



The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

“Voice of the Unconquered”

50¢

www.seminoletribe.com

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August 12, 2005

Zepeda Appointed New Human Resources Director



Lee Zepeda

By Adelsa Williams
HOLLYWOOD — On July 15, Tribal citizen Lee Zepeda took over the role and responsibilities as the new Human Resources director of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Zepeda's selection completes a search process that lasted since April when recruiter Angel A. Torres was temporarily assigned as the acting director soon after Jim Carnicella resigned from the position.

Seminole Tribe of Florida Chief Operations Officer Stan Rodiman called the selection “challenging.”

❖ See ZEPEDA, page 4



(L-R) Rosa Billie and Courtney Jim at Crystal Palace's Disney character breakfast.

Trail Students Treated To Incentive Trip

By Adelsa Williams
ORLANDO, FL — On July 13-17, Trail Seminole students that successfully completed the 2004-2005 school year were treated to a five day Walt Disney World experience.

Trail Liaison William Osceola and his dedicated staff coordinated the event as an incentive to the students for their hard work and accomplishments throughout the school year.

Every student was required to have a final photo taken.

❖ See DISNEY, page 4

Softball's Rising Seminole Star

Submitted by Jo Jumper
BRIGHTON — Erena Billie is the daughter of Emerson and Jeanne Billie. She has competed in the annual Hershey's Softball Throw for the past two years.

This year she finished first in the state of Florida, and will be a state finalist and representative for the nationals. She threw a softball more than 140 feet in this competition on June 25. In 2004, she placed eighth in the state, with a 100-foot-three-inch softball throw.

Erena's first place accomplishment in the 2005 landed her in the *Okeechobee News*, a local community paper. The photo shows Erena at the Okeechobee County School Board Meeting being honored by the board.

She competed against another Tribal citizen, Lois Billie, in the 2005 finals.



Photo courtesy of Jo Jumper
Erena Billie

McCall Crowned Miss Seminole

Jennifer-Diane Chalfant crowned Junior Miss



Elrod Bowers

(L-R) The 2005-2006 Miss Seminole Christine McCall and Jr. Miss Seminole Jennifer-Diane Chalfant. Please see the special four page Seminole Princess Pageant section on pages 25-28.

By Adelsa Williams and Elrod Bowers
HOLLYWOOD — On July 30, Christine Elizabeth McCall and Jennifer-Diane Chalfant were crowned Miss Seminole and Junior Miss Seminole, respectively, at the 2005-2006 Miss Florida Seminole Princess Pageant.

Vying for the Junior Miss crown were Chalfant, Amber Anochee Craig and Lazara Lanac Marrero. Competing for Miss Seminole were McCall and Danette Pearl Bowers.

The event was emceed by Brian Zepeda, Mr. Seminole 1991, and Mary Jene Koenes, Miss Seminole 1973, 1974.

Pageant week began on July 28 with a meeting between the Princess Pageant committee and the contestants, chaperones, judges and volunteers to read out the rules of the entire event and review the schedule of activities. After the meeting, contestants got on with the practices that took place each day in the Hollywood headquarters auditorium.

The 2004-2005 Miss Seminole JoJo Osceola and sister Mercedes Osceola greeted the contestants and chaperones for a welcoming dinner at the Hard Rock Café, where everyone had a photo taken.

❖ See PRINCESS, page 28

Cattle Roundup and Shipping Days Exemplify Extraordinary Tradition

By Susan Etxebarria
BRIGHTON — This is the end of a long and successful year for the cowboys and cattle managers of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. Finally, the calves born last fall have gone to market and everyone involved can breathe a sigh of relief, and enjoy the rewards.

For five grueling weeks starting July 18, the annual cattle round up to ship the calves that were sold this past April took place at five different locations—Brighton, Big Cypress, St. Thomas Ranch, Parker Ranch and the Miccosukee leased lands.

It is akin to the cattle drive of yore when Seminole cattle owners and their cowboys camped for days and weeks at a time driving cattle across land to the markets. Only now, five or six herds a day are driven into shipping pens and loaded on to trucks with gooseneck horse trailers. Instead of sleeping under the stars it may be a bed in a cabin as the cowboys move from place to place during the round up.

This round up is the culmination of a year of hard work, when their long hours and dedication really show what Seminole cowboys are made of—that rare quality called “true grit.” The cowboys, or cow hunters, whichever name they prefer, are the unseen heroes of the cattle range, they are the fence fixers, the cow keepers, the men on horse who guard the animals day in and day out from disease and predators.

The cattle round up does not get the kind of hoopla and attention that other events get. But, there are literally hundreds of people involved and there is little doubt that ranching is one of the Tribe's historic traditions.

❖ See ROUNDUP, page 9



Carlton Ward Jr / www.LINC.us

Big Cypress cattleman Paul Bowers Sr. was only one of many people involved in the roundup and shipment.



Felix DoBosz

Spencer Battiest takes center stage in the Big Apple.

Battiest Wins Big at iPOP! Showcase

By Felix DoBosz
NEW YORK, NY — On July 20, hundreds of young, good looking, talented kids from around the globe gathered at the Marriott Marquis with family and friends to exhibit their show biz skills and impress scores of talent agents in the audience.

The awards night celebration called iPOP!—International Presentation of Performers—featured several events in one big five hour show; an award ceremony for these savvy young people, a fashion show, short acting skits, and a group singing medley with a few solos.

This was their night to shine like bright new shiny stars on Broadway they all hope to become in their quest to be the best.

Hollywood's Spencer Battiest, Panther Clan, was one of 15 chosen from over a thousand kids to participate in the grand finale showcase production. He won the award for Best Top Male Teen Overall award at iPOP!.

Spencer, who will turn fifteen on Sept. 17, sang in front of thousands in the audience in the famous Times Square hotel's grand ballroom. Not bad for a kid that started singing as a baby and never stopped pleasing his growing fans.

The iPOP! process started four days earlier when the competitors arrived at the Marriott for training sessions with experienced professionals in the modeling and entertainment industry. The youngsters were put into different groups, and training rooms to audition and rehearse for the big night award celebration.

During these training sessions, they received valuable advice and tips from prominent directors of various TV production companies and top talent scouts. Some of these youngsters and their parents had to pay as much as \$8,000 for the privilege of participating in this year's iPOP! program.

“I have a singing solo in the show,” Spencer Battiest gushed excitedly. Battiest struggled to contain his exhilaration as he prepared to perform in the grand showcase.

Spencer continued, “...and for the past four days, I was up at six o'clock in the morning, with eight hours of acting class a day, followed by four hours of vocal lessons a day; it's a little more intense. Wherever I go I always remember that I represent my Tribe, being that I'm a Seminole Tribal member, ...like on the first day I was here, cameras were rolling, I wore my Seminole made jacket. Everywhere I went, people would stop me and say things like, ‘what is that, it's so beautiful,’ ‘what is it?’ So I would tell them, and advertise my tribe.

“I also want to take a moment to thank the

❖ See IPOPI!, page 3



PTACP

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12-Sep-05	Big Cypress	..Government 101	..Bell	..10:00 a.m.
22-Sep-05	Big Cypress	..How to be Certified	..Rule	..10:00 a.m.
6-Oct-05	Big Cypress	..Gov't Opportunities	..Rule	..10:00 a.m.
25-Aug-05	Hollywood	..Owning a Business	..Kramer	..10:00 a.m.
14-Sep-05	Hollywood	..Starting your Business	..Kramer	..10:00 a.m.
27-Sep-05	Hollywood	..Government 101	..Bell	..10:00 a.m.
12-Oct-05	Hollywood	..How to be Certified	..Rule	..10:00 a.m.
25-Oct-05	Hollywood	..Gov't Opportunities	..Bell	..10:00 a.m.

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Dr. Dean Chavers on 'Patriotism in Indian Country'

By Dr. Dean Chavers

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[Editor's Note: The opinions Dr. Dean Chavers expresses here are his own.]

Non-Indian people are constantly amazed at the patriotism of Indian people-if they have never heard of it before. My friend Dr. Ned LaCroix recently e-mailed me an example of this amazement.

The article was published in *The New York Times* on June 29, 2005. Its title was "Live Free and Soar," and it was written by Patricia Nelson Limerick. In the article she describes how some Indian veterans presented the colors at the recent meeting of the Council of Energy Resource Tribes (CERT) meeting at the Morongo Casino.

She was amazed at the patriotism of Ute Mountain Tribal Chairman Ernest House as he carried the flag, "faced it, as if reunited with a treasured comrade," she said, then gave it "an intense salute."

"No residents of this country have better reasons for anger at the imperial powers of this nation than do Indian people," she said. "And yet, most native people are loyal and committed patriots."

I would have it no other way. I saluted the flag as a child, through Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, at school, at college, in ROTC, through a year of Aviation Cadets in the Air Force, through five and a half years of Air Force service, and for the rest of my life.

This is where this young lady and I part company, just a little bit. I have never been unpatriotic. Growing up, I never knew anyone who wasn't. It was not until I went to Berkeley in 1968 to finish my bachelor's degree that I saw my first unpatriotic act, a flag burning on the steps of Sproul Hall. People were protesting the Viet Nam war, which I had just returned from, and some of them got carried away.

I wish this young lady had read "Strong Hearts, Wounded Souls" by Tom Holm, which tells of the Native involvement in the Viet Nam war. I also wish she had read "Crossing the Pond: The Native American Effort in World War II" by Jere Franco Bishop. She could have also read any of several books about the Navajo Code Talkers and how they helped to win 19 crucial battles in the South Pacific, including Guadalcanal, Saipan and Iwo Jima.

I wish she had read one of the books about Ira Hayes, the Pima Indian who helped to raise the flag on Iwo Jima in 1945, and how the public attention, which he did not want, eventually destroyed him. I have often thought that any one of the other Indian troops would have done the same thing that Ira Hayes did and never gave it another thought, which is what Ira wanted to do himself.

She could have read any of the hundreds of books about how Indians have been the first to enlist when wars have broken out. On December 8, 1941, the day after Pearl Harbor, there was a line outside the courthouse in my hometown at 6 a.m. the next morning. The people from my tribe signed up in droves within the next few days, some of them never to return home alive.

My father's best friend, Mr. James Arthur Jones, fought all the way from the invasion of France in 1994 to the final battle of World War II in Europe, at the Elba River. Our troops met the Russians at the Elba River, and he and his buddies shook hands with them there. He later taught school and was a school principal

for many years until he retired.

My father went in the Army Air Corps in November 1941, and stayed for 26 years. He spent ten-and-a-half years in Europe. He had no idea of ever leaving the military, but was forced to leave in 1967 because of poor health.

My grandfather Purcell was in the Army in World War I. His brother Rudolph was a 30-year Army master sergeant. My Daddy Luther was also in the Army in World War I. My Uncle Junior was in World War II in the Merchant Marine. My Uncle Angus was in the Army during the Korean War.

My Uncle Foncie was in the Air Force during the 1950s. There were many others. You might surmise that we were a military family, but we never thought of it that way. Apparently Ms. Limerick does not know that Indians have fought for this country in higher numbers than any other ethnic group for 200 years. In the War of 1812, the war with Mexico, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, both world wars, Korea, Viet Nam, and the two Gulf wars, Indians have been on the front lines early and late.

We have often had twice as many soldiers in uniform than any other ethnic group. But this fact has often been glossed over by the history books, and have so many other facts about Indians.

The history books falsely portray Indians as uncivilized savages, with no culture, only a guttural language, no religion, and so on. They have both distorted the facts in regard to Indians, and omitted the facts that did not fit into their preconceived notions of what Indians should be like. Their most overriding stereotype is the wish that Indians would just vanish, go away, and thus solve the "Indian problem." Custer had the same idea.

"...No American citizens have a better-grounded historical reason to put the American flag at the end of the procession, or to refuse to carry it," she wrote.

I don't know where she got her thinking. I have carried the flag too many times to desecrate it. In fact, I have never heard of an Indian disrespecting the flag, although I'm sure it has happened. The most amazing thing to me was to read at the end of the article that Ms. Limerick is Director of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado. Heaven help us when our "experts" are so ignorant.

Her article is a perfect reflection of people coming to an Indian understanding of U. S. history for the first time. But this woman needs to go back to school and

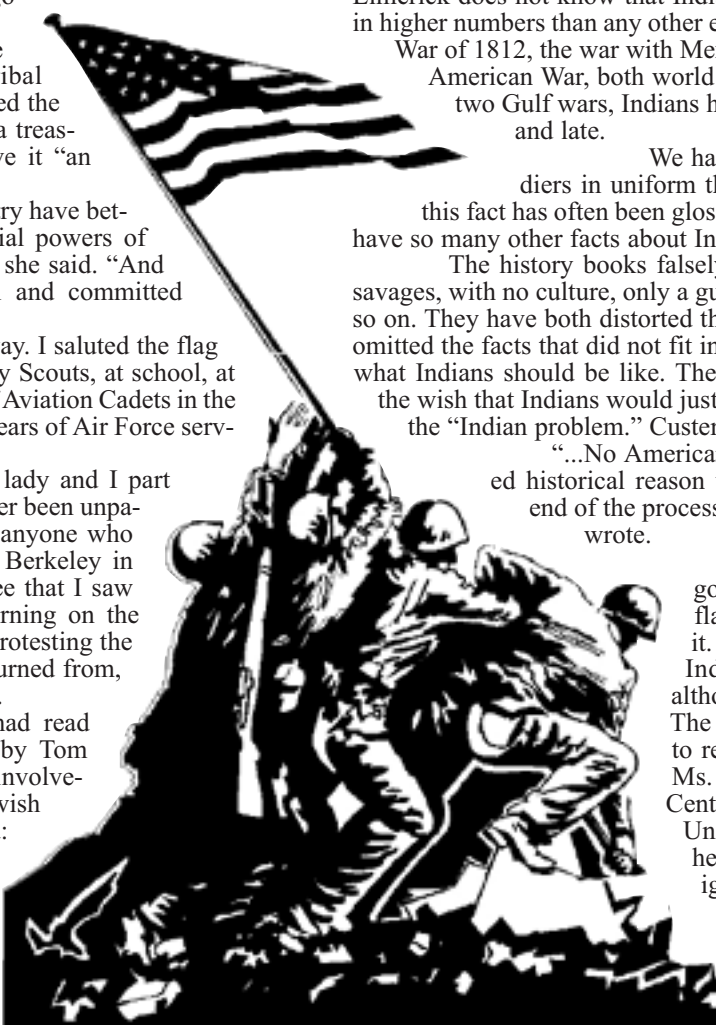
learn something before she purports to write a knowledgeable piece for the Old Gray Lady.

The New York Times, the *Washington Post*, the *LA Times*, and most of the rest of the mainstream papers have little interest in Indian affairs or Indian history, including the highly patriotic role Indians have played in all the wars.

In my old age, I get sentimental about the flag, about the soldiers now risking their lives in this Iraq war, about the civilians who are taking the brunt of the killing and the maiming. As a recovering military man, I wish we would never have another war. But with the cowboy mentality in the White House, we are likely to have a bunch more.

I'm also sure Indians will be the first to enlist in the next war. After all, this was our country first.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of *Catching the Dream (CTD)*, formerly called the *Native American Scholarship Fund*. CTD is a national scholarship and school improvement program for American Indians. This is his 25th year writing this column. His e-mail address is ctd4deanchavers@aol.com.



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The Seminole Tribune

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7800, Ext. 1260. E-mail vmitchell@semintribe.com, fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024.

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Issue: September 23, 2005
Deadline: September 9, 2005

Issue: October 14, 2005
Deadline: September 30, 2005

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Dear Editor,

I was wondering if the Seminole Tribe had a wildlife department, a game, fish and parks department or a natural resources department. Any information will be appreciated.

Thanks,
Ryman LeBeau

Dear Mr. LeBeau

What was initially established as the Tribal Wildlife and Parks Department consists of the two programs, Big Cypress Hunting Adventures and Billie Swamp Safari. These two, in concert with the Tribe's Water Resource Department would address most any situation or concern usual to the agency types mentioned.

