gang, each one looking out for his own interests, lured by drugs



Judy Weeks

Catharine Robinson, Gary McInturff, Basil Phillips.

and alcohol into a dangerous world of violence and loneliness. In the scale of life, how could this balance with the love and support of a caring family? A home where you are always welcome, can relax and leave the stress outside. A place where successes are applauded and mistakes are forgiven.

Phillips next remark surprised everyone. “We are here today because someone fought a war,” he said. “Being a soldier or warrior means discipline. Great warriors have fought to make a difference so that we can enjoy this day. The new war is drugs.”

As Phillips’ eyes swept the audience he said, “I have never met a happy weed smoker that abused drugs for a happy reason. Armies have traitors and mercenaries but today I am looking for a true warrior to set an example and I am happy to present one to you... Gary McInturff.”

Coming forth from beside the pavilion, Gary McInturff looked into the familiar faces of his family and community and said, “I want to apologize to all of you for being a terrible role model. I spent time in the U.S. Army and they did not teach me to be a traitor to my family, community, tribe and most of all my wife, Diane, daughter, Cheyenne, and sons, Justin and Neo. My mother, Nancy, did not raise me that way.”

McInturff said, “I have a message to kids everywhere. There are going to be situations that arise and drugs are not the answer. They took everything away from me more than once. I followed the lie. Finally when I thought I had lost everything, I put myself in rehabilitation in 1996. Much to my surprise, my family supported me and took me back. What I didn’t realize was that they had never turned their backs on me; I had left them.”

“For three years I remained clean and worked to rebuild my life,” he sighed. “Then I slowly drifted away into the false world of despair again. There was another trip to the rehab in 2001, meanwhile, my family never gave up on me. Three more

clean years before trouble resurfaced in 2004 and I was back at the rehab. It was time to look at the pattern of my life. How could my body and everyone I love continue to support me?”

He answered his own question.

“Each time I went into the rehab, I left the home of my ancestors, friends, familiar surroundings and relocated in another state,” he said. “My immediate family always followed and stood by my side. I would start a new life and when things were going good, I would want to return home.

“Back in my old environment, I was drawn to my friends and relatives whom I love but they had not made an effort to overcome like I had. Some had died while others were slowly killing themselves and I allowed myself to be drawn into their world again because I wanted to fit in. I now realize that you can not run away from your past, but you must not run to it either.”

In a voice choked with emotion he said, “I fell and I’m back up; ready to be a leader, son, husband, dad, uncle, cousin and friend. I care about you. You are all worth something to me and drugs are not the answer. I love you and you are not alone. This time I’m going to meet the challenge and win. My home is a sober house and you are welcome there. I will support you in AA and together we can succeed. I will no longer follow the wrong road and I hope you will choose to follow me. We can travel the right way together.”

He concluded, “I can not apologize enough to my wife and children for what I have put them through. I am so grateful that they have stood beside



Judy Weeks

Nancy Motlow, Gary and Diane McInturff.

me. The power of love is stronger than any drug if you will allow it to be.”

ISY&LR Director Benny Motlow expressed his pride in his cousin Gary.

“As you all know, I have traveled the same rocky road as Gary and feel that I have been responsible for some of his problems,” Motlow said. “Growing up, I was two years older than Gary and he looked to me as a role model. As I headed down the wrong road, he followed. We do not realize how much influence we have on others. What children see and hear sticks in their minds. It is our responsibility to break the cycle and make sure that they are exposed to the right way. Each of us must reach inside for our inner strength. My message is, ‘Try asking God for Help.’”

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Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvnlkv



Back row (L-R): Monica Wasco, Mayra Retamar, Shane Ruiz, Keith Samuel, Tony Castrenze. Front row (L-R): Lisa Bowers, Gina Allardyce, Aaron Billie, Tara Mushir.

Team Seminole Takes on Corporate Run

**By Iretta Tiger**  
**SUNRISE, FL** — On April 14, over 6,000 people came out to the Office Depot Center to compete in the 2005 Mercedes-Benz Corporate Run. This three-mile run was the second in a series of three runs.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Team Seminole participated in this run, as well as the previous two runs. The nine person team was put together by team captain Aaron Billie and co-captain Gina Allardyce. Most of the team members were Tribal employees.

Billie was the first of the Seminole team to cross the finish line with the time of 27:33.

The starting point was on Panther Parkway in front of the Office Depot Center and the race con-

tinued around the outside of the Center. Crossing the finish line brought the competitors to the foot of the center's stairs. Booths were set up in front of the Center where everyone was free to relax and enjoy the rest of the evening.

The team will participate in the third corporate run which will take place May 5 in Miami. The team would like to have more team members and invite you to join. They would especially love to have some people from Hard Rock join them.

To become a member of the Seminole team you must be a Tribal citizen or Tribal employee. For more information, contact Aaron Billie at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1717 or Gina Allardyce at (954) 562-2135.

♦ Marlins

Continued from page 1

Florida Marlin.

Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger dropped by the suite with part of his lovely family to greet everyone and see the opener. Recreation Director Moses "Big Shot" Jumper Jr. was also there briefly enjoying the game and all the festivities. Ruggy Jumper brought his family, friends and a homemade sign on a white sheet with spray painted color letters he made in his spare time waiting patiently for Marlins opening day.