Only Tribal citizens may hunt or fish on any reservation, excepting customers hunting within the fenced boundaries of the Big Cypress Hunting Adventures.

Debbie Lee
Administrative Assistant
Big Cypress Hunting Adventures

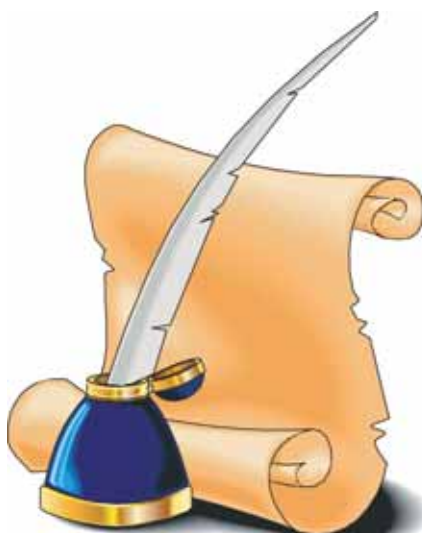


Photo Quiz



Can you guess who these Seminole youngsters are? Please see the next issue of *The Seminole Tribune*, which comes out September 2, to see if you guessed correctly.

July 22nd Photo Quiz Answer



Seen here is Annie Tiger Bowers



Felix DoBosz

Spencer Battiest (far right, third row) with some fellow iPop! contestants.

❖ iPop!

Continued from page 1

Seminole Tribe and Chairman Mitchell Cypress for their sponsorship. One of my goals is to one day win an Oscar as a Native American. I consider myself to be a positive role model for other kids, you know I've never touched a cigarette in my life or anything like alcohol or drugs, I try to keep my way positive, and through Jesus I do keep myself positive. Everybody knows me around the reservation, I try to be a good example, I always let everyone know, we are not perfect people, and I see kids around my age, fourteen, that have already been thru rehab. I try to tell [young people] that there's a better way to go than alcohol or drugs.

"My family is a great role model for any family on the reservation, most families are divorced or split up, but I've been lucky to be so blessed, my family is so together."

Henry "Junior" Battiest and his wife June Battiest said they are very proud of their son's accomplishment of winning the "Best Top Male Teen Vocal Overall Award" at the iPOP! event this year. Spencer said it was really cool to win that award and exciting being selected from the thousands that competed in this big event, that's quite a success story.

Junior and June Battiest enjoy sharing a big loving family, not only do they have Spencer, but married daughter Ashley Crosby, 21, brother Zachary, 16,

and daughters, Taylor, 10, Turquoise, 8, Coral, 7, and little Petra, only 10 months old.

Junior Battiest and the whole family are so grateful to the Tribe and especially the Tribal Council members for their kind support and cooperation in helping them pursue Spencer's dream of stardom. They would also like to thank for their generous sponsorships, Judy-Bill Osceola, KiKi Belmonte Shaler, Native Voice, Roberta Gopher, Judy Baker, Structure and Style Limo, and of course the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Since the awards celebration, Spencer's father Junior said they have



Felix DoBosz

Battiest is all smiles after being named top male vocalist.

received many calls from interested big talent agents from southern California. They said they want Spencer and his family to relocate there, to be close for additional auditions.

Tribe Remembers Marine Sgt. Clifford Sanchez

By Iretta Tiger

HOLLYWOOD — On July 22 friends and family of the late Clifford Sanchez gathered at the Hollywood Tribal recreation center to honor his memory.

Sanchez was a man of many honorable characteristics but the one that stood out the most was his generosity. Friends shared memories of the times they had with Clifford; especially those times when out of nowhere he would show compassion for the less fortunate.

One friend recalled that they had just finished eating and Sanchez drove to the drive-thru at Burger King. The friend was confused as Sanchez ordered three meals. The friend was confused but didn't ask any questions. Sanchez drove up to three homeless men and handed them the meals saying "I want to make sure you eat tonight."

After Sanchez passed away his son bought meals to give to the homeless reminding everyone "This is what dad would do."

One of Sanchez's favorite phrases was "Hakuna Matata" from; it means no worries in Swahili.

At the request of the family, Moses "Big Shot" Jumper Jr. hosted the memorial. Jumper wrote a poem for Sanchez titled "Big Man with a Big Heart;" which he recited.

Judy Baker read *I Corinthians 13*: "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right."

"This is what Clifford was like; it describes him best," Baker said.

Sanchez's daughter Alex sang a tribute to her father. When she was overcome with emotion her mother, Alicia, joined her to help her finish.

Pastor Payne, of the Chickee Church, inspired those present as he gave a sermon.

Christian band Chosen Few, from Branson, Miss., performed throughout the evening. For those who were feeling down they were the perfect antidote. As the evening came to an end friends and family were brought closer together through their memories of this remarkable man.



Iretta Tiger

Christian band Chosen Few from Branson, Miss. sang at Sanchez's memorial.



Iretta Tiger

Family friend Judy Baker reading a Biblical passage.



Iretta Tiger

(L-R) Sanchez's widow Alicia and daughter Alex Sanchez.

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Premier sweetgrass basket weaver Donna Frank

The Seminole Okalee Indian Village announces they will be honoring and featuring Master Artisans of the Seminole Tribe of Florida beginning September 1, 2005. Art forms such, as basket weaving, beading, woodcarving, patchwork, singing, and painting will be showcased.

The series will feature Master Seminole Artisans who express their cultural traditions and heritage through various media.

The series will showcase Ms Donna Frank...a premier sweetgrass basket weaver of the Seminole Tribe. A Reception and work-

shop will kick off the event. Donna will be demonstrating her craft at the Choopeek Cheke (located in the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino) on Saturdays and at the Okalee Village on Sundays until November 30, 2005.

The reception begins at 5:00pm on September 1, 2005. It will be located at the Seminole Okalee Indian Village, 5716 Seminole Way, Hollywood FL 33314. For directions or additional information you may call 954.797.5436.



(L-R) Margie Tortice, Eeyore, Morgan Bert and Abigail Bert get cozy after their character breakfast.

❖ Disney

Continued from page 1

2.0 grade point average (GPA) to be able to participate in the recreational outing. Siblings of the students were also included and treated on the outing, and required to have the same minimum GPA.

"We also had one college student with us, Christina Billie," said Erika Cypress, Trail department assistant. Billie currently attends Broward Community College.

The group gathered at the Crystal Palace in the Magic Kingdom park for a group buffet family style character breakfast. It was a special treat for everyone being that the event takes place before the park was actually opened.

The private and enchanting treat included appearances by several Disney characters. The students got a chance to get their autograph books signed and pose for pictures with Winnie the Pooh, Tiger, Mickey Mouse and Goofy, to name a few.

After the meal, students eagerly rushed to get started with the rest of the entertainment the Magic Kingdom Park has to offer.

Part of the incentive package was the park hopper pass for each one, which includes unlimited entrance to the Disney parks and the Typhoon Lagoon and Blizzard Beach water parks. Everyone was accommodated at the Saratoga Springs resort during their visit, where guests enjoy the convenience of being transported via shuttle from one Disney destination to the next and literally dropped off at the front of their rooming door.



Adelsa Williams
 Pooh autographs Margie Tortice's book.

❖ Zepeda

Continued from page 1

ing" as they had several highly qualified Tribal citizens, other Native Americans and non-Tribal candidates who applied for the position.

"As a Seminole Tribal member, Lee Zepeda has served in the role of principal of the Ahfachkee School for the last nine years," said Rodiman. "His extensive background in education and management will enhance our efforts to generate more employment opportunities for tribal members and other Native Americans across the organization."

Zepeda received his bachelor of arts in history from Stetson University in Deland, Fla. in 1993. He referred to graduation day as the main highlight during his studies at the university but proudly tells the story about one particular experience that enlightened him.

He was responsible for organizing the first ever Native American Day on campus. The project ran a week-long where he personally recruited Native vendors to come out and showcase their products.

Most importantly, he ran a seminar where he introduced the late Billy Cypress as the guest speaker. Cypress exhibited a prototype of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, currently located on the Big Cypress reservation, then still under the planning stage, way before its completion.

"Native Day was a huge event to pull because it lasted a whole week and I thought if I could learn how to just organize things and create prospects, there's just about nothing you can't do," said Zepeda. "That gave me an insight on how important organization is."

Soon after graduation, Zepeda began working at the Seminole Tribe of Florida. He began as a teacher at the Ahfachkee School in Big Cypress. After a few years of teaching, the position of school principal became available to him, which was a great opportunity for professional growth.

"When I became acting principal of Ahfachkee School, I had a map of what I was going to do at the school, so when this opportunity came up I did the same thing, I wrote down concepts and new ideas," he said. "When I went to school I really wanted to become a teacher but I also wanted to help the

Tribe in any way that I could."

"When this opportunity was presented to me, I thought it would be neat to have a Tribal member in this type of position to have an impact because this is the first place people come to when they get hired; I saw that as very positive."

Zepeda's plans for the Human Resources department include placing personnel in all the other Seminole reservations to better assist all of the other department's needs in a more efficient timely basis.

"The staff here are great people to work with, they know their jobs really well," said Zepeda. "I'm looking to increase the department size because the Tribe is growing by leaps and bounds and I'd like to be ahead of the game if we can but right now we're really playing catch up."

"I believe human resources is more than hiring and firing people, is truly a service department, we can do more," he added.

Lee Zepeda is a member of the Panther clan and was born and raised in Naples, Fla. He is one of four sons of Wanda and Lee Zepeda. His brothers are Pedro, Brian and Douglas Zepeda, two of which are Seminole Tribe of Florida employees in the Big Cypress reservation and one a recent college graduate. His grandmother is Tahama Osceola and great grandparents are Juanita and Corey Osceola.

Zepeda is married to his high school sweetheart, Cara Osceola, and is a proud parent of six-year-old Nicholas.

Even though having lived in the city of Naples from birth to the present day, Zepeda recalls childhood memories with his grandmother Tahama when she watched him while his parents went to work. He recalls spending time in his great grandparents huge parcel camp they owned where under chieftains he learned how to grind corn and some of the ways traditional Seminole foods are prepared.

He credits his great grandfather Corey Osceola, who worked and was close friends with the city council and county commissioners for always stressing the importance of school and learning.

"He had a huge impact in my life," he said, "He always said that we have to learn the rules of the world and understand how it works otherwise you will become a victim and you don't want to be a victim you want to be part of it."

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Board Expands Tribal Loan Programs

Submitted by Robert Maza

The Credit and Finance department of The Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. has increased the amounts to be lent out on the Dividend Advancement Loan Program and the Payroll Loan Program.

The \$1,500 limit on the Dividend Advancement Loan Program has been eliminated. The maximum amount that can be advanced will depend on the amount that is available in the Member's dividend check each month after all other obligations have been accounted for. The maximum amount on the Payroll Loan Program has been raised from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

The fee on the Dividend Advancement Loan is still only 2.5 percent. A concern of the Board is that Tribal citizens are still going to outside sources to obtain similar type loans. One outside program charges a 10 percent fee each month.

That means if a Tribal citizen gets a \$2,000 loan, the interest charge will be \$200; \$2,000 X 10% = \$200. **With the Board Dividend Advancement Loan Program the charge would be only \$50 on the same size loan. (\$2,000 x 2.5 percent = \$50). That is a massive \$150 savings for just one month!!**

It makes sense to obtain loans from the Tribe since the interest charge is only one forth of what

some other people charge and all of the interest comes back into the Tribe instead of going to outside sources.

If you have any questions about any of the Board loan programs please call Bob Maza at (954) 967-3700, Ext. 1315 or Dina Jarboe at Ext. 1324.



Board Loans Available at Brighton Cattle & Range Daily

Submitted by Robert Maza

Board loans, which include Dividend Advancement Loans, Short Term and Payroll Loans are available at the Brighton Cattle & Range Office every day of the week. Just stop in to fill out an application.

Depending on the volume of applications, checks can usually be printed within 15 minutes.

Arrangements have been made with the Brighton Casino to cash those checks at no cost to Tribal citizens. The interest rate on a Dividend Advancement Loan is only 2.5 percent so there's no reason to go elsewhere.

If you have any questions please call Bob Maza at (954) 967-3700, Ext. 1315 or Dina Jarboe at Ext. 1324.

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- 7. Joe Dan Osceola - Youngest elected President & First Ambassador - Almond & Dark Chocolate
- 8. Fred Smith - Longest serving Tribal President - Dark Chocolate & Mint
- 9. Jim Shore - Longtime General Legal Counsel of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Raspberry
- 10. Betty Mae Jumper - First Chairwoman of the Seminoles - Apple & Cinnamon
- 11. James Billie - Longest Serving Elected Chairman of the Tribe - Vanilla & Caramel

- 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 Sys & 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

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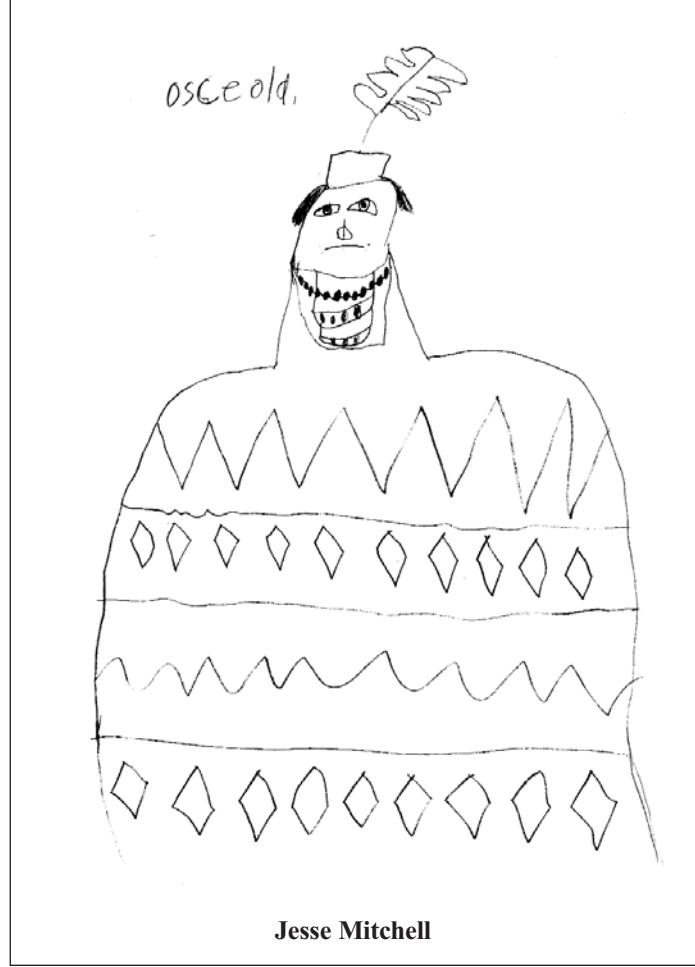
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Catlin Jim



Whitney Osceola



Jesse Mitchell



Dorian Cypress

Pon-ta-sha-ka-le A-la-che-ta-hon-ka: ‘Our Warriors Who Have Gone On Before Us’

Fifth Annual Seminole Hollywood Youth Conference

By Robert C. North Sr. and Thomas Doud
ST. AUGUSTINE, FL and
CHARLESTON, SC — Previous Seminole Hollywood Youth Conferences have focused on language, culture and the building of self-respect. This year’s Youth Conference continued in the same spirit.

The 2005 Hollywood Youth Conference was a historical and spiritual journey back in time to Charleston, S.C.—the final resting place of Osceola, famed Seminole Warrior.

Youth and parents of prior youth conferences expressed a multitude of emotions when asked how they felt about the treatment of their Seminole ancestors by the U.S. military. Due to that input, this year’s youth conference planning team enlisted the participation of the Boys & Girls Club, Language and Culture, Family Services and Health department’s as major staffing and contributor’s to the 2005 youth conference.

The Tribal staff was also asked to assume vital roles in the supervision and processing of all Youth Conference activities. The collective effort and sponsoring from these departments and programs, joined with the sponsorship of Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr., helped facilitate the success of this year’s Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference.

The Hollywood Seminole Youth Planning Committee further extends their thanks to Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Trail Seminole Tribal Council Liaison William Osceola for their



(L-R) Herbert Jim and Katia Cerisme-Jim at Fort Moultrie.

support of this journey of important historical events of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Special thanks goes out to the National Park Service staff at Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine and Ft. Moultrie in Charleston, for their hospitality, coordination and sharing of pertinent historical information with this year’s Hollywood Seminole Youth Conference participants.

2005 Youth Conference Format

On July 7, a rented bus and collection of private vehicles left the Seminole Hollywood reservation bound for the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, Fla. where the U.S. government used the old Spanish Fort to imprison Osceola, other Seminoles and members of Tribes from as far west as Arizona.

At the Cracker Barrel Old Country Store and Restaurant just off Florida’s Turnpike in Ft. Pierce the bus broke down. After four hours of waiting for a replacement bus, the undeterred Youth Conference caravan continued on to St. Augustine.

The main route taken for this trip was I-95 but Highway 17, an old U.S. military trail, would periodically cross the path of I-95.

Highway 17 and other landmarks reminded participants that in history’s eyes, it was only yesterday that the Seminole resistance and fight for freedom occurred.

At Castillo de San Marcos, park officials arranged an historical public address and the shooting of a canon by period soldiers dressed in full regalia. The Seminole Tribe Youth Conference responded by offering Bobby Henry as a representative fierce warrior where pictures were taken to



Castillo de San Marcos staff members fired this cannon in honor of the Youth Conference.

commemorate this historic contemporary meeting.

On July 8, the Youth Conference caravan continued to Charleston, S.C. to visit Osceola’s grave at Ft. Moultrie. On the overcast morning of July 9, the Youth Conference contingent was delayed due to the re-routing of traffic for a new bridge dedication. Undeterred once again, alternate routes were found and the group assembled at the visitor’s center of Ft. Moultrie.

A detailed account of history surrounding the capture, imprisonment and death of Osceola was presented to the Youth Conference group by park service staff. Much of the information they cited was quoted from a book written by former Seminole Tribal employee Patricia Wickman.

The last year of Osceola’s life was horrific and many of the conference participants were shocked upon hearing of the treatment of Osceola in his last days, and even after death. It was reported that Osceola was beheaded and to this day his head is unaccounted for.

After the park presentation, the Youth Conference group relocated to the actual site of Osceola’s grave bordering the entrance to Ft. Moultrie. A ceremony was performed by Bobby Henry, Victor Billie and Herbert Jim. Conference participants subsequently went on a self-guided tour.

The overall goal for the 2005 Youth Conference was to provide an accurate interactive journey through Seminole history. A major objective was to process all major events of each day and for all participants to express their thoughts and feelings as it related to the historical journey.

The Youth Conference participants were asked to travel hundreds of miles by cars and by bus to a place most had never been before. They were asked to keep their eyes, mind and hearts open to the lessons they were going to receive.

They listened to Seminole Medicine Men, national park rangers, Seminole elders and community members as they took in the history of their ancestors and learned what sacrifices were made so that there could be a Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Bobby Henry, Herbert Jim, and Victor Billie shared the Seminole side of history with the youth and gave accounts of what happened to Osceola and other warriors.

These stories of deceit and savagery by the U.S. military brought about feelings of anger, heart break and disappointment to young and old participants alike. Each night, after visits to the historical sites Youth Conference participants were split into two groups by age. Bobbie, Herbert, Victor and conference staff led a circle ceremony each evening in which all participants were given the chance to express their feelings and learn more about their history through the telling of accounts of their Seminole ancestors.

Powerful emotions arose from these sessions and feelings of anger and sadness slowly turned to pride and honor. Throughout the trip, the youth were asked to complete a workbook and participate in a creative writing and art contest. The age-specific workbooks that were created by Youth Conference Staff specifically for the 2005 Seminole Hollywood Youth Conference were interactive in nature.

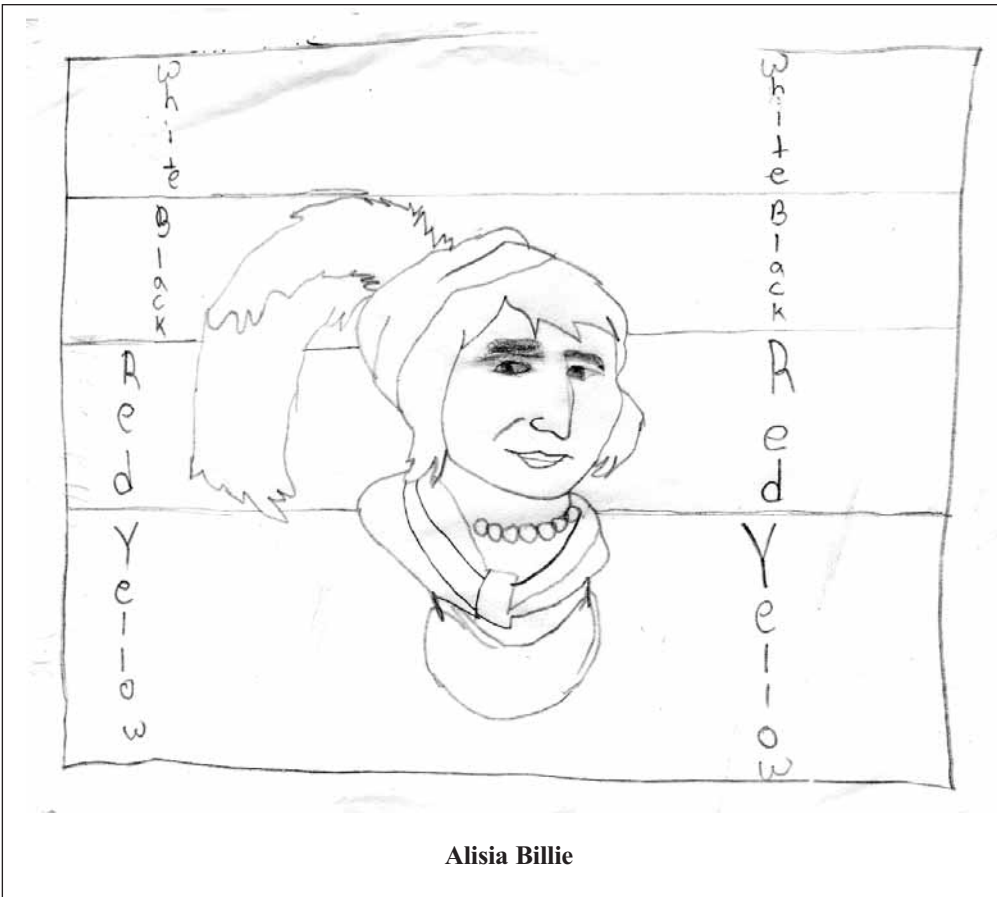
On July 10, the 2005 Hollywood Youth Conference caravan continued its journey to Orlando, Fla., where the entire conference was processed and documented. A youth interactive presentation was given by the Jo-Lin Osceola and Marlon Tommie representing the Tribal Career Development Program.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress addressed the group congratulating everyone on their interest, commitment and dedication to the learning of the history of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. Chairman Cypress and Trail Seminole Council Liaison William Osceola stated that countless warriors such as Osceola sacrificed much so that there could be a future for the Seminoles of Florida and that is a major reason why there is a Seminole Tribe of Florida today.

A majority of the workbook challenged youth to elaborate on the various landmarks and historical references. The workbook also included word games and “brainteasers” to help with idle time while traveling from one historical landmark to the next. Below are the winners of the creative writing and art contest. When you see these youth, please congratulate them on the great job that they did!



Bobby Henry (center) with Youth Conference attendees and the Castillo de San Marcos staff members in full period regalia.



Alisia Billie



Taylor Cypress

The 2005 Hollywood Youth Conference Winners from the Creative Writing Contest

In Honor of Osceola

This story is about a man who's name is Osceola. Osceola was born in 1804. Osceola died at a young age. Osceola was buried without a head. It was last seen in a museum where it caught fire. The head burned and no one has seen his head after that.

Osceola was captured under the flag of truce. He was removed from the other Seminoles. He was by himself in the dark. He got very sick and died, but before he died he got up and dressed himself and laid a knife on his chest. But before he was buried a man removed his head because he believed that Osceola killed his son-in-law in a war.

—*Darion Cypress*

The things we learned were very interesting. We learned about my people and other things. We had fun at the forts and it was sad at the forts. When I heard about Osceola I was sad. When they told me what they did I got mad. They tricked him. They did bad things to him. But with every torture, he had us in mind. The Treaty he would not sign. He said he loves his people and he wanted them free. So no matter what he wouldn't sign the treaty. Everyday we thank him for what he did and what he saved. So believe in yourself and never give up like the warrior never did.

—*Whitney Osceola*

A story of Osceola is very interesting for us. Not only because he is our ancestor, but we can also learn about our past to create a better future. We learn from his life that we have to strive to get to our goal. He fought for what we have today. He went through being captured and tortured. And he did that for us.

He did this not for what he might be remembered for but for his people could have a better live. That is why Osceola is very important to our culture and lives.

—*Taylor Cypress*

The white days, black of nights and the dead. Red color of rage and the color of my people, and finally yellow the color of dawn the destiny of war and hatred.

The dead don't tell stories, they live it. The elders tell of the hero's of our past, they also tell of our mistakes, and our sacrifices. But the blue print is fading...why, because stories are forgotten, and finally die off. A sad thing that can not be replaced.

These are not just words, they are how we feel, that's our hearts, the

legends [are] like a door. That door is locked and only you have the key. No matter what happens, you will find the courage to rise and you will gain the strength from what you understand.

This place is called Kingdom [of] Hearts, a place where light and darkness live together, but never in peace. Love and hate coexist as one. In the end the heart defies what the person really is and defies what a warrior is too.

—*Catlin Jim*



Osceola's grave in Charleston, South Carolina.

Robert North



Osceola's Colors

White – White is for the flag of truce that you thought peace would bring.
Black – Black is for the dark cell you prayed in to keep our people free.
Red – Red is for your strength that

flows through our hearts today.
Yellow – Yellow is for the light of hope that shined through your window of darkness and forever paved the way.

—*By Alisia Billie*



The entire Hollywood Youth Conference group gathered at Osceola's grave site for a memorial.

Robert North

Harry Billie Reflects on the Seminole Wellness Conference and Life

By Cecilia Kayano
MARCO ISLAND, FL — This was Harry Billie's seventh time at the Seminole Wellness Conference. This was my first time, and my first time to meet Harry Billie. I was told he was a famous ball player, and anticipated a talk about sports.

It turned out that Harry Billie spoke of almost everything but playing ball. He briefly mentioned how he was recruited out of high school by Florida State to play football, then played baseball on the Pittsburgh Pirates Minor League for three years. Some people saw Michael Jordan-like qualities in Harry: He could play baseball, football and basketball. He was equally talented at each sport.

The Wellness Conference was in its third day. Harry had been going to the workshops, standing or sitting in the back of the rooms. He wasn't thinking about sports. He had other things on his mind.

He said he views the wellness conferences as tools. They are not the answer to sobriety or wellness or spiritual healing. Much of what the presenters said Harry had heard before. It is the input and honesty of the people that draw Harry to the conferences each year. "With 150 people here, there are overwhelmingly good feelings. It's the people who inspire me," he said.

Harry views those attending the conference as similar to himself.

"We are all seekers," Billie said. "We are looking for spiritual tools. You can pick up the tools, or kick them aside."

Like others attending the conference, this week was a time of reflection for Harry. He talked about the spirit, thought about past mistakes, and wondered about life's purpose. Almost every thought was encircled by Harry's sobriety. Almost every life experience was defined as "before sobriety" or "after sobriety."

Just like others at the conference, Harry had two things on his mind: being sober and staying sober.

One experience that occurred before Harry became sober was receiving his first paycheck from the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"When I got that check for \$8,000, all I thought about was buying, buying. I was very shallow. I bought a car, a '58 Fairlane. I went to dinner. I bought clothes. I never considered giving anything to my parents," he recalls.

Harry reflected on his parents and his childhood. "My parents were fabulous," he said. Fabulous. He used that word truthfully with no exaggeration. Growing up, Harry said his parents gave him three square meals a day, clean clothes and love. They set him up to succeed. He had a strong, athletic body, and a good mind. The sports world door flew open to him, pointing the way to a dream life.

Somewhere along the way, Harry chose instead the door to alcohol. He spent 40 years drinking, a life that he calls hell.

Why would anyone choose hell, when a

dream-like life was at their fingertips? The answer was so clear, Harry seemed a little hesitant to say it.

"I was brought up in a great Panther camp, with parents and aunts and uncles. There was lots of love. I played ball for three years. Some people say I had so much potential. I had the world in the palm of my hand. Yet something was missing. Simply stated,



Cecilia Kayano

Harry Billie is thankful everyday for his sobriety.

it was God."

Harry gestured with his palm, making a small cup that once held his world. Becoming sober and finding God expanded his life. "This gift of sobriety, it's the gift of the universe," he said as he lifted both arms, palms pointed upward and open wide.

Like many at the wellness conference, Harry said he is thankful every day for his sobriety. He says it is the most valuable thing in his life, more important than professional sports or a big paycheck. It is what gives him his sense of self-worth. It is what defines him.

"I go to work. My children tell me they love me. I'm a somewhat decent person. I'm a sober person," he said.

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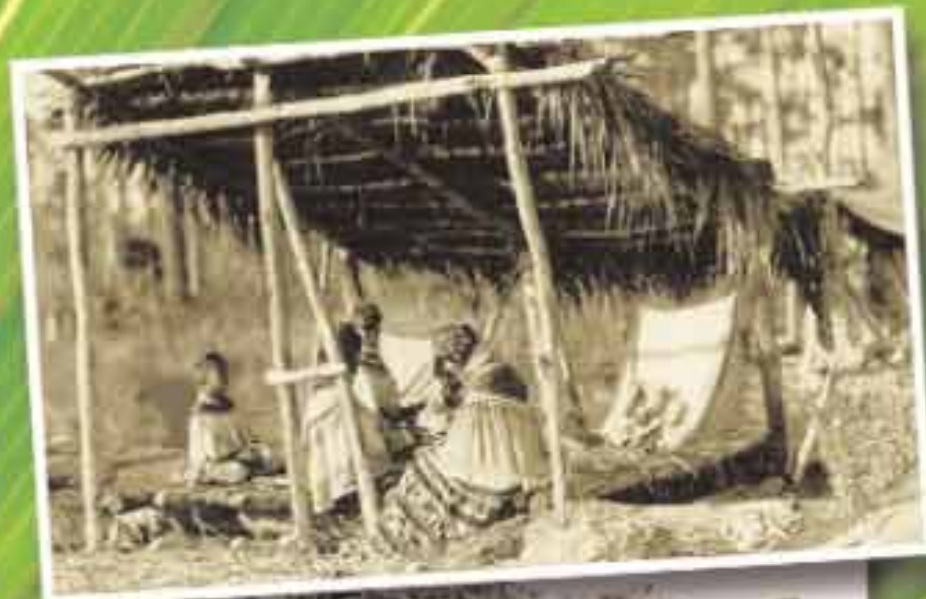
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❖ Roundup

Continued from page 1

traditions and way of life. Almost all the Brighton and Big Cypress cattle owners participate in some way as well as their spouses, and children just as they have always done through the generations.

A round up requires a lot of people doing a lot of different jobs to get the calves safely shipped out of Seminole Country to places like Montana, Oklahoma, Texas, and Kansas. Extra crews are hired to help with the counts and weigh-ins.