The Banner read "Seminoles Love the Marlins." Ruggy Jumper hung it proudly with his family's help from the window sill in front of the suite, but the wind kept lifting up the sheet as though it were magically dancing in the tropical breezes.

Jumper said he came out with his family, because it's the first time he's been to an opening day.

"It's special, I brought my two grandkids, and my brother-in-law and his daughter, we're having a good time so far," he said. "Just like last year, we [the Marlins] had a chance. First half of the year we was number one, the second half we faltered, but this year we're suppose to have our year again, with the additions of Delgado and a couple of other key players we should be there. This is a state of the art suite, next to [Dolphins owner,] Wayne Huizenga's suite, sometimes you get to see Dan Marino. That's right; today Dan Marino throws out the first pitch, one of the great things you get to see."

Marino's autographed Dolphin number 13 football jersey hangs in a framed glass case on the side wall of the suite.

On seeing the Goodyear® blimp floating above the stadium, Jumper said, "maybe we'll go 162 and 0!," with a big hearty good natured laugh. He said he plans on attending as many games as he can with his family.

♦ Bali Hai

Continued from page 1

game for the upcoming National competition and entertaining activities they would enjoy during the getaway weekend at the city of entertainment.

During the announcement of the winners, Tribal citizen Mitch Osceola acknowledged all who sponsored the event, covered entry fees, donated golf balls and prize money. The list included Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass, Tampa Liaison Richard Henry, Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress, Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers, Brighton Board Representative Johnny Jones and Brighton Recreation department Director Richard Osceola.

Below are the results.

Overall: 1. Allen Huff, 2. James Tommie, 3 & 4. Steve Osceola and Mitch Osceola (Tie),

5. Marcy Osceola Jr., 6. Max B. Osceola, Jr., 7 & 8. Curtis Osceola and Richard Henry (Tie), 9. Terry Hahn, 10. John Madrigal, 11. Max Tommie, 12. Cicero Osceola, 13. Linda Tommie, 14, 15 & 16. Jessie Jimmie, David Osceola and David DeHass (Tie), 17. Clarence Motlow, 18. Steven Bowers, 19. Rufus Tiger, 20. Marilyn Doney, 21. Allen Huff, 22. Debbie Henry, 23. Jackie Thompson.
- Closest to the Pin: #6 & 11 James Tommie, #9 & 14 Terry Hahn, #16 Clarence Motlow.
- Long Drives: Men – James Tommie; Women – Jackie Thompson.
- Birdies: #7 Steven Bowers, #9 Max B. Osceola, Jr., Curtis Osceola and Terry Hahn, #9 & 10 Mitch Osceola, #13 Allen Huff, #15 Jackie Thompson, #16 Steve Osceola.



Adelsa Williams  
Terry Hahn scored a birdie on hole #9.

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# Satellite Tribal Loan Office Opens

**By Susan Etxebarría**  
**BRIGHTON** — To improve services and make it more convenient for residents at Brighton, the Credit and Finance Department of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. has opened a satellite office at the Cattle & Range Land Operations building on SR721.

Credit And Finance Director Robert Maza will be available each Tuesday from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Maza said the satellite office makes it quicker and easier for Tribal citizens and employees to obtain a loan.

Currently it takes a Brighton resident a day or two to get funds through the main office in Hollywood. But getting the funds at Brighton can often be accomplished within 15 minutes if the applicant qualifies for a loan.

“There is a demand for loans out here,” said Maza. “Before we set up this new office, residents at Brighton had to fax their application to me and then I mailed the check to them, or they had to drive to Hollywood to pick it up. That’s why I am out here; to make it easier for them.”

The Tribe has much better terms than outside loan programs and the interest on the loans go back to



Susan Etxebarría  
Credit and Finance Director Bob Maza.

profit the Tribe so it makes good sense for Tribal citizens to arrange loans through the Credit & Finance Department, said Maza. No credit checks are pulled with a Tribal loan application but he does check to see if the member has other loan obligations on their dividend trust.

There are currently three types of loan programs available to Tribal citizens but Maza is creating a fourth program that will be a payroll loan for all employees of the Tribe. It will be a 10-week loan with automatic deductions from the pay-check, but if the employee is not a Tribal citizen they must have a Tribal citizen as a co-signer.

Appointments are not necessary; just drop in. Anyone with questions may contact Robert Maza at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1324 and speak with his assistant Dina Jarboe or e-mail him at [rmaza@semtribe.com](mailto:rmaza@semtribe.com).

## Tribal Loan Program Descriptions

Submitted by Bob Maza, Credit & Finance Director

### Short Term Loan Program

The purpose of this program is to provide Tribal Members a source of credit for living expenses and/or personal purposes, to establish credit and to re-establish credit.

Credit starts at \$600 and increases in increments to \$5,000 (\$600, \$1,000, \$1,500, \$3,000, \$5,000)

A co-signer is required until a credit level of \$3,000 is established. A co-signer must be someone who already has a Short Term Loan established or someone who has been employed by the Tribe for at least three years

After a completed application is received, a check is usually issued the same day

Payments can be made through dividend deductions, payroll deductions, or walk-ins

The annual interest rate is 14 percent. Interest accrues on the remaining balance only. If a loan is paid off after one month, only one month’s worth of interest is charged, approximately 1.16 percent (14 percent per 12 months).

Agribusiness Credit Program

The purpose of this program is to provide Tribal citizen with a source of credit for the development and improvement of individual Agribusinesses on the Seminole Indian Reservation.