The women cattle owners, different ones every day, serve the lunches bringing massive amounts of home cooked casseroles, breads, and meat platters that make the Golden Corral look pathetic. The management staff is on their feet for long hours sweating it out at the shipping pens as they collect information about weights and control the sorting and trucking operations.

But it's the cowboys who take the brunt of the toil as the work under the searing Florida sun. They are up at 5 a.m., horses saddled by 6 a.m., and they consider themselves lucky if they can finish each day's work by 8 p.m.

This year, approximately 2,600 head of cows were loaded into 55 trucks with 24 of them coming from Brighton, eight from Big Cypress and 23 from the other three ranches. Besides the Board cattle, there are more than 70 individually owned pastures — all the entities that comprise the Cattle Program. What it takes to get that many sold calves out of the pastures each day onto the trucks is amazingly more difficult than anyone realizes — except the cattlemen.

The cowboys bring their horses to a ranch before daylight and when the fog lifts they head out to find the cattle owner's herd of cows and bring them in to the owner's pens. Some calves split from the herd and cow dogs are used to rein them in but often a couple of the cowboys will have to become cow hunters looking for a lost calf. The job is one to two hours herding, depending on the size of the pasture.

The cowboys are sometimes joined in the hunt by a cattle owner, some of them women who carry on the family tradition the same as men do.

At the pens, they tie up their horses and get into the pens with all the cows—up to 100 or more in some cases. They find and separate the calves utilizing a complex gating system calling for a sharp eye and quick reflexes. The mama heifers are sent back to the pastures. Remaining are the restless and complaining calves who are loaded onto the trucks and driven a distance to the shipping pens where they are then unloaded.

As they race down a chute into the shipping pens they are counted as they file past. The cowboys have already arrived in pickups at the shipping pens where they will again start sorting and separating. Meanwhile, their horses have also been loaded on trucks and taken to the next pasture on the list to wait for the next cow hunt.

The sorting at the shipping pens begins with separating the heifers from the steers and then separating them by weight into lots of small, medium and large steers and small and medium heifers. The cows are sold in lots by average weights and must be loaded as such. A truck can hold up to 48,000 pounds of cattle on the hoof. That means 80 steers weighing 600 pounds can be loaded onto one truck.

Again the clever gating system designed to assist with the sorting and separating process is the means by which the cowboys control the flow. By now the cows are getting a little agitated. Only a cowboy can be in the pens during this stage. They know from years of experience, in many cases from their childhood, how to control the animals. It doesn't look dangerous but put a greenhorn in the pens and it is a recipe for disaster.

The shipping pens are a busy place.

The cows are eventually pushed through several gates to finally cross through a weighing chute to the loading ramp. At this platform the pay weights are not only tabulated but the elec-

tronic ID (EID) registers the information on a reader. It is like scanning a bar code so the specific cow being shipped can always be identified anywhere along the food chain.

Office Manager and Executive Assistant for the Cattle Program Leoma Simmons also works the shipping pen platform everyday during the shipping operations. She is the software specialist who downloads the EID information and will be generating the reports at the Cattle and Land Operations.

You find the Director of Natural Resources, Don Robertson, in charge at the shipping pens. Nothing gets past the veteran cattleman who is legendary for being able to accurately quote the weight of a cow just by looking at it with his experienced eye.

Robertson says the calves were sold at record-breaking prices largely due to the Tribe's new EID system. The EID is designed to trace back the cow's origin in 48 hours in case of a disease like BSE, or Mad Cow Disease.

"One of the buyers was in Colorado and I believe they bought the cattle because of the EID and these cows will probably go to export," says Don Robertson. By export, he means Japan whose ban on U.S. beef should be lifted in the next couple of months. However, a third case of mad cow discovered just last month in late-July causing uncertainty in the foreign trade market.

Weighing the cows with weight machines rests largely on the shoulders of Assistant Director Alex Johns. Alex also supervises the cowboys who are seasoned professional at their jobs. They have everything under control.

There are about 25–30 people working in the cow pens and according to Johns "a lot's going on in there. A layman wouldn't realize it to look at it but that's why the cowboys are there. To avert a problem. They know how a cow thinks." He says that most people at Big Cypress and Brighton have been around cattle all their lives and they instinctively know how to handle the cattle. "For the Tribe the cattle is our passion, it's in our blood," he says.

The cows need to be gently prodded back on to the truck and there are several day laborers to help out.

It's hard work in the heat. Emma Urbina is working as a counter at the ramps. Observing the loads is Tommy Mann, a representative of Superior Livestock Video Auction. His job is to make sure that the cattle sold at the auction are delivered to the buyers.

Often a cattle owner watches as his cows are loaded on the trucks. It is a day to be proud of the Tribe's excellent reputation in the cattle industry.

The accomplishments of the Seminole Tribe's cattle program are being noticed this year and there are numerous paparazzi hanging out. *The Sun-Sentinel* newspaper sends a reporter, photographer and videographer to do a big spread in the Sunday section; there's a freelance photographer taking photos for a cattle book; Seminole Broadcasting and *The Seminole Tribune* are also at work. To the city slicker this may look like a movie set—but it is true life.

The round up is not all work. There's a lot of story swapping going on during the breaks. One cattleman, Howard Micco, relates how he had a stubborn calf that wouldn't come out of the woods and he had to spend a day with the help of a friend getting it out of the dense hammock.

Geneva Shore and her sisters, Molly Roberts and Nancy Shore, recall their childhood days when their family would live at the Marsh Pens at the Brighton Reservation for weeks at a time while their father, Frank Shore, round up cattle from several ranches and drove them to the markets. No electricity, no TV, no trucks to haul away the calves.

On July 27, Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers hosted a barbecue for the cowboys and crews working on the round up at the Big Cypress KOA community center and swimming pool to thank them for their hard work.



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Hard Rock Live Rocks, Sells Out Two Shows

Comedian Larry the Cable Guy & Rockers Def Leppard Perform



Larry the Cable Guy plays to a sold-out house at the new Hard Rock Live!



Phil Collen wails on his guitar at the Def Leppard concert.

By Felix DoBosz

HOLLYWOOD— British band Def Leppard played to a sold-out show July 23, at the new Hard Rock Live venue at the Seminole Paradise, adjacent to the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Fans lined up early to get in quickly and see the show. Def Leppard kept the audience waiting in great anticipation, beginning their set 35 minutes late, before they opened with their classic rock set to a huge warm reception from the fans.

A few Seminoles citizens attended the show, including Trail Liaison William Osceola. He was there with his Def Leppard-embroidered jean jacket on and a black derby to rock to the music.

Another sold-out crowd showed up for TV comedian, and Florida native, Larry the Cable Guy's July 28 show.

Folks were excited to see the local-hero-made-good with all his funny stories and particular sense of humor. He had them laughing in the aisles.

There are plenty of more good shows to come so get your tickets early. Please see www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com/entertainment/ for more information.

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Ask the Counselor: Advice from Tribal Mental Health Counselor Basil Philips

Dear Counselor,

I've been dating this guy for nine months. He's been divorced for eight years and is rearing three daughters. I have one child. My boyfriend recently asked me if I wanted us all to move in together. I would love to, but after my last "shacking." I promised myself I wouldn't do it again unless I am married.

My boyfriend said he's not ready to marry, but he wants us to live together. He said marriage is for people who are not really in love. He said he loves me to much to marry me and that he wants to love me for a lifetime. He said when you marry you get a divorce, when you live together its forever.

I am very confused and undecided. I do love him and I want a future with him He said a marriage license is a contract to force people to put up with each other. My boyfriend said real love is not on paper but in the heart of two lovers who becomes one.

Signed,
Undecided

Dear Undecided,

You should stick to your principles and follow your instincts. That initial gut feeling is usually right on track. You have not known this man long enough to know for certain that he is right for you. You didn't indicate how well you get along, but there is still a lot to learn about him.

If you start living together without a firm commitment on his

part—that may be as far as the relationship will go. Share with him your feelings on shacking. Tell him that you don't want to live with him or anyone else without the commitment of marriage. He may be a nice guy but his words of sweetness are used to manipulate you.

He may also be looking for an easier way to rear his daughters.

Clear your head and don't let yourself be used. In fact, when you think about it, what woman wouldn't become a better woman when she knows that her relationship is anchored on an unshakable foundation—a foundation that gives her an innate feeling of peace and security?

The truth is that every woman has the right to expect the man to whom she gives her love, her trust, her soul and her devotion to do the right thing

when it comes to a relationship. He has to be a man about it .It is about responsibility, reliability, dependability and truth. It's about ambition, dedication, discipline and mutual respect. It's about realizing that kindness and sensitivity aren't weakness.

In the end it comes down the whether you want your life to be full of accomplishments and triumphs or anger and frustration, bitterness and disappointments. Undecided, let me share a word of advice with you for your boyfriend: words of eloquence without love is noise.

Signed,
Counselor

Ask The Counselor



Basil Phillips
M.S. Mental Health Counseling

Letters of interest from the community

All letters should be sent to
ASK THE COUNSELOR
Family Services Department
3006 Josie Billie Avenue
Hollywood, FL 33024
basilphillips@semtribe.com

Updated Member Health Plan Books

Submitted by Connie Whidden, Health Director

HOLLYWOOD

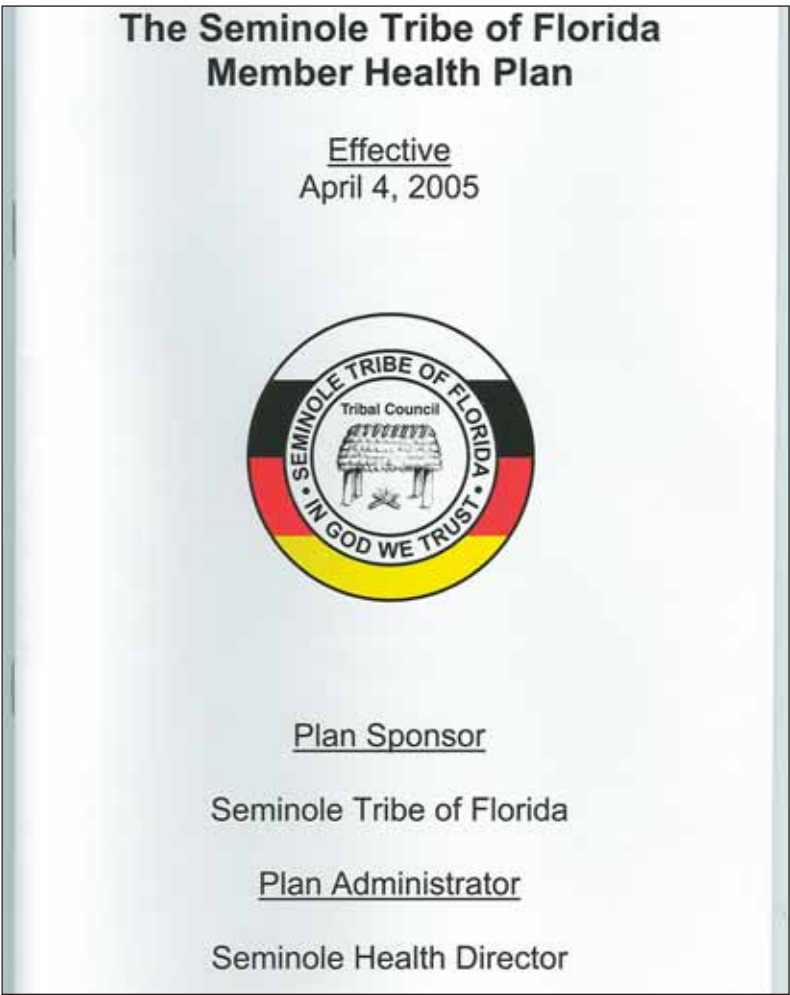
— The Seminole Tribe of Florida Health department is pleased to announce that the Seminole Tribe of Florida Member Health Plan Book has been updated. The changes contained in the updated Health Plan Book were effective as of April 4, 2005.

Some of the changes made to the Member Health Plan are highlighted below:

1. Hearing benefit was amended to \$2,000 per year/per ear to include hearing tests, devices and insurance

2. Chiropractic, acupuncture, and massage therapy benefit was increased to 18 combined visits per calendar year (\$75 maximum per visit).

3. Acupuncture and massage therapy require a physician's prescription Eyewear benefit (frames, lenses, or contact lenses) was increased to \$500 per calendar year Orthodontia benefit lifetime maximum per person was increased to \$5,500



The new Health Plan booklet's cover.

The Health department will be mailing new Member Health Plan Books to all adult Tribal citizens in August 2005. If you do not receive your new Health Plan Book, please contact the Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Clinic in your area to obtain a copy.

Hollywood Health Clinic, Karen Lee, 3006 Josie Billie Avenue, Hollywood, Fla. 33024, Phone: (954) 962-2009; Big Cypress Health Clinic, Wendy Powers, HC61 Box 40 A, Clewiston, Fla. 33440, Phone: (863) 983-5151; Brighton Health Clinic, Gail McClenithan, Route 6 Box 589, Okeechobee, Fla. 34974, Phone: (863) 763-0271; Immokalee Health Clinic, Anna Puente, 1130 South 1st Street, Immokalee, Fla. 34142; Tampa Field Office, Phone: (813) 246-3100, or contact the Brighton Health Clinic

Any questions about the revised Health Plan Book should be directed to the Health Plan Office at (954) 981-7410 or (866) 505-6789.

What is Wellness? Let's Start at the Beginning

By Tom Gallaher

[Editor's Note: Tom Gallaher works as a grants developer for the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The opinions he expresses here are his own.]

The single most important thing in life is a mother's love for her child. This is what makes a child feel special and happy; this is where the energy and joy for life comes from.

With this love, your child will grow up to be happy, healthy and confident. Without this love, the child will grow into an adult but will be incomplete, lacking in some way—emotionally, mentally, even physically. The dysfunction can be in many forms—low self-esteem, inability to concentrate, "uneducability," self-doubts, fear of authority, anger, etc.

There's a saying that "The first years last forever." I would say that to a great extent the first *days* last forever! The first days of your child's life can be considered most important because they prepare your child's mind and body for proper development in the weeks that follow; then the first weeks prepare your child for the months that follow, and so on.

Have you noticed how animals constantly stroke and groom and clean their newborns? They do this partly for protection and survival, but also to help get everything operating properly inside their little one. In the same way, the touch and closeness felt by your little one "energizes" all of her cells and neural connections and bodily systems and helps get everything working together in the most efficient way, like a smoothly running car engine.

So... a crash course on parenting might emphasize the following:

1. *Take care of yourself first!*—If you're thinking about starting a family, eat right and exercise. This will help ensure that a newly developing baby will get a good start in a healthy body. As the psychologist Erich Fromm said nearly 50 years ago, "...there is nothing more conducive to giving a child the experience of what love, joy and happiness are than being loved by a mother *who loves herself*."

2. *Nurture her before she's born*—Your baby is greatly affected by you and by her surroundings while she's growing inside you. After only a matter of weeks she responds to your voice, so talk to her, sing to her, play soothing music, etc. Remember: If you're anxious, your baby is anxious; if you feel relaxed and happy, your baby will feel relaxed and happy!

3. *Prepare a good nest*—Set up a good home, both physically and emotionally, for the new arrival. Try to resolve any worries, anxieties or family problems that you have. Talk about plans for the new baby with your spouse and children and any other family members in the home. Go ahead and childproof your home so she'll be able to explore when she starts crawling.

4. *The first days last forever*—Childbirth is a pretty traumatic experience for your little one, so she needs to feel your closeness right away. (And vice versa!) If possible, begin nursing your baby right after she is born. During the first weeks, hold her close so she feels your heartbeat and warmth. Gently talk to her or sing to her when she's nursing or taking a bottle. *This initial bonding with your child is so important!*

5. *Comfort her when she cries*—Disregard warnings about "spoiling" your baby; it's very important to comfort her when she cries. Someone once asked the great Duke Ellington why he turned out so well. He said, "My family fussed over me so much, I was five years old before my feet touched the ground." Remember: If you satisfy her needs as an infant, she'll have fewer needs as an adult.