A qualified applicant can get a credit line up to \$10,000

Funds must be used to pay expenses that are related to an agricultural type business

Documentation such as a purchase agreement that shows what the funds will be used for is required

before a check can be issued

After all the documentation is received, a check is usually issued the same day

Payments can be made through dividend deductions, payroll deductions, annual cattle sale deductions, or a combination of the three

The application must be approved by the Credit and Finance Director and the Credit Committee Chairperson

The annual interest rate is nine percent.

Dividend Advancement Loan Program

The purpose of this program is to allow Tribal Members to borrow money for an immediate need against their next monthly dividend check as long as their dividend is not already allocated to other obligations. This program would be independent of all other loan programs.

The maximum amount which may be loaned to any one borrower under this program will not exceed the remaining funds in the Tribal citizen’s next monthly dividend check or \$1,500 whichever is less

No co-signer is needed

After a completed application is received, a check is usually issued the same day

The entire amount of the loan is paid back in full from the next monthly dividend

The interest rate is a flat rate of 2.5 percent.

Credit Committee representatives: Big Cypress: Charlotte Tommie and Louise Osceola, Brighton: Alice Sweat and Oneva Baxley, Immokalee: Sylvia Marrero and Rebecca Yzaguirre and Hollywood: Judy Jones and Steve Osceola.

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# Announcements ❖ Ahaaheeke ❖ Nak-ohkērkēcetv

## Happy Birthday



Happy belated birthday to Jada Sky Holdiness on April 4. Jada, we love you so much because you are so special to us and we would like to wish you a happy birthday!

Love,  
Mom (Ada), Nana, Jeka, Broder, Matntha and Lilo



We would like to wish our son Jayden Elliot a happy first birthday on April 20. We love you so much and can't believe you're already one. Mommy and daddy will always love you so much!

Love always,  
Mommy (Bianca H.) and Daddy (Jackson B.)



Happy 3rd birthday Kylen Jumper on April 1 and happy 8th birthday Katherine Bert on April 28.

Love,  
Yvette, Randy, Alan

### Seminole Tribune Advertising Rates

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|-------------------------------|-------|
| Business Card Size (4" x 2.5) | \$45  |
| 1/8 pg (6.1825 x 5.3125)      | \$90  |
| 1/4 pg (6.1825 x 10.625)      | \$150 |
| 1/2 pg (12.5 x 10.625)        | \$275 |
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## Congratulations



Congrats Yasmin Cheryl Billie, my baby girl! We knew you were beautiful since the day you were born; now you are putting your beauty to work in may at the international beauty pageant. Good luck and thank you God for blessing us with this baby girl!

Love,  
Mommy (Tamara Lydall Willis), Daddy (Zachary Nathaniel Billie), Papa Carl, and Nana Carol



Magy Paige Diamond was born April 3 at Plantation General Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Parents are Dale and Ketty Diamond, big Brother Timothy Justin Diamond, 3-and-a-half and Grandmother Pat Diamond.

## New Kid

Congratulations Tenya Philpott on moving from pre-kindergarten into kindergarten.

Love,  
Mom and dad (Stephanie and Raymond Philpott), grandparents Charles Billie Hiers Sr., and Bea and Sonny Foreman, Aunt MaryElla, Uncle Billie, Raiden, your nephew Caden, Jen Philpott, Bryttany Philpott and Joe Hiers

Congratulations Joe Hiers on graduating from eighth grade. Good luck with high school.

Love,  
Mom and dad (Stephanie and Raymond Philpott), grandparents Charles Billie Hiers Sr., and Bea and Sonny Foreman, Aunt MaryElla, Uncle Billie, Raiden, your nephew Caden, Jen Philpott, Bryttany Philpott, Tenya Philpott and Joe Hiers

## Poem

**Where Did All the Leaders Go?**

A man who works hard to bring home the food  
A man who makes sure his people are housed  
A man who would protect his people with all his might  
A man who makes sacrifices but not sacrificing his people  
A man who knows his people  
A man who does not sale his people out  
A man who faces problems, not hide and cover his ears  
A real leader knows this is a big responsibility  
His real boss is the people he elected to run for  
A real leader would step back out of the way if he could not handle the job  
And let a stronger, more capable person do the job  
After all this is not about a single person  
This has a much bigger picture  
US! The Seminole Tribe

—Clifton L. Billie

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- Are able to work full time
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- Want to be an active Tribal business team player

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- Achieve meaningful, well-defined goals
- Serve the Tribe and its members
- Work, learn, and earn
- Help shape your future

To learn more about this and other Seminole Tribe of Florida training and job opportunities, please contact:  
Anthony Frank, Professional Development and Relationships Liaison  
Tribal Human Resources Department, 954-966-6300 x1137.