6. *Let her explore*—When she crawls toward something to explore and turns to seek your approval, smile and encourage her rather than saying "no." If she's reprimanded when she tries to explore her safe surroundings, she'll

become fearful and withdrawn. Being able to explore and touch and examine is very important for her complete development.

7. *Don't overdo the verbal reasoning*—Nothing

is as futile as when a parent tries to "reason" with a one- or two-year-old as if she's an adult. This can be very confusing and even damaging to your child's development. Verbalizing and explaining things will be more appropriate as she gets older. (In the first few years, almost all learning is non-verbal—provide lots of nurturing and she will automatically soak up knowledge like a sponge!)

As she gets older...

8. *Emphasize the positive*—Praise her for the "good" things she does rather than reprimanding her for the "bad" things. Praise and encouragement will help her feel that she's special and unique. (Which she is, in fact!) If she helps you make the bed, praise her rather than pointing out that the sides aren't quite even. If you always tell her she could have done better, she'll develop low self-esteem. She's only a child; she doesn't need to be perfect.

9. *Encourage her to be independent*—Isn't this the ultimate goal of raising anything? Ask her what she thinks; show respect for her opinions. Resist the temptation to indoctrinate her with your ideas and beliefs, and allow her to become her own person. Although you're a terrific person, she needs to develop her own identity, not simply become a clone of you.

10. *Be patient with teenage problems*—For hundreds of generations, teenagers have had special problems; it's a normal part of growing up. Just be sure you're there when she needs your support and understanding.

One more thing!—It seems that more and more, adults try to turn their four-or five-or six-year-olds into little, precocious adults—able to give opinions on current events, what's going on in the world, etc. This may seem really cute, but it's not best for the child. It's best for children to play and explore and learn and think about

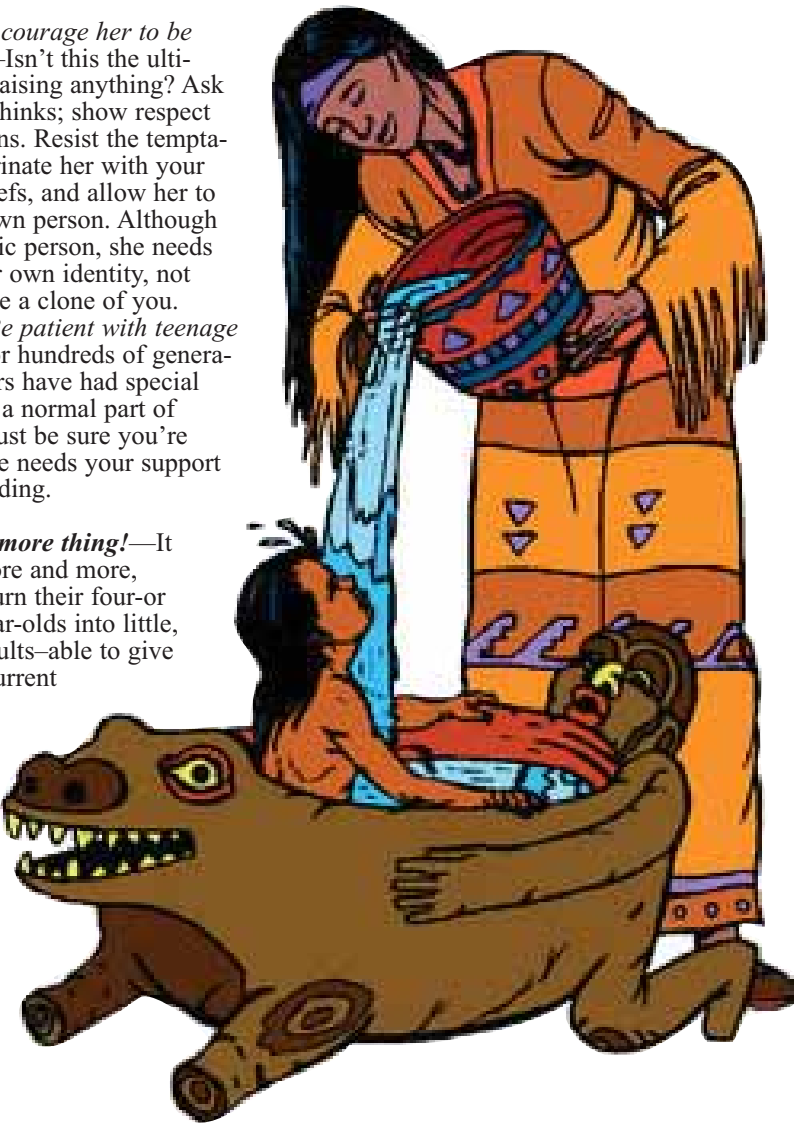
children things that are natural for their age. This will help ensure that when they do become adults, they will be happy, intelligent and complete individuals.

Most of society's problems—drug and alcohol abuse, violent crime, mental health issues, health problems due to smoking, drinking and over-eating— can be traced back to a lack of love and proper nurturing during the first years of life. We spend billions each year trying to undo these problems—more prisons, more drug rehab programs, bigger police departments, etc. Although "kids will always be kids," young and old alike do most "bad" things because they feel bad inside—they don't feel strong and secure and confident and happy. Cruelty, evil and dysfunction take place from an attitude of weakness, not from strength. As the late educator Leo Buscaglia said, "Only the weak are cruel; gentleness can only be expected from the strong."

Your little ones look up to you as if you were God. To them you *are* God: you're their world, their protection, their support and energy for life. You have the incredible power to nurture an infant into a happy, healthy, successful adult. What an exciting opportunity! What an enriching, life-affirming experience— not only for your child, but for you as well! The ability to "energize" your child with your strength and vitality is one of the most powerful things you'll ever do.

So relax and let yourself *love* your children. You are the number one influence in their lives—not their teachers, not their friends, not their brothers and sisters. As their parents, it's up to you to get them started on a life of happiness; it's up to you to make them feel loved and unique and secure.

Give your children the same love and affection you're going to show your grandchildren—they'll pay you back for it many times over!



The Low-Down on Artificial Sweeteners: Sweet'N Low, Equal and Splenda

What everyone should know about those colorful little packets

Submitted by the Seminole Health Department

The pink packet? The blue packet? The yellow packet??? Today, there are many choices and much confusion about which sweetener tastes the best and are better. Let's try and clear the murky waters so that making an informed decision is a little easier.

For those counting calories or controlling blood sugar, low-calorie sweeteners can be part of a healthy diet. These types of sweeteners add little or no calories to foods and beverages.

There, however, is much debate as to whether or not these low-calorie sweeteners are good for the body. Well, relax! All available sweeteners have been extensively researched and safety tested. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has even called safe for pregnant women and children to consume.

Now let's take a look at three of the most popular sweeteners that grocery stores have on their shelves.

Let's start with Sweet'N Low®. Sweet'N Low®, also known as the "pink packet," has been around since 1957. It is made of saccharin and is calorie-free. It dissolves easily in hot and cold drinks and is 300 times sweeter than sugar. That is, one packet of Sweet'N Low® is as sweet as two teaspoons of sugar. For those who don't like trips to the dentist, well, Sweet'N Low® will not cause cavities.

Sweet'N Low® can be used for baking and cooking because it doesn't break down at high temperatures. Even more importantly, diabetics can use Sweet'N Low®, which is excreted from the body unchanged. It is available in packets, bulk, and in a liquid form.

Moving on to the "blue packet" or Equal®. Equal® is made of aspartame and is calorie-free. It is 200 times

sweeter than sugar and is broken down into two natural occurring components when eaten. This way, it is used by the body in the same way it is found in other foods such as meat, milk, fruits and vegetables.

Equal® Sugar Lite is the only Equal® product that should be used for baking as it will brown and give volume like sugar. Only people with a rare genetic disease called phenylketonuria, or PKU, should not use

Equal®. However, Equal® is safe for diabetics to consume. It is available in packets, bulk and tablets.

The most recent sweetener on grocery store shelves is Splenda®, or the "yellow packet." Splenda® is made of sucralose and is also calorie-free. It dissolves easily and is 600 times sweeter than sugar. One packet equals the sweetness of two teaspoons of sugar and 24 packets is as sweet as one cup of sugar!

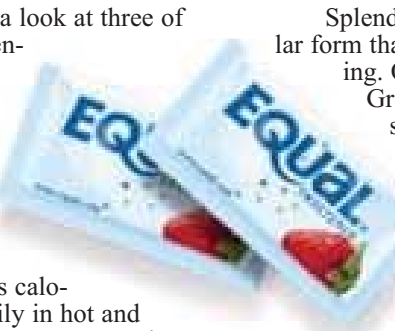
Splenda® is also made in a granular form that is easy to use when baking. One cup of Splenda® Granular equals one cup of sugar. Splenda® also makes

a product called Splenda® Sugar Blend. This is most ideal for baking as it helps the food keep its moisture, volume, and texture. One-half cup of Splenda® Sugar Blend replaces one cup of sugar.

Splenda® is not used by the body and is excreted unchanged. It also helps prevent those cavities, too! Splenda® is safe to use by people with diabetes. It is available in packets, granular form and in a sugar blend.

So there it is! Now it's up to you to choose which low-calorie sweetener is best for you. Remember, some people do have sensitivities to low-calorie sweeteners, so it is always best to check with your physician first.

The Health department at the Seminole Tribe of Florida always recommends water as the beverage of choice.



Seminoles Complete Lifestyle Balance Program



Submitted by Brenda Bordogna
Brighton grads: (L-R) Suraiya Smith, Mary Johns, Grace Koontz and Carol Tommie.



Judy Weeks/Tribune Archive Photo
Immokalee grads: (L-R) Anna Puente (Staff), Tracey Delarosa, Charlotte Porcaro (Staff), Suzanne Davis (Staff), Amy Yzaguirre, Sylvia Marrero, Jade Tapia and Brenda Bordogna (Staff).

Submitted by the Health Department
Congratulations to the participants of the first ever, Seminole Lifestyle Balance Program. Big Cypress, Brighton, Hollywood and Immokalee held a 16 week course in fitness and dietary changes meant to help participants lose weight and prevent diabetes. The program was also open to those with diabetes so that they could learn to better control their blood sugars through exercise and healthy eating choices.



Pre-diabetes or impaired glucose tolerance is the stage where blood sugar is above normal but still below the diabetic level. Normal blood sugar is defined as less than 100 milligrams per deciliter, or mg/dl for a fasting test and according to the American Diabetes Association a fasting blood sugar of 126 mg/dl or more is criteria for the diagnosis of diabetes. A risk factor for pre-diabetes and diabetes is being overweight. The Lifestyle Balance Program uses the idea that by losing weight and making more healthful food choices, you can reduce your risk for diabetes.

The groups have now

entered their Lifestyle Balance Support Group phase, which is open to new members as well as anyone who participated in the Lifestyle Balance Program. The second Lifestyle Balance Program 16 week course is scheduled to begin January 2006. Leading in to the program, Allied Health will be promoting the yearly Pedometer Contest, beginning in October and the Holiday Wellness Program.

For more information about Lifestyle Balance, the Pedometer

Contest or Holiday Wellness, please contact your reservation's nutritionist or health educator:
Big Cypress, (863) 983-5798, Nutritionist Megan McClory, Health Educator Debra Ray Hamilton
Brighton: (863) 763-0271, Nutritionist Beth Morlang, Health Educator Barbara Boling
Hollywood: (954) 965-1300, Nutritionist Doris Nicholas-Mir, Health Education Coordinator Brenda Bordogna, Nutrition Coordinator Cari Saldin
Immokalee, (239) 657-6038, Nutritionist/Health Educator Charlotte Porcaro.



Submitted by Brenda Bordogna
Hollywood grads: (L-R) Jamie Schevis (Staff), Doris Nicholas-Mir (Staff), Judy Tiger, Lawanna Niles, Elsie Bowers, Dorothy Tommie, Judy Jones, Karen Twoshoes.



Submitted by Brenda Bordogna
Big Cypress grads: (L-R) Edna McDuffie, Helene Buster

Managing Insecurities in Recovery

By Catherine Robinson, LCSW, Immokalee reservation

[Editor's Note: Cathrine Robinson is a licensed clinical social worker employed as a senior counselor in the Family Services Department. She earned her master's degree at the University of Georgia and has been a therapist for 15 years. Her article will address women's issues and concerns and appear monthly in The Seminole Tribune. Questions and comments can be e-mailed to her at CatherineRobinson@semttribe.com. The opinions expressed here are her own.]

The Merriam-Webster® dictionary defines insecurity as feeling uncertain, unsafe, unprotected, and/or beset by fear or anxiety. Most of us have experienced these feelings before. Generally they surface when we are faced with a new situation or relationship, challenged by new skill, or introduced to a different role in life.

Insecurities can also be at the heart of more intense emotions such as jealousy or rage. Whatever the root cause, insecurities can be as consistent as the common cold and can nudge the most confident person into the depths of uncertainty.

I once worked in a substance abuse treatment facility with a woman named "Dawn" who was haunted by many fears. Early in treatment, Dawn held initial insecurities that she could not sustain sobriety. She doubted her will power to fend off drug dealers and drug using friends. Deeply rooted emotional wounds left her feeling unprotected and vulnerable; cravings to use were intense.

Dawn's concerns became even more complex as she neared the end of her treatment program. The challenges of relearning social and traditional values, as well as employment skills, distressed her. She found that juggling role demands such as wife, mother, sister, and friend was intimidating. She desperately wanted to carry out these role responsibilities perfectly, but feared she would fail, as she had so many times before.

Dawn imagined that her inevitable lack of success would ultimately disappoint loved ones and she would once again lose the approval she so often craved. Dawn left the facility early and relapsed shortly thereafter.

Many people like Dawn, whether they are recovering from drugs, abusive relationships, compulsive eating, abandonment issues, or some other problematic situation, diminish their potential to be successful because of insecurities. They feel that past mistakes make them unworthy, defective, incompetent, and ultimately a "bad" person.

Most insecurities involve a false belief or a feeling that has been embraced as truth. Feelings of inadequacy are not based on truth, but rather, they are mental tapes that have been replayed multiple times to the point they have been accepted as truth.

Every person has accomplished at least one thing in their past, and has the potential to succeed in many things in their future. Success is not an all or nothing experience, it involves a process of patiently meeting challenges at different levels, despite the outcome.

Insecure feelings are often related to shame and guilt issues that are connected to past events. People who have been victimized by sexual, physical, or emotional abuse may have been made to feel their value is somehow diminished because of their experience. Exposure to oppressive people and unfortunate events do not diminish one's value.

Former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt once said that "No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." Once we believe in our right to exist and to be happy, we no longer need others to validate our self worth or to reassure us with their approval.

The very nature of one's existence validates one's worth. We all have choices with how we manage our existence and with whom we share this existence. We optimize this concept of our value by avoiding people, places, and situations which compromise our integrity,

traditional and spiritual values, self esteem, and personal safety.

Labeling oneself in negative terms only perpetuates a form of mental oppression and breeds a self fulfilling prophecy that dooms every potential effort to achieve. Negative thinking also reinforces low self esteem, anxiety, and depression.

If one is unwilling to acquire the necessary skills to change negative thinking, then, the outcome will more than likely be unfavorable. Confidence comes with practice. If one is motivated to imagine success, think positive, and build the skills necessary to achieve a positive outcome in all endeavors, then they will have no choice but to grow with every effort.

My brother, who has been in recovery for six years, keeps a "mental bank" of positive experiences. Every time he has a challenging day and begins to doubt himself, he "withdraws" one of those experiences to remind himself of his potential.

Insecurities can be held at bay if more people could just accept personal imperfections and flaws in both themselves and others. If we accept our limitations as well as the limitations of others, we would avoid falling victim to unrealistic expectations and counterproductive control issues.

Lastly, we need to allow a reasonable amount of time to adapt to the inevitable changes and challenges we encounter in life.

Remember Dawn? Well she did eventually return to the recovery program. She decided to focus on the process of recovery, rather than the product of recovery. She learned to differentiate between realistic and unrealistic goals. She accepted personal limitations, and redefined her perception of success. Rather than get anxious about her future, she made her present positive and fruitful.

Dawn no longer suffocates beneath the oppressive blanket of insecurities. She inhales as she accepts both the battles and the calm of life. She exhales with every small victory won.

Know the Rules: Abduction and Kidnapping Prevention Tips for Parents

Submitted by Sergeant Al Signore, SPD

Recent crimes against children, although a rare occurrence, have left many parents frightened and unsure about how best to protect their children. According to a study conducted by the Washington State Attorney General's Office for the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, in 57 percent of the cases, the victims of child-abduction murder are victims of opportunity.

The tips noted below will help parents lessen the opportunity for abduction and kidnapping and better safeguard their children.

1. Teach your child to run away from danger, never towards it. Danger is anyone or anything that invades their personal space. Teach them to yell loudly. Their safety is more important than being polite. Teach your children that if they are ever followed in a car to turn around and run in the other direction to you or a trusted adult.
2. Never let your child go places alone, and always supervises your young children or make sure is a trusted adult present to supervise them if you cannot. Make sure your older children always take a friend when they go somewhere.
3. Know where and with whom your children are at all times. Remind children never to take anything or respond in any way if approached by someone they don't know. Teach them to run away as quickly as they can to you or a trusted adult.
4. Talk openly to your children about safety and encourage them to tell you or a trusted adult if anyone or thing makes them feel frightened, confuse, or uncomfortable. Discuss security issues with your children so that they will understand the need for precautions. Advise your older children about steps they can take to help safeguard themselves. Know your children's friends and their families. Pay attention to your children and listen to them; if you don't there's always someone else who will.
5. Practice what you teach by creating "what if" scenarios with your children to make sure they understand that safety message and can use it in a real situation.
6. Consider installing an alarm in your home with a monitor feature. Make sure that your home is fully secured before you go to sleep and items, such as ladders, have been stored inside. Prepare a plan to vacate your home in case of any emergency. This should include but is not limited to a fire. Have a plan if an intruder tries or

gets into your home.

7. Make your children part of securing your home. If you have installed an alarm system, demonstrate it to your children and show them how to make certain that doors and windows are locked. The will not only help calm their fears but will also help make them part of your "safety plan" at home.
8. Have a list of family members who could be contacted in case of an emergency. Designate a family member or close associate who would be able to fill the role of advisor in case of an emergency.

9. Be alert to and aware of your surroundings. Know the "escape routes" and plan what you would do in different emergencies. Practice "what if" scenarios so you will be well prepared.

Know the location of local hospitals and best routes to take to reach them. Know how to reach the nearest local law enforcement agency or sub-station.

10. Know your employees and coworkers. Do background screening and reference checks on everyone who works at your home, particularly those individuals who care for your children. Their knowledge of your family is extensive so make sure that you have an equivalent understanding of who they are.
11. Consider varying your daily routines and habits. Do not take the same routes or go at the same time on regular errands. If you take your children to school, change that route as well.
12. Take steps to secure personal information about yourself. Consider getting a post office box and register everything you can there include your vehicles and driver's licenses. Have personal bills sent to your place of work or the post office box. Be discreet about your possessions and family's personal habits and information.
13. Report any suspicious persons or activities to law enforcement. If you feel that you or your children have been targeted or are being stalked, report this information to authorities immediately. Do not wait.
14. Remember that you are your beet resource for better safeguarding your family. Do not become complacent about personal security issues.

For more information on prevention tips for abduction and kidnapping call Sergeant A1 Signore with the Seminole Police Department's (SPD) Crime Prevention Unit at (813) 623-5748.

Also, please attend SPD's Escape School for children and their parents. For more information contact Sergeant Signore.



BC and Brighton Foster Parent Meetings

Submitted by Sandi Fike

Foster Parent's Support Group will be meeting at the Brighton Tribal Office beginning Aug. 18 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. and will meet every first and third Thursday after.

Foster Parent's Support Group will be meeting in BC every second and fourth Thursday beginning Aug. 11 from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Meeting will take place in the downstairs meeting room on Aug. 11 and in the upstairs conference room Aug. 25, and each month after.

There will be no meetings during the month of November. All foster parents from Immokalee are welcome at either meeting.

Anyone with questions should call Sandi Fike at (954) 989-6840, Ext. 1301.



BC Employees Attend Safety Training Classes

Submitted by Eva Cain, PIO, Department of Emergency Services
BIG CYPRESS — During the month of June, Lieutenant Brian Brown and Firefighter/Medic Albert Quinones conducted training for the employees of the Swamp Water Café, located in Billie Swamp Safari.

Participants were trained in adult, child and infant CPR, first aid and the proper procedures in operating an AED unit. This will assist employees in responding to life-threatening emergencies and providing appropriate treatment while waiting the arrival of medical personnel.

This on-going training is one of the many services provided by the Emergency Services department. Department and facility directors interested in scheduling their staff for training can contact the department's administrative office at (863) 983-2150.



Patty Joe from the BC RV Resort practices CPR.



Adam Trevino (center) from the Swamp Water Café does chest compressions on the mannequin.



(L-R) Elaine Brant and Elizabeth Johnson from the Swamp Water Café practice infant CPR.

Protection Against Heat-Related Illnesses

Submitted by Robert Levy, Assistant Fire Inspector

Once again summer has come. It is important to look for signs and symptoms of the three heat related illnesses: heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke, also called sunstroke.

These conditions are a result of physical exertion along with prolonged exposure to high temperatures and high humidity, intense sunshine, and poor ventilation.

Taking the following precautions will help protect against from the sun and hot weather: wear a hat, light clothing and sun screen, drink plenty of fluids, rest as often as needed in a cool area and call

911 if needed

Signs and symptoms of heat cramps: excruciating muscle spasms of abdomen, arms, legs, pale skin, excessive perspiration, extreme thirst, nausea, dizziness and elevated body temperature.

Treatment: call 911, place the patient in recumbent position, move patient to cool place, give them water and loosen their clothing.

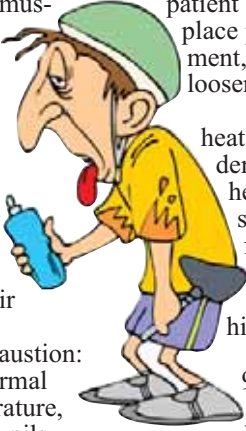
Signs of heat exhaustion: pale, clammy skin, sub-normal or slightly elevated temperature, fast, weak pulse, dilated pupils, nausea, vomiting, generalized

weakness and unconsciousness.

Treatment: call 911, place patient in a reclined position, place patient in cool environment, give them water and loosen their clothing.

Signs of heatstroke/sunstroke: sudden onset, weakness, headache, vertigo, nausea, patient appears very flushed with hot and very dry skin and the patient will have very high temperature.

Treatment: call 911, place patient in cool environment, loosen their clothing and apply a cool compress.



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Will be held at the DSO Library's Computer Lab in Hollywood as a three day course starting Monday, August 22nd; Wednesday, August 24th; and Friday, August 26th.

Free to all adult tribal members! Please fill out below for enrollment and return by August 15th, 2005. By reservation only and space is limited. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Reservation: _____

Please circle the time that works best for each day: 9 a.m.-12 p.m. 1 p.m.-4p.m.

Please return to: Jasmine Porter, Adult Education Advisor, Seminole Tribe of Florida, 3100 N. 63rd Ave., Hollywood, FL, 33024. Or fax to 954.893.8856.

For further information, please call 954.989.6840 ext. 1313.

News From Indian Country

Voting Rights Amendment Turns 40

National Congress of American Indians Pushes to Remove Voting Barriers

Submitted by Herb Ettel
WASHINGTON, DC — The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (LCCREF) launched an intensive campaign marking the 40th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) focused on strengthening and extending one of the most effective civil rights law in U.S. history. Joined by leaders of other prominent advocacy organizations, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) co-sponsored the national conference addressing barriers to equal opportunity in access to the ballot for Native Americans and other people of color. The LCCR conference July 26 came just as Congress was beginning to express interest in reauthorization of important sections of the VRA that are set to expire in 2007. The work to reauthorize key provisions of the VRA comes on the heels of the tremendous success of NCAI's non-partisan Native Vote campaign which last fall mobilized a record number of American Indian and Alaska Native voters. "The Voting Rights Act has been critical to political and civic engagement and empowerment of the Native American community," said NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson. "American Indians have long struggled to participate fully in

the electoral process and have suffered years of disenfranchisement. In some states Native people weren't even given the right to vote until as late as the 1960's." With Native voter turnout continuing to rise, the VRA remains more important than ever. Adopted to combat discrimination facing African Americans in the south, congressional reauthorization over the years has expanded the VRA to meet the needs of other minority communities nationwide who face voting barriers. One of the provisions set to expire has guaranteed voting rights for citizens who are limited English proficient, requiring translated election materials and language assistance. VRA also requires certain local jurisdictions to get approval from the Justice Department or federal courts to change election practices or procedures, to protect the rights of disenfranchised minority voters, and dispatches federal monitors wherever needed to prevent voter intimidation. "At the same time we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act and its unparalleled impact on expanding political participation, we also acknowledge that full equality of political opportunity is still just an ideal," said Wade Henderson, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. "There is no better way to celebrate the VRA than to recommit the nation to preserving and strengthening the Act." For more information visit: www.ncai.org, www.renewthevra.org and <http://mckpr.com/newsroom>.

NCES Conducts National Indian Education Study

Submitted by Tom Beaver, Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Department of Education
WASHINGTON, DC — The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is conducting the National Indian Education Study (NIES) in 2005 for the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Indian Education (OIE). The study was designed in consultation with a technical review panel composed of American Indian and Alaska Native educators and researchers from across the country. This federally funded study is the first of its kind. It is intended to assist the U.S. in continuing its relationship with, and fulfilling its responsibility to, American Indian and Alaska Native peoples with respect to the education of their children. The goal of the study is to describe the condition of education of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) students by focusing on both their academic achievement and educational experiences in the fourth and eighth grades. This activity is part of a collaborative effort among Indian Tribes and organizations, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and state and local education agencies, to ensure that programs serving AI/AN children are of the highest quality and meet their unique culturally-related academic needs. The two-part study—the assessment (Part I) and the survey (Part II)—is designed to provide information to help education agencies, schools, and par-

ents develop education programs that ensure AI/AN students meet the same challenging academic standards as all other students in this country. The instrument, administrative procedures, and notification processes used in the 2005 study were field tested in 2004. Both parts of the 2005 study were designed to use representative samples of schools selected from states across the nation. The assessment in Part I is an integral part of the main NAEP assessment, and is conducted under the same general conditions; Part II is conducted after the assessment period. Results will be reported for AI/AN students for the nation and for those regions and states identified as having a high proportion of AI/AN students. Although the study sample includes students attending public, nonpublic, and BIA schools, the study will not report results by type of school. Similarly, individual student performance on the NAEP reading and mathematics assessments (Part I) is not linked to the Indian Education Survey responses (Part II). The study is not designed to report data on any individual participating students or schools, and data are subject to the NAEP confidentiality policy and NCES confidentiality laws. For more information visit <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/studies/nies.asp#info>.

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Approves Restoration of Indian Housing Block Grant to FY 2005 Level

Submitted by NAIHC
WASHINGTON, DC — The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee has approved a spending bill recommendation that includes \$622 million for the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) for fiscal year (FY) 2005 after funds were slashed by the U.S. House and the Administration. This would restore funding to its FY2005 level. In addition, it is expected that the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) will be funded at \$63 million (down from \$68 million) and remain under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget instead of getting cut to an even lower amount and getting transferred to NAHASDA, where it would have cut into the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG). "We're encouraged that the subcommittee saw the importance of keeping these funds in place," said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon.

"The cuts that were proposed by the Administration and green-lighted by the House would have been a tremendous setback for Tribes trying to improve housing conditions in their communities. We hope the full committee will honor what the subcommittee has proposed." While historically, funding for NAIHC's technical assistance and training is provided in funding from the IHBG and the CDBG, it is not known yet whether the Senate Subcommittee has approved these set-asides-maintaining the funding at its current level of \$4.6 million. These funds were recently slashed by the House appropriators to \$2.2 million. "We're counting on the Senate to reinstate these funds into the budget," said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon. "Being able to provide quality housing technical assistance and training to Indian Country is vital to improving housing conditions for Native Americans."

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Tulsa Youth - Girls & Boys
Oklahoma Age - Men/Women (USA over)
Tulsa Circle Dance Show, Circle
Tulsa Boys: Straight, Fancy
3:00 PM Grand Dances
5:00 PM Grand Supper Break
7:00 PM GRAND ENTRY & Intertribals
CONTESTS:
St. Women: Circle, Fancy Show, Jingle, & Buckskin
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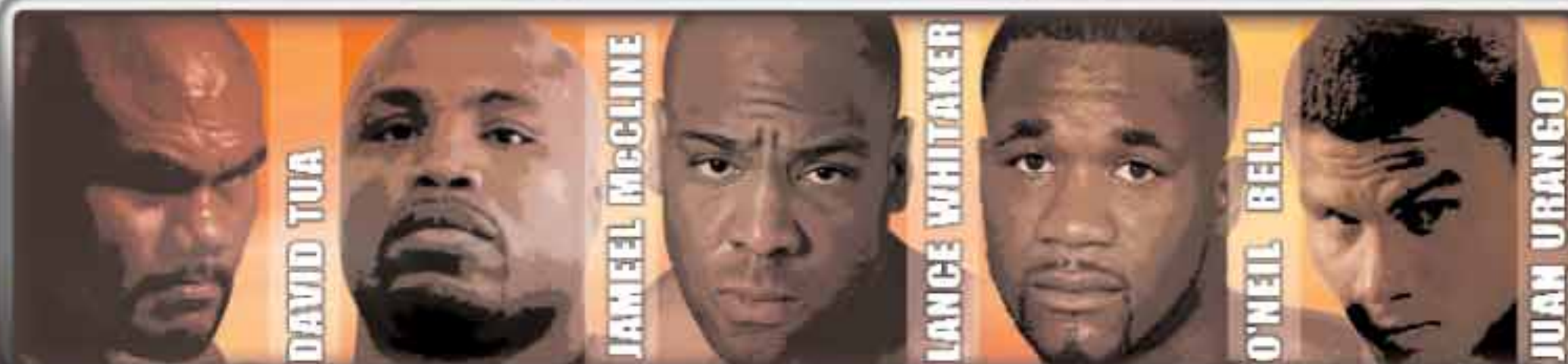
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Happy 54th Birthday to BC Councilman David Cypress



The BC Family Services staff sang a "Happy Birthday" skit to David Cypress.

By Iretta Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — What do Elvis Presley and Rod Stewart have in common? They were both at David Cypress' birthday celebration—well their impersonators were there at least.
On Aug. 4 Big Cypress (BC) Tribal Council Representative David Cypress celebrated his 54th birthday at the BC Gymnasium. The theme was "Never Too Old."
Stiltwalker and jugglers greeted party goers as they entered the gym.
Kicking off the party was an Elvis impersonator who, in no time, was hitting on as many women as he could. He even tried to woo Cypress' mother, Mary Frances Cypress, but she wasn't buying it.
He also tried to woo Elaine Aguilar. At first she tried to resist but his charm was too strong. She gave in with a smile.
Someone else who also fell for Elvis was Hollywood Tribal employee Peggy Reynolds who, in a moment of excitement, tucked money into his belt.
Elvis gave Cypress a warm birthday greeting.
Next to rock the party was a Rod Stewart impersonator who also performed at Cypress' party last year.
As Cypress enjoyed the performance he opened several gifts. He was very amused by a couple of naughty gifts and shared the joke with everyone.
Following Stewart's performance the Big Cypress Family Services department did a skit for Cypress.
Each person had a letter and when the letters were put together it spelled "HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAVID!!"