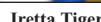


12. **Priscilla Sayen** - Long time Respected Tribal Secretary - *Irish Cream & Hazelnut*
13. **Howard Tiger** - First Military person Elected President. Organized sports programs for the Seminole Youth - *Dark Chocolate*
14. **Mitchell & David Cypress** - Brothers and Leaders from the Big Cypress Reservation - *White Chocolate & Caramel*
15. **David DeHass** - Hollywood Representative - Board - *Dark Chocolate & Coconut*
16. **Moses Osceola** - President of the Seminole Tribe - *Irish Cream & Dark Chocolate*
17. **Roger Smith** - Brighton Representative - Council - *Dark Chocolate & Vanilla*
18. **Paul Bowers** - Big Cypress Representative - Board - *Caramel & Hazelnut*
19. **Johnny Jones** - Brighton Representative - Board - *Dark Chocolate & Praline*
20. **Howard Tommie** - 2 Term Elected Chairman, Introduced Seminole Bingo - *Dark Chocolate & Honey*
21. **Mike Tiger** - Former Director of Indian Health Svcs & current Treasurer - *Half and Half Sugar and whipped cream*
22. **Winifred Tiger** - Helped Seminole Youth stay in School, graduate and go to college - *English Toffee & Vanilla*

"I wanted something that was for the little



**Nick Andrews with his son Nick Andrews III.**



**Al Signore presents Tiana Denson a trophy for chubbiest cheeks**

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For softball information, please contact Moses Jumper Jr. or the Seminole Police Department at (863) 983-2285.

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# 2005 Elections ❖ Enchaoleeke ❖ Ensvtkv

## Tribal Council – Big Cypress



**David R. Cypress, Incumbent, Big Cypress Tribal Council**

## Mary Jene Koenes, Candidate, Big Cypress Tribal Council

Che hon ta mo. I have been a Big Cypress resident all my life and am married with two children and three grandchildren. I am employed by the Seminole Tribe of Florida as the coordinator for the Big Cypress Culture department.  
I am seeking the position of Big Cypress Council Representative and would appreciate your vote in the up-coming election. Let's vote for a change.  
Shan a bish sha.



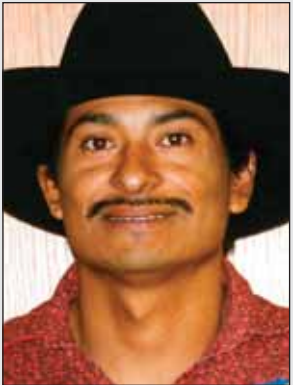
## Cicero Osceola, Candidate, Big Cypress Tribal Council



Hello to all my fellow Tribal members. I hope today finds you in good health and spirits. I would like to take a moment of your time to introduce myself, my name is Cicero Q. Osceola and I am a member of the Bear clan. I am married with four children, and a lifelong resident of Big Cypress.  
I am announcing my candidacy to be your next Big Cypress Council representative. Throughout the years I have continually heard concerns within our community and if given the opportunity, I believe we can all work together to address some of those issues. Our Tribe opted to adhere to democracy, therefore, as an elected representative I would be there to represent our community. As we empower each other, we lift our Tribe to new levels not only for ourselves but also for our children who will live with decisions we are making today.  
Thank you for your time and God bless.

## Manuel Tiger, Candidate, Big Cypress Tribal Council

Che-hun-ta-mo from Manuel Tiger. I would like to start by saying thank you, to both Big Cypress and Immokalee, for their belief in me in the past as their Board representative.  
Now I would like to ask both for the belief and trust again in this election. I am running for the position of Big Cypress Councilman.  
I believe the experience that I gained as the Big Cypress Board rep has readied me for the challenges of being a councilman. The Tribe is being asked everyday to move into the future and I feel that with good and fresh leadership we will do so with grace and style.  
I would like to let you know my ideas at my community dinners. Please do come and learn more; Immokalee dinner, May 6 at 6 p.m. and Big Cypress dinner on May 7 at 5 p.m. at Wind Clan Camp.



## Samuel “Sam” Tommie, Candidate, Big Cypress Tribal Council

Unresolved issues have existed too long. Now we have new crises at hand. We have no choice but to stand up to all challenges and leave no stone unturned. With strong determination and unity we can bring back democracy, stability, and self-sufficient communities.  
As a Council representative, my top priorities are the following: Tribal Courts, Education/School, Health related issues, Housing, Financial restructure=New jobs-Dividend increase and Community Safety/Security  
Since 1999, I have address the goals listed below which I've stayed focused on and on and I'm ready to implement plans.  
These goals are: Security enforcement and community safety, Re-evaluate departments and programs, B.C. funds-Investment/Profit ventures, Support and promote individual business enterprises, Support and promote job skills and careers, New youth programs and youth safety programs, Elder and children relationship enhancement, Implement new elder support programs, Each individual concerns will be respected equality bases, Extended support for recovering residence, Eradicate an illegal and detrimental source in our community and Six community meetings minimum per year  
Additional goals: I've addressed these issues since 2001. These issues are as follow along with plan of action: Christian School, Communication at all levels, Community meetings every month, based on necessity, Tribal government reform, Constitution reform, Multiple representatives, Limited terms, Primary runoffs, Elected officials salary restructure, Terminate elected officials access to tribal funds for personal business venture(s), Financial restructure, Tribal court, Improve legal attorney services for individual cases  
Thank you for everyone's suggestions, feedback and prayers. Unconquered we stand; Past, present and future.



## Board of Directors – Big Cypress

### Clifton L. Billie, Candidate, Big Cypress Board

What do you want? Need a car for everybody to ride in? You do not buy a go cart. Need to feed everybody? You do not buy a lobster dinner for one. Need to get some work done? You do not hire a lazy person. Need a money machine? You do not buy a shredder.  
Hello Tribe, I am Clifton L. Billie, Big Cypress Board candidate; wanting to know what do you want out of your representative?  
Remember that it is our Tribe. We have been going backwards too long, its time to get some work done and make some money (for the Tribe).  
Why do I think I am the man for the job? For starters, I was brought up knowing that the whole Tribe is one family and must be treated all the same. Work does not get done when you do not work. Listening to the people is not just nodding your head with a smile; if you are hearing what is being said you might know what needs to be done.  
I've seen too many good people go and too many bad people come in and move up. This position is not for my ego or outside friends, my intentions are what is best for the whole Tribe.  
Whenever anybody needs help, I always did. Afraid of work? Never! Just bring it on. It's the only way it will get done.  
A little about myself: I am Bear clan, I graduated Sequoyah High School, also a veteran of the U.S. Army 3rd Infantry, 67th Battalion, I also worked nine years at one of the biggest sugar plants around. I know how to farm, from growing crops to raising cows. I worked in the casinos and drive the school bus at times as a sub teacher. I am also a helicopter pilot.  
I am running for Board Rep because someone's got to do the work. I hope I'm qualified enough because I do wonder where I'll be in the next 10 years. So please, on Election Day, vote for Clifton L. Billie for Big Cypress Board Rep.



### Lesley Garcia-Billie, Candidate, Big Cypress Board

Communication, Dedication, Restoration, Those are my key words and I also believe in Integrity, Vision, Unity  
Chee-hun-tom-mo, (Hello, how are you?) Cha-hull-chif-kee, Cache con. (My Indian name is Cache) Um-may-hull-chif-kee, ko-wath-thon. (My clan is Panther) Un-watch-chee Delores Tommie Jumper con. (My mother is No-mah-hee) Un-poosh-shee, Tommie Jumper con. (My grandmother is T.J.)  
Hello, I am running for your Big Cypress and Immokalee Board Rep on May 9, 2005.  
Please come out and express your vote, because your vote does count. I am asking for a chance to show you what I can bring to the table.  
I am a mother of three sons and a daughter, a mother's work is never done. But I believe I can bring positive changes for our children, ourselves, and our future. I still believe our Native women are our back bone to our Tribe. I still see a light at the end of this dark tunnel. We can still make a difference, and your voice does count. Voting for me, I believe in a lot of changes for the positive and bringing \$\$\$\$\$ back to you as a shareholder. I am tired of being in — \$00000000.00.  
I want to thank God for all his blessings, and continue to pray for me and my family. My heart goes out to all those who supported me and continue because without your help I would not be so determined. I wish all the candidates the best of luck and pray for our leaders. A shout out to my family back at the crib, without ya'll there would be no me. I love ya'll to all my friends and family for being there and for giving me patience, understanding, and believing in me.  
Lesley Garcia Billie  
Please come out to my dinner and meet me on Tuesday, May 3, 2005 at Immokalee reservation gym @ 6:00 pm. Thursday, May 5, 2005 at the Big Cypress gym @ 6:00 pm  
E-mail lesleyb22@earthlink.net, cell# 954-369-6634, home# 863-902-8891, call anytime or stop by my house #504.



## Qualified Candidate Announcement

**Dear Editor,**  
We have verified candidates for the May 9 Regular Election for Representatives of the Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton Reservations for the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.  
In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and the Corporate Charter and Bylaws of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc., a Regular Election is called for the following offices on Monday May 9, 2005.  
Qualified Candidates for each office are listed below by reservation, and in alphabetical order:  
Big Cypress  
Seminole Tribe of Florida: David R. Cypress (Incumbent), Mary Jene Koenes, Cicero Osceola, Manuel “Mondo” Tiger and Samuel Tommie; Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.: Clifton L. Billie, Lesley Garcia Billie, Paul Bowers Sr. (Incumbent), Jeannette B. Cypress, Michael L. Onco Jr. and Raleigh Osceola.  
Brighton  
Seminole Tribe of Florida: Andrew J. Bowers Jr., John Wayne Huff Sr. and Roger Smith (Incumbent); Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.: Johnnie Jones Sr. (Incumbent).  
Hollywood  
Seminole Tribe of Florida: Elton Carl Baxley, Michael H. Billie, Richard Osceola and Max B. Osceola Jr. (Incumbent); Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.: Mark Billie, David DeHass (Incumbent), Vincent Micco, Virginia Osceola, Marcellus Osceola Jr., Gordon O. Wareham and Gloria J. Wilson.  
Those Tribal members voting absentee will be furnished with absentee ballots upon request. If voting by mail, please request absentee ballots at once to allow enough time for ballots to be mailed to you and be returned to the Secretary's Office on or before May 9, 2005. Please mark your ballots at once and return them so they can be included in the count for this election.  
All eligible voters are requested to cast their ballots at established polling places on the three (3) reservations or by absentee ballots. Voting locations are as follows: Big Cypress Reservation: Senior Citizen Building, Brighton Reservation: Education Office and Hollywood Reservation: Hollywood Office Complex Lobby. Polls will be open from 8 a.m.–7:30 p.m.  
All eligible Tribal members are urged to exercise their right to vote in this election.