They also dance and sang to the Beatles' "Birthday"; then they lead everyone in singing the traditional happy birthday song.
The party closed with the best part of any party—the cake. Cypress said he enjoyed the rest of the time talking to friends and family.



(L-R) David Cypress, daughter Doreen and granddaughters Akira and Asiana.



"Elvis" sings to Elaine Aguilar (center) as Cypress (right) looks on.

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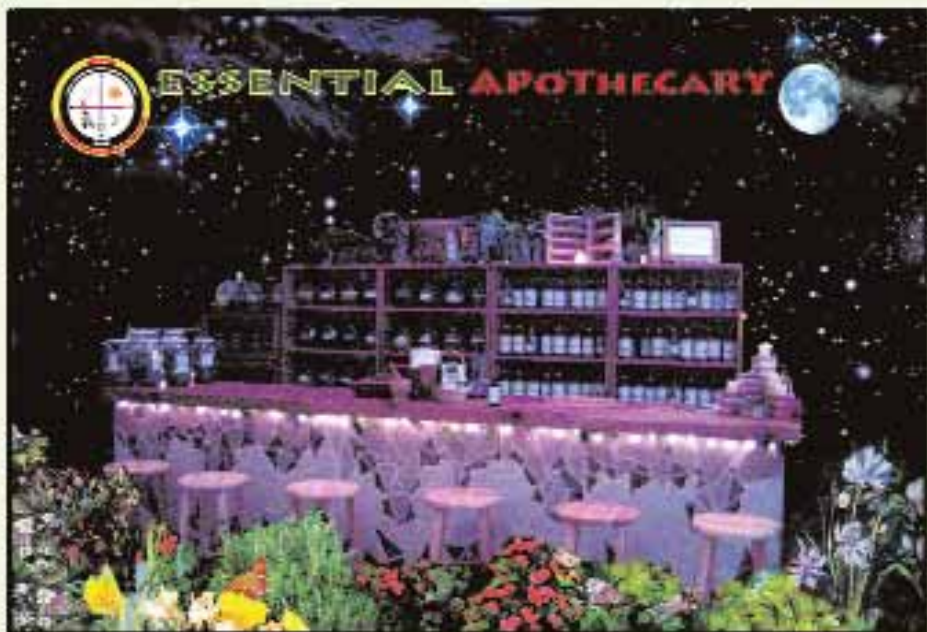
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In Memoriam



A Sincere Thank You to the Brighton Reservation from Matt Wilson's Family

To our dear friends of the Seminole Tribe, we want to try to express our hearts to you for the many, many kind things you did so beautifully to care for us in our time of sadness. No more than two hours after we received news that our precious son Matt had died in a boating accident, our Brighton friends were in our home and yard working throughout the following week on every detail to ease our pain.

Marki Rodeo also did a moving tribute for Matt at the rodeo in Big Cypress...it was so moving because of your apparent love for us. We have watched most of you all grow up, have wonderful children and you truly are family to us.

Matt had competed in rodeo and played baseball with many of you. You coached him, taught him and laughed with him so often...he loved to laugh. Because you have been so close to our hearts for so long, we were strengthened just seeing you and comforted greatly by the outpouring of the genuine God-like love you displayed.

TR and I are honored to have had the joy and blessing of being Matt's parents for the past 24 years and this blessing is, and will always be with us. Please accept our deep gratitude for the food, flowers, hard work, and contributions you made to ministries that have meant eternal life and the light of Christ to Matt and to us who remain.

God truly blessed every part of your lives.

Sincerely,
TR and Jeri Wilson
Lakeport, FL

Happy Birthday



Happy birthday to our beautiful daughter, **Austina Motlow**, who has accomplished many obstacles along the way and kept on praying; for with God nothing is impossible, as her grandfather would say. So may you have more birthdays and lots of love and kisses.

Love,
RC, Mom 1, Mom 2, Dad 1, Dad 2, Aunt Leoma, Uncle Dana, Austin, James, DJ, Bis Sis Erica, Wyatt, Bruce Jr. and Bruce Sr.

Poem

One Day Soon
After the winter of the cold blooded lie
The Great Spirit will awake and open the sky
And all the rays of the sun will break free from bondage
And the peaceful nature of ancestors past will reply
"Our day has come"
The season has changed
We are again free like the falling rain
But until then we must pray with all our heart
And keep our hopes and dreams alive
All has not been forgotten with time
Restoration is ready but has yet to arrive
But prepare because one day soon
—*King Nazir Muhammad*

Correction

In the July 22 issue of *The Seminole Tribune*, Jarrid Smith was mistakenly identified as a football player for Florida International University. Smith actually plays for Florida Atlantic University.

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Hollywood's July Birthday Luncheon

Thank the Human Resource department and Buildings and Grounds department for making July's Birthday Luncheon another success.
Happy birthday to all Tribal citizens and Tribal employees whose birthday was in July. Hope you have many more happy years.

Photos by Sherry Maraj



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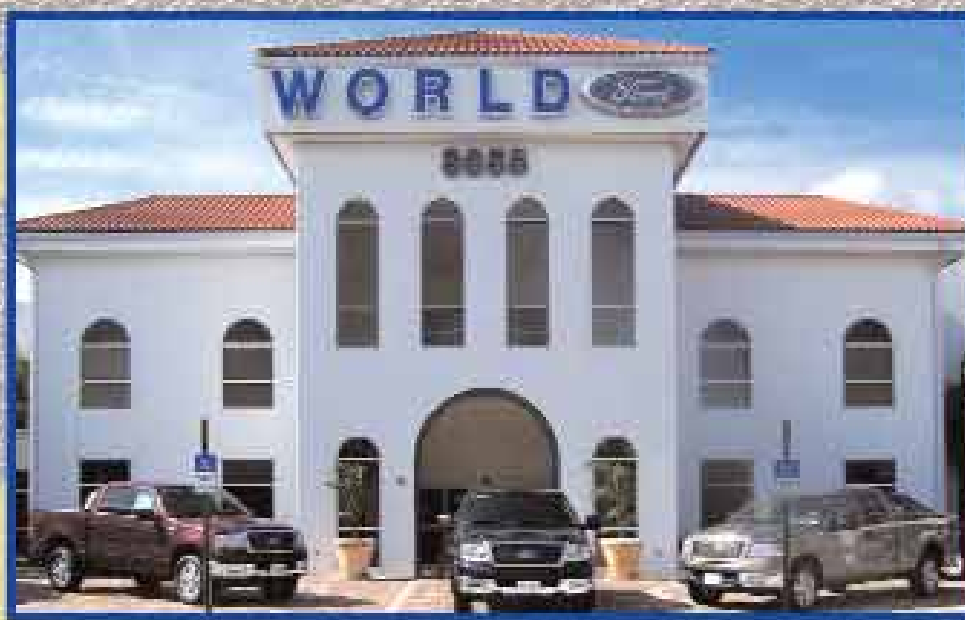
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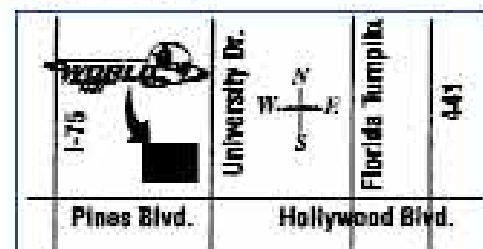
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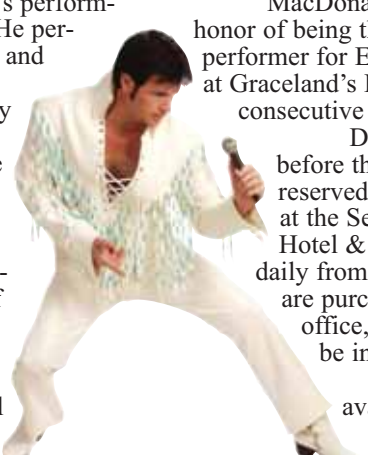
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Chris MacDonald Performs ‘Memories of Elvis Concert’

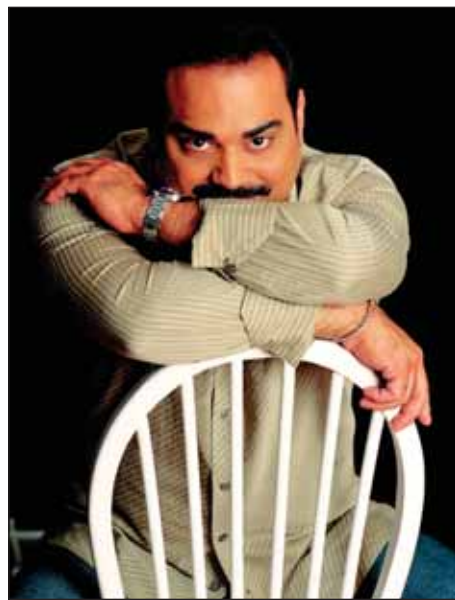
Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR
HOLLYWOOD — Tickets are on sale for Chris MacDonald’s performance at the Hard Rock Live. He performs on August 17 at 8 p.m. and tickets cost \$35.
Backed by some very special guest stars, rock ‘n’ roll hall of fame members the Jordanares, Elvis’s original back up singers, and Elvis’ original drummer, D.J. Fontana, MacDonald will lovingly bring back the magic of the king of rock ‘n’ roll with his tribute.
This past summer was established as the official 50th birthday of rock ‘n’ roll commemorating Sun Records’ release of Elvis Presley’s song “That’s all right Mama.” Keeping the memory alive at countless venues throughout the country, MacDonald has performed in Las Vegas, New York, Florida and



starred in the famous “Legends in Concert” stage production in Branson, MO.
MacDonald has received the great honor of being the exclusive contract performer for Elvis Presley Enterprises at Graceland’s Heartbreak Hotel for six consecutive years.
Doors open one hour before the show. All seats are reserved and may be purchased at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino box office, open daily from noon to 7 p.m. If tickets are purchased at the casino box office, no service charge will be incurred.
Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets and online at www.ticketmaster.com. Charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, and Palm Beach (561) 966-3309. Parking is free.

Latin Music Concert Series Presents Gilberto Santa Rosa

Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR
HOLLYWOOD — Tickets are on sale for the Miller Light Latin Music Concert Series debut concert with Puerto Rican vocalist Gilberto Santa Rosa with La India and El Canario as the opening acts. The concert takes place at the Hard Rock Live at the Seminole Paradise, on Sept. 23 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$45, \$60 and \$75.
Known as a master of “Soneo”—an improvisational vocal technique—Santa Rosa has recorded such Salsa hits as “Muneca” and “Cantante De Cartel.” His song, “Perdoname,” has become a popular Salsa anthem.
In 1995, he became the first Puerto Rican singer of tropical music to



perform at New York’s Carnegie Hall. His album, “Salsa Sinfonica,” was the first salsa recording with a symphony orchestra—the Venezuela Symphony Orchestra.
Doors open one hour prior to the show. All seats are reserved and may be purchased at the Hard Rock Live Box Office, which will be open Monday to Sunday, 12 p.m.–7 p.m. The box office can be reached by phone at (954) 797-5531. Tickets purchased at the box office will not incur a service charge.
Tickets also are available at all Ticketmaster outlets and online at www.ticketmaster.com. Charge by phone: Miami-Dade (305) 358-5885, Broward (954) 523-3309, and Palm Beach (561) 966-3309.

Upcoming Tampa Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Events

Submitted by Chris Jaramillo, Special Events Coordinator

August 12

Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Sunset Nights: Poolside Happy Hour, \$4 Bacardi and Bacardi flavor drinks, \$4 Level vodka, complimentary hors d’oeuvres, musical entertainment, 4 p.m.–10 p.m., at the pool, No cover. Entertainment starts at 3 p.m., drink specials start at 4 p.m.
Floyd’s seafood dinner buffet entertainment with Theo Valentin, 6 p.m.–9 p.m., Floyd’s, \$19.99 for Player’s Club and \$24.99 for non-members.
Basic Rock Outfit, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Posh: The Ultimate Ladies Night at Floyds, featuring the hottest DJs spinning smooth South Beach-style hip hop, R&B and Top 40, go-go dancers, shadow dancers and fire breathers, 11 p.m.–6 a.m., Floyd’s, 21 and up only. For the ladies: complimentary sushi and desserts all night, \$1 You-Call-It Cocktails from 12 a.m.–2 a.m., \$4 cocktails and \$2 bottled beer from 2 a.m.–6 a.m. For VIP table reservations call (813) 627-7703.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 13
Quick Shot Paulo, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Blue Star Highway, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Summer Sessions at Floyd’s, 21 and up only. Featuring DJ Santana/Residents Night, resident DJ’s Jason Perez & Chris Craze, a mesmerizing light show, exotic go-go dancers, fire breathers and more. For more information contact (813) 627-7676.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 14
Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, No cover.
August 15
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 16
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 17
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 18

Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Chippendales: Girls’ Night Out with the World Famous Chippendales dancers, general admission ticketed event with doors opening at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m., in the Ballroom. Tickets on sale at the Hard Rock Retail Store, online at www.ticketmaster.com and by phone at (813) 287-8844 or (727) 898-2100. Tickets are \$25, 18 and up only.
August 19
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Sunset Nights: Poolside Happy Hour, \$4 Bacardi and Bacardi flavor drinks, \$4 Level vodka, complimentary hors d’oeuvres, musical entertainment, 4 p.m.–10 p.m., at the pool, No cover. Entertainment starts at 3 p.m., drink specials start at 4 p.m.
Floyd’s seafood dinner buffet entertainment with Theo Valentin, 6 p.m.–9 p.m., Floyd’s, \$19.99 for Player’s Club and \$24.99 for non-members.
Groove Theory, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Posh: The Ultimate Ladies Night at Floyds, featuring the hottest DJs spinning smooth South Beach-style hip hop, R&B and Top 40, go-go dancers, shadow dancers and fire breathers, 11 p.m.–6 a.m., Floyd’s, 21 and up only. For the ladies: complimentary sushi and desserts all night, \$1 You-Call-It Cocktails from 12 a.m.–2 a.m., \$4 cocktails and \$2 bottled beer from 2 a.m.–6 a.m. For VIP table reservations call (813) 627-7703.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 20
London Que, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Pool, No cover.
Acquiesce, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Summer Sessions at Floyd’s, 21 and up only. Featuring DJ Santana/Residents Night, resident DJ’s Jason Perez & Chris Craze, a mesmerizing light show, exotic go-go dancers, fire breathers and more. For more information contact (813) 627-7676.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 21
Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, No cover.
August 22
Biker Bash: Indoor/outdoor bike show with bike builders and dealers, a poolside barbeque and live musical enter-

tainment by Sean Chambers, 12 p.m.–6 p.m., located in the ballroom, pool and back parking lot. Bike show facilitated by Radical Randy from Born to Ride. For vendor information call (813) 627-7776.
August 23
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 24
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 25
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
August 26
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Sunset Nights: Poolside Happy Hour, \$4 Bacardi and Bacardi flavor drinks, \$4 Level vodka, complimentary hors d’oeuvres, musical entertainment, 4 p.m.–10 p.m., at the pool, No cover. Entertainment starts at 3 p.m., drink specials start at 4 p.m.
Floyd’s seafood dinner buffet entertainment with Theo Valentin, 6 p.m.–9 p.m., Floyd’s, \$19.99 for Player’s Club and \$24.99 for non-members.
Whiskey Chicks, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Posh: The Ultimate Ladies Night at Floyds, featuring the hottest DJs spinning smooth South Beach-style hip hop, R&B and Top 40, go-go dancers, shadow dancers and fire breathers and a sexy burlesque performance by Risque’ Sinful Dancers, 11 p.m.–6 a.m., Floyd’s, 21 and up only, \$4 U-Call-It drinks and \$2 bottled beer for the ladies. For VIP table reservations call (813) 627-7703.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 27
Sophomore Jynx, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Pool, No cover.
Ted Wray, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Pool, No cover.
Summer Sessions at Floyd’s, 21 and up only. Featuring DJ Santana/Residents Night, resident DJ’s Jason Perez & Chris Craze, a mesmerizing light show, exotic go-go dancers, fire breathers and more. For more information contact (813) 627-7676.
DJ Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
August 28
Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, No cover.