## Tribal Council – Brighton

### Andrew J. Bowers Jr., Candidate, Brighton Tribal Council



Howdy! I am Andrew J. Bowers Jr., and I am seeking the office of Council representative for the Brighton reservation and Tampa community. I believe a person seeking office has to have reasons for doing so; that old line “I want to help people,” will not get it.  
I have been sort of on the outside looking in and that is probably the worst viewpoint. I have noticed over the past 3–4 years that the folks have become more involved and interested in the Tribal affairs. They are demanding more from the leadership as to inform.  
Remember the various petitions circulating the community a few months ago? I believe they want accountability for the leadership. To that end, if elected, I would use my training and experience to

take steps to put some standards in place for accountability, because I believe the folks deserve it.  
In my local announcement, I listed concerns that I would address if elected. Some of them may take care of themselves if something can be done about accountability.  
I have the knowledge and capability to hold this office. I am an attorney and know about representation. I will represent the Brighton/Tampa community full-time and the Tribe as a whole on various occasions. I believe I am the right person for this position.

### John Wayne Huff Sr., Candidate, Brighton Tribal Council



### Roger Smith, Incumbent, Brighton Tribal Council



Dear Brighton reservation residents and Tampa Seminoles,  
I am seeking your support so I may continue to work for you as your Council representative. Two years is too short to accomplish all that I have started and that needs to be done. I would appreciate your vote to keep on track with our goals for the Brighton and Tampa communities.  
For the past two years, I have strived to make decisions to benefit the Seminole Tribe of Florida and our communities as a whole, rather than individual needs.

I am proud of these accomplishments: Satisfied National Indian Gaming Commission requests, Made it possible for all residents to travel by providing informative flyers concerning all trips, Provided fill as needed for all residents, Cleared home sites, Cleared reservation areas where needed, Provided site improvements at the Corn Dance Ground, Provided job opportunities for anyone wanting and willing to work, Worked closely with Board representative, Held community meetings to cover issues discussed at Council meetings, Major improvements to the rodeo grounds, Provided individual assistance before, during and after the four hurricanes that devastated our community, Provided much needed support for Eastern Indian Rodeo Association activities, Supported 4-H Steer and Swine sale.  
Unfortunately, funds were terminated by National Indian Gaming Commission mandates for much of my first term. Even so, our communities have been greatly improved. With Your continued support, we can make even greater strides now that the Councilman funds have been returned.

## Board of Directors – Brighton

### Johnnie Jones Sr., Incumbent, Brighton Board





2005 Elections ♦ Enchaoleeke ♦ Ensvtkv

Tribal Council – Hollywood

Elton Carl Baxley, Candidate,  
Hollywood Tribal Council



Well it’s time again, the Tribal elections are here and we better be ready. Remember who stood in our way when we asked for more dividends. Remember who said no when we asked to see the real budget. Remember who called the police on us when Tribal members asked them to do the right thing and they did not.

Remember-Remember-Remember. No more lies. Vote for truth.

Thank you all,  
Elton Carl Baxley  
God bless all

Michael H. Billie, Candidate,  
Hollywood Tribal Council



Richard Osceola, Candidate,  
Hollywood Tribal Council



Max B. Osceola Jr., Incumbent, Hollywood  
Tribal Council

Hi, my name is Max B. Osceola Jr. and I am announcing my candidacy for the Hollywood Council representative. It has been an honor and privilege to serve you as your Council representative for the last two year term. I am asking you to vote for me on May 9 to continue the progress and prosperity that we have achieved by working together. To earn your vote I will go over my education and work history which will show that I am qualified for your vote in the upcoming election.

Education: Stirling Elementary, Hollywood, Fla., Grades 1–6, 1956-1962; Driftwood Middle School, Hollywood, Fla., Grades 7–9, 1962-1965; McArthur High School, Hollywood, Fla., Grades 10–12, 1965-1968, University of Tampa, Tampa, Fla., Attended 1968-1969; N.E.O.A.M. Junior College Miami, Okla., Attended 1969-1970; Broward Junior College, Davie, Fla., Associate of Arts Degree, Liberal Arts, 1970-1972; University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla., Bachelor of Arts Degree, Political Science, 1972-1974

Work History: After college I worked in the education department for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Seminole Agency from 1974-1976. I then accepted the position as Education Director for the Seminole Tribe of Florida from 1976-1978.

For the next four years, 1978-1982, I worked as the Administrative Officer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Seminole Agency in Hollywood, Fla. During my tenure I served as Acting Superintendent and approved the first lease for the Tribe which started Seminole Bingo on the Hollywood reservation. Since 1982, I have been involved in private business.

In May of 1985, I was first elected to the office of Hollywood Council representative. It has been a privilege to serve the Hollywood reservation and the .Seminole Tribe of Florida in this position for the last 18 years.

Now that you know my education and work history I would like to explain what I stand for. As your Councilman I have worked to improve the health, education and prosperity for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Many health-related programs have been established and funded through the Tribal Council budget. Everything from a pediatrician for your children, a new Senior Center to a recovery group building for meetings has been provided. Programs have been started to provide proper health care and nutrition to maintain a healthy lifestyle for all Tribal members.

Since the Tribe adopted a formal Constitution in 1957, education has been the number one priority. Our elders knew that for the Tribe to go forward and succeed our children will need to receive the best education possible. To that end, the Council has established funding for students to attend private schools, so they can be prepared for higher education upon high school graduation. Seminole students receive 100 percent scholarships to attend any college, university, or vocational school of their choice. These scholarships include any tuition, books, fees, housing, and subsistence. I have established an additional scholarship for Hollywood resident students to help them complete their educational goals.

The direct impact for Tribal members has been the approval of revenue sharing for all Tribal members in the form of a monthly income, which is a result of the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s prosperity through economic businesses. We have entered a new era of gaming that has allowed us to increase our income by the opening of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Tampa and Hollywood.

During a budget meeting, the late Fred Smith asked if we could increase the revenue sharing for Tribal members to \$1,000 for the month of December. At that meeting I suggested we increase it to \$1,000 per month, and that was the beginning of the monthly income we all receive today. We have been able to raise that amount to the current figure and with the expected increase of income from our new venture we will increase the monthly income.

Another element of our prosperity is housing. We are redesigning 64th Avenue and are getting back our land by removing the Florida Power & Light power lines. This adds 30 new home sites in Hollywood. We have also installed a much needed stop sign on 64th Avenue; this makes it safer for our community to cross this busy street.

During the last two years I have had community meetings and have meet with organizations like the PAC committee, Recreation, Health, Family Services, Education Committee, and Police departments in addition to individual Tribal members. I know that some members may have questions about our government, I am more than happy to meet and discuss any questions with anyone, anytime, at any-place.

I can be reached at the following numbers and address: Cell phone: (954) 647-5515, Home (954) 961-5469, Office, (954) 966-6300, Ext.1390; 3301 N.W. 63rd Avenue, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

In closing I invite you to my campaign dinner on Tuesday May 3 6 p.m. at the Hollywood Gymnasium. I want to thank you for all the support, encouragement, and prayers that I have received during my terms as your Councilman.

Thank You,  
Max B. Osceola Jr.

Board of Directors – Big Cypress (continued)

Paul Bowers Sr., Incumbent, Big Cypress Board

Hello, I am Paul Bowers Sr. I am the son of Marian Cypress Bowers and of the Panther clan. After attending college in Lawrence, Ks., I served time in the military. When I returned from overseas, I settled on the Big Cypress reservation with Linda and we now have four children Pauletta, Clarissa, Paul Jr. and Wilson.

I have had the privilege of serving as the Big Cypress Board Representative for the past four years. I ask for your vote again in the up-coming election. If elected, I will continue to do my best to represent the people of Big Cypress and remain focused on future projects that will benefit the community.

Thank you,  
Paul Bowers Sr.



Jeannette B. Cypress, Candidate, Big Cypress Board

Hello, I am Jeanette Cypress and I am announcing my candidacy for Board representative for the Big Cypress and Immokalee reservation. As a community member I share many of the same concerns and expectations from the elected positions of the Tribe, and believe that working together we can maintain and/or improve on many areas.

I anticipate that this election year will show democracy at its finest because as strong, Seminole people you expect the best from your leaders and will voice your concerns with each of the candidates so that you can make an informed vote.

I would like to wish my fellow candidates the best of luck and hope that regardless of whom you may vote fore, you are represented justly.



Michael L. Onco Jr., Candidate, Big Cypress Board



Raleigh Osceola, Candidate, Big Cypress Board



Board of Directors – Hollywood

Mark Billie, Candidate, Hollywood Board



David DeHass, Incumbent, Hollywood Board

Hello, my name is David DeHass. I am of the Panther clan. My mother is the late Francis Tigertail DeHass and my grandmother is Mabel Frank. For the past four years I have been the Hollywood Board Representative and it has been a great honor to work for the people of the Seminole Tribe. I truly love what I do.

Many of you are familiar with some of the work I’ve done locally, but allow me to describe a few items that are in the works as we speak. The Board is looking into a possible partnership with the Lac De Flambeau Chippewa Tribe to open a casino in Chicago, Ill. The Board is continuing its evaluation on the matter.

I apologize if this sounds arrogant but this deal was brought to the Board by me. I have no intentions of personal gain from this casino. I brought it to the board so that all Tribal citizens could prosper from it.

For the past three years, a friendship has developed between myself and Hawaiian Senator Daniel K. Inouye. This friendship is beneficial for the Tribe and its pursuits in Washington, D.C. Senator Inouye is a good and highly respected man and a great friend. He is very dedicated to the Native American people and continues to defend Native rights.

The Board is also creating a sugar cane processing plant and candy factory. The candy factory is in partnership with Tootsie Roll Industries. In addition, the Board is partnering with Aztec Feed Lots and the board is also working with various tribes in an effort to help Indian-owned businesses thrive.

If you’ve read our paper you know that none of these things has been kept a secret. I believe in being open and approachable. The people of the Tribe are my first priority. There are a lot of opportunities out there for the Tribe; we are currently on the verge of expanding into new ventures.

I would love to continue representing you on the Board of Directors of the Seminole Tribe. Vote for David DeHass, Hollywood Board Representative!



Vincent Micco, Candidate, Hollywood Board

Hi, I’m Vincent Micco and I am asking for your support as I am a candidate running for the Office of Hollywood Board Representative, My slogan is “Always for the People,” which I believe very much. I believe that a “representative” means exactly what the word means; it means to represent someone or something and that is exactly what my job would be.

I would love to represent you, my community, as well as the Tribe. It also means to keep my community informed about the Board’s aspects of the Tribe as well as hearing the community’s input. Let’s strive to work together for unity and vision.

Please support me in this up-coming election. I would like to encourage everyone to vote on May 9. Your vote is your voice and that’s the power the people have. Thank you.



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Board of Directors – Hollywood (continued)



Virginia Osceola, Candidate, Hollywood Board

My name is Virginia Osceola. I am running for the position of Hollywood Board representative. My first priority is the shareholders of the Tribe.  
I want to bring reports back to the community so that everyone is informed on all of the money that is coming in and going out. I have owned a successful business for more than 20 years. I hope to bring my experience to the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. and make the Tribe an entity our ancestors could be proud of. With your support, positive changes can be made.  
Thank you,  
Virginia Osceola

Marcellus Osceola Jr, Candidate, Hollywood Board

My name is Marcellus Osceola Jr. I am seeking the position of Hollywood Board representative. The Hollywood community has given me much in my 32 years. Now it is my turn to give back to the community; but only with your support can we make a difference.  
My campaign dinner will be held on Monday April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hollywood Gym.



Gordon O. Wareham, Candidate, Hollywood Board



Hello,  
My name is Gordon O. Wareham and I am running for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Hollywood Board Representative. I am 33 years of age and a member of the Panther Clan.  
I have a degree from Broward Community College in Business Administration. For the past five years I have been working for the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum as a computer layout and designer for the marketing and advertisement, a member of the Billy L. Cypress Community outreach program, photographer and video camera operator for the oral history program.  
In October 2004, I was appointed to serve on the Seminole Gaming Commission.  
The purpose of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. is to make a profit. To create and invest in businesses that will yield revenue for the Board to maintain and fund itself.  
To inform the shareholders, the Seminole Tribal members, of what businesses we have invested in and whether those investments are making a profit. To be accountable for spending of the allocation budget that is set aside for the Board representative.  
My promise to you, the shareholders, is to have quarterly meetings on the budget and inform you on the progress of our businesses. To be open-minded to every idea and opportunity that comes to the Board. To improve those businesses that have been losing money for the Board or closing those businesses down.  
On May 9, 2005 I ask you to vote for me as your next Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Hollywood Board representative.  
Thank you,  
Gordon O. Wareham  
Panther Clan

Gloria Wilson, Candidate, Hollywood Board

I have decided to pursue the Hollywood reservation Board seat as I believe that I have much to offer in the representation of the Hollywood community. The community and the Board would not only benefit from my 20-year experience as a Tribal employee but, also as an entrepreneur with various business interests. I can and will utilize my skills for the utmost benefit and success of the community and the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.  
Most everyone knows me, but not many know of my business interests and the traits that I possess to make the Board representative position a productive and successful component of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc.'s Board of Directors. I believe that to succeed in the representation of the people and as a member of the Board, a leader must possess characteristics important to the responsibilities and duties of the position. Those traits being: integrity, vision and unity.  
A leader must possess the integrity to do what is morally and ethically right for business. A leader must stand up and support issues or ideals that are most beneficial for everyone; even in opposition to the loudest voice. People who know me well know that I speak up for all concerned, not just for me. If I feel passionate about an issue or concern, I make my position known and I am accountable for my views and statements. I say what I mean and I mean what I say.  
A leader must also have the vision to see the possibilities and be willing to take the risks of exploring and creating opportunities where none are readily seen. Along with that, an awareness of past success and failure enables a leader to plot strategy that accesses and maximizes resources to ensure success.  
My personal accomplishments have occurred because I chose to take advantage of opportunities and create success when they presented themselves. If you don't take the risks, you will never know what success you could have experienced.  
Lastly, a leader must understand the importance of unity as a member of the Board. As a member of any organized group, one must understand that no one succeeds on their own. With unity, a concerted group effort is integral to the success of the Board, its mission and its objectives.  
Why do you ask am I emphasizing these traits? Because in order for all of us as Shareholders to share in the success of our corporation, the Board Representative for our community must be someone who not only knows business but has experience in business management and development. That kind of experience comes from doing and being involved in enterprise development; not limited as a termed representative of the Board.  
So, I ask for your consideration of me as the Hollywood Board representative. The seat is open and the only way there is by your vote for me. I strongly believe that I can do a productive, successful job for the Hollywood community.  
I encourage you to join me at my campaign dinner on Thursday May 5 at the Hollywood Gym at 6 p.m. Come and gain insight into the objectives that I will pursue as your Hollywood representative. Thank you for your consideration and support.



VOTE  
Monday May 9, 2005

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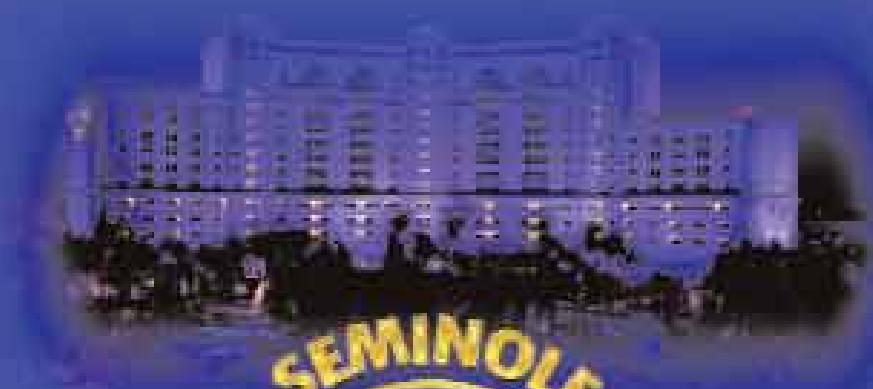
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