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Eastern Indian Rodeo Assoc. Finishes 2005–2006 Season



Young EIRA stars (L-R) Kalgary Johns and Ahnie Jumper.

By Tabitha Osceola
BIG CYPRESS — On July 23, the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) held its final rodeo for the season and it came down to this final rodeo to determine the champions in some of the events. The kids' events started the evening off with mutton bustin' and although no rider could hang on for the full 30 seconds, Joel Puente was the winner with a time of 8.22 seconds. Josh Johns was the only one to make a qualified ride on his steer and Ethan Gopher roped his calf in 9.97 seconds to win the Junior Breakaway. The 4-8 year old kids' barrel race was a close race as Acealyn Youngblood turned in a fast time of 18.536. Kalgary Johns wasn't far

behind with a 19.618. The sanctioned events had its exciting moments, especially in the steer wrestling, as the Jumper brothers dominated that event. Josh Jumper turned in a time of 12.1 seconds in his calf roping, beating his brother Naha Jumper by one second. The women's breakaway roping had one official time, turned in by Billie Tiger. Paul Bowers was the winner of the 50 & over breakaway event. It was a close race in the team roping between the teams of Billie Tiger/Amos Tiger and Josh Jumper/Naha Jumper, but the Jumpers won by one second. The barrel racing was another close event between all the competitors, but Sheyanna Osceola was the fastest of the night with a time of 17.797. The 2005-2006 season has ended and new champions will go down in the books and will be on their way to the Indian National Finals Rodeo. Good luck to them all!

Rodeo Results:
Mutton Bustin': 1. Joel Puente, 2. Chastity Harmon, 3. Danny Rodriguez, 4. Ahnie Jumper.
Pony Riding: 1. Austin Holmes.
Calf Riding: 1. Zane Duchenaux, 2. Kelton Smedley, 3. Blevins Jumper.
Steer Riding: 1. Andrew Holmes, 2. JJ John.
Jr. Bull Riding: 1. Ethan Gopher.
Jr. Breakaway: 1. Ethan Gopher, 2. Andre Jumper.
4-8 Barrels: 1. Acealyn Youngblood, 2. Kalgary Johns, 3. Courtney Gore, 4. Ahnie Jumper.
9-12 Barrels: 1. Zane Duchenaux, 2. Janae Braswell, 3. Nauthkee Henry.
13-18 Barrels: 1. Rebecca Osceola, 2. Justina Billie.
Jr. Bull Riding: 1. Ethan Gopher, 2. Seth Randolph.
Jr. Bareback: No entries.
50 & Over Breakaway: 1. Paul Bowers, 2. Richard Bowers, 3. Amos Tiger.
Bareback: No entries.
Steer Wrestling: 1. Naha Jumper, 2. Josh Jumper, 3. Happy Jumper.
Saddle Bronc: No entries.
Calf Roping: 1. Josh Jumper, 2. Naha Jumper.
Breakaway Roping: 1. Billie Tiger.
Team Roping: 1. Josh Jumper/Naha Jumper, 2. Billie Tiger/Amos Tiger.
Barrel Racing: 1. Sheyanna Osceola, 2. Boogie Jumper, 3. Tess Duchenaux.
Bull Riding: No entries.



(L-R) EIRA Rodeo Queen Shelby Osceola and Jr. Queen Sheyanna Osceola.

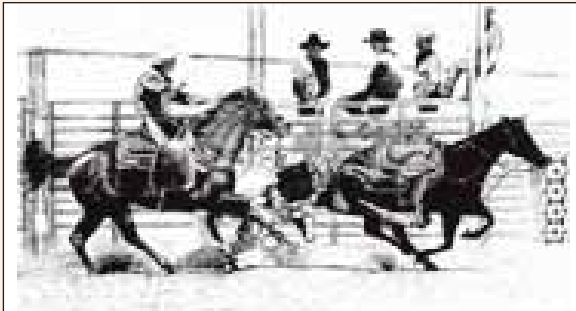
EIRA Contact List

Submitted by Jo "Boogie" Jumper
Adam Turtle – BB
Route 6 Box, 595-D
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 534-4920

Amos Pres and Billie Tiger – BAW
Route 6, Box 603
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 467-7227

Moses Jumper – Special Events
HC 61, Box 42-F
Clewiston, FL 33440
(863) 983-9234

Reno Osceola – TR
Route 6, Box 718
Okeechobee, FL 34974



(863) 634-2165

Sydney Gore – SB
Route 6, Box 626
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 634-1651

Lisa Osceola – Barrels
Route 6, Box 739

Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 634-3800

Josh Jumper – CR
1522 Joshua Blvd.
Clewiston, FL 33440
(863) 677-0649

Jeff Johns – SW
Route 6, Box 769B
Okeechobee, FL 34974
(863) 634-1561


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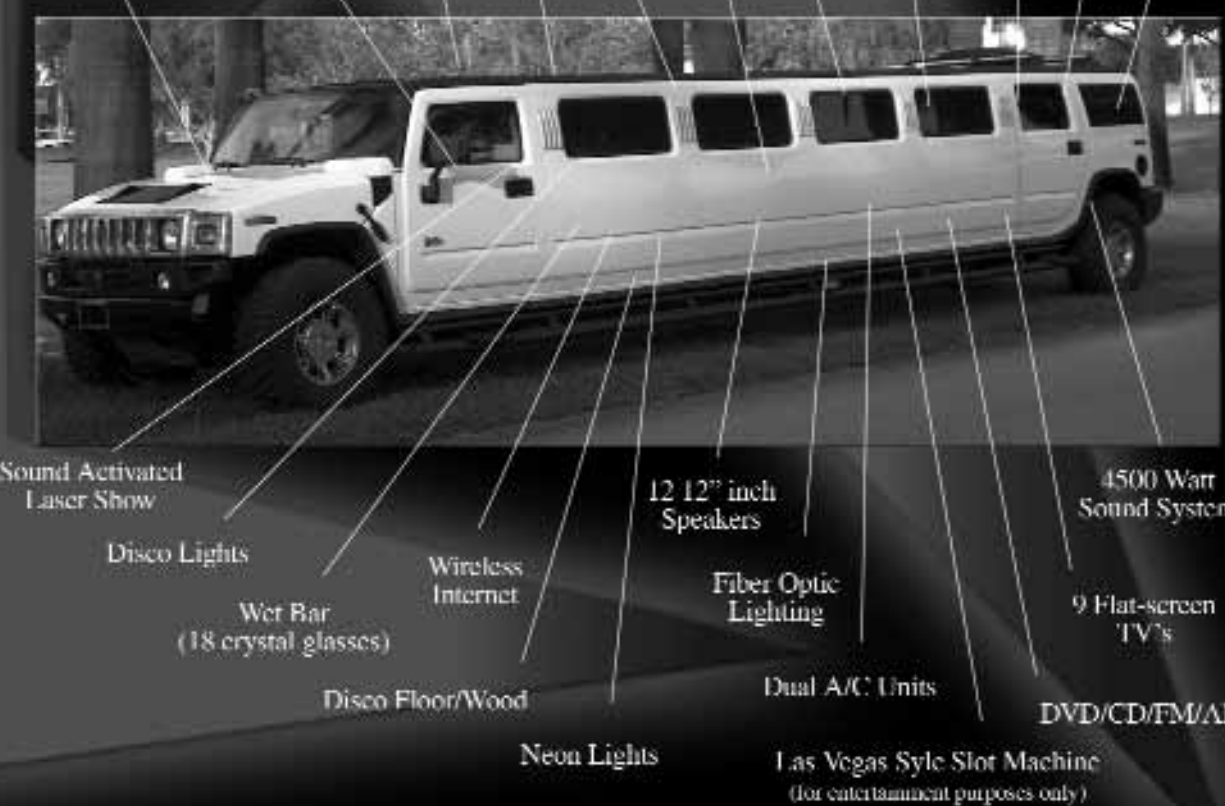
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2005 Florida Seminole Princess Pageant





On Winning Miss Seminole

By Christine McCall, 2005-2006 Florida Miss Seminole

On July 30, 2005, I, Christine McCall, was crowned 2005-2006 Florida Miss Seminole. I still can not believe I won the title of Florida Miss Seminole. It still has not hit me that I was chosen to represent the Seminole Tribe, but I did and I am.

When I heard my name being called I could not stop smiling. I knew once they announced that Danette Bowers from the Brighton reservation had gotten first runner up; I had won!

As many people might know I have been competing in this pageant for many years. First, I started running for Jr. Miss Seminole at the age of 12. I never won and when I was 17 I ran for Miss Seminole. After every year of not winning it hurt.

I will not lie and say I did not cry when I was not chosen to be Jr. Miss or Miss Seminole. I just knew that maybe

I was not ready to be chosen and that I had more to learn. Every year I felt I grew up a little more and learned to perfect my public speaking. By the time I ran this year I felt like a pro speaking in front of a large group of people.

I just want to tell everyone who has ever felt that they can not accomplish something because it is too hard or they have tried and did not succeed, that if they keep trying they can achieve anything they put their mind to.

I wanted to win Miss Seminole ever since I was a little girl and I finally did. It was a tough journey but I am glad I went through it because it makes me appreciate winning even more. If something is just given to you, you take it for granted and will never really appreciate having it.

I encourage everyone to try even if the odds are against them because it will be that much greater once you achieve whatever you are striving for.





A Mother's Pride... Florida Miss Seminole, Christine E. McCall

There's no better sound than hearing your own daughter's name being announced as the next Florida Miss Seminole, for the Unconquered Seminole Tribe of Florida. Last year she took first place and this year she won it. When I heard Christine's name being called as the talent winner, I was just thrilled because she had worked so hard on learning her patchwork from Judybill Osceola. Judybill had sat down with her last year and taught her how to make her whole skirt including cutting and sewing every strip of patchwork. Every since then she has loved to tell how she made her skirt with patchwork.

Towards the end of the evening, this past Saturday night, when I heard "and the new Florida Miss Seminole is Christine McCall," I just kept looking at her face to see her expression... and saw the expression of accomplishment. She was determined this year to try harder, in all the categories.

She had tried last year for the title of Florida Miss Seminole and won First runner up. But, she didn't give up there. Every since she was a little girl watching me coordinate the past pageant's, that's when she knew she wanted to be a Seminole Princess. She said "I 'm going run again next year" and she did. She had the heart, the

determination, the focus, the pride and the willingness never to give up on her dream, and it paid off. She is Florida Miss Seminole 2005-2006

One last thing, I would like to thank all my family, friends, co-



workers and even mothers of past princesses telling me how proud they were of her. The audience filled with screams from little kids (she did it!!!) and friends from her high school (waytago). Thank you, especially to Priscilla Sayen, Judybill Osceola, Naomi Fewell, Connie Gown, Theresa Willie and Mary Jene Koenes, for always being there to give her the encouragement, skirts, outfits, beadwork to make her day, that much more special. It's always been just me Crissi and Casey, and of course Christine Nevaquaya (Big Christine) (we called her that when Crissi was a little girl) who was always there for us.

I'm just so very proud of my daughter for believing in herself, and never giving up.





❖ Princess

Continued from page 1

chance to get acquainted. During the same time, the Princess Pageant committee staged a similar welcoming dinner at the Council Oak Restaurant inside the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino where everyone else involved in the event got to meet and greet each other as well.

On the second day, the day got started with a group breakfast, followed by more practice time, rehearsals, group lunch and finally, a rendezvous back at the ballroom for an entertaining buffet style dinner.

Tribal citizen Mary Jean Koenes took charge of emceeing and introducing the contestants, who each had a chance to present themselves to the audience and say a few welcoming words.

Moses Osceola, President of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, addressed the audience with welcoming remarks as well and offered the contestants the best on their endeavors and commended Miss Seminole Jo Jo Osceola for a job well done representing the Tribe during her reign.

Following the introductions, flute player Sonny Nevaquaya entertained the crowd on stage with his soothing tunes while everyone enjoyed their meal. The crowd also was impressed with a magician that went from table to table entertaining everyone with his magical talent.

The second day events was the first day of judging for the contestants, whose posture, personal presentation, speeches and table etiquette played a role in the final decision of who would be crowned the day of the pageant.

On the third day, the contestants got up early for a day at the Contour Spa. After receiving manicures, pedicures and other treatments, the contestants each sat for a MAC makeup session in preparation the night's event.

In semi-formal attire, the contestants, judges and committee traveled to the Tower Club in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Located on the top floor of Tower One, the contestants were judged on etiquette and poise while dining in the sumptuously appointed establishment.

On the day of the pageant, the contestants began their morning with interviews with the pageant judges. The Junior Miss contestants had a 10 minute interview and the Miss Seminole contestants were subjected to 15 minute interviews.

After lunch, the contestants were able to attend another makeup session or spend free time before leaving for the pageant.

Meanwhile, at the Hollywood Headquarters, people were already beginning to show up for the community dinner catered by Renegade Barbeque.

All at once, it was pageant time and time for the show. Zepeda and Koenes started off the pageant by

introducing the committee, Tribal officials and the pageant judges.

The judges for the 2005-2006 Pageant were Miss Indian World Cassie Thomas, Miss NCAI Madeline Marie Soboleff Levy, Miss Florida USA Cristin Duren, Attorney William Cornelius and Miss Indian World Pageant Director Melanie Matthews.

Zepeda then presented each contestant, reading a short biography as they walked onto the stage. Koenes then described the traditional outfits of each contestant.

After the modeling portion, the contestants performed a talent presentation. Each of the presentations had to directly relate to the Seminole culture and ranged from a reading of the poem "Council Oak" to the process of making a sweetgrass basket.

When the talent presentations were finished, the contestants then engaged in the Impromptu Question segment of the competition. Easily one of the hardest portions of the contest, each contestant answered the questions with poise and authority.

After the Impromptu Questions, there was a short intermission and the audience was able to watch Seminole Broadcasting's "Traditions Continue" video while the scores were tabulated.

After the intermission, Chairman Mitchell Cypress gave special gifts to each of the contestants and judges, as well as a special gift for Connie Gowen. The 2005-2006 Pageant was dedicated to Gowen, who was the first Miss Seminole crowned in 1957 and continues to volunteer her time every year in charge of the Judge's Gifts and serving as Stage Mother to all of the contestants.

Then, the reigning princess, Junior Miss Krystle Young and Miss Seminole JoJo Osceola each gave their farewell speeches to the audience. Osceola received a special gift from the Princess Committee: \$20,000 towards the purchase of a new car.

After the speeches, it was time to announce the winners. Jennifer-Diane Chalfant was awarded Miss Congeniality, a special title because it is determined by the contestants.

After a short pause, Koenes announced the 2005-2006 Junior Miss Seminole: Jennifer-Diane Chalfant.

The crowd began to get a little louder as the results were brought to the emcees and a loud cheer went up as Christine McCall was crowned the 2005-2006 Miss Seminole.

After the crush of family and friends finally thinned out, the contestants were able to head back over to Renegade Barbeque for a late night dinner.

The next day, as the other contestants headed home, the new princesses met for the first time in their official capacities with the Princess committee to go over what they could expect, and what was expected of them, throughout the next year.

Congratulations to our new princesses, Junior Miss Jennifer-Diane Chalfant and Miss Seminole Christine McCall!

Photos By: Elrod Bowers, Iretta Tiger and Adelsa Williams.



Seminole Tribe Sponsors 11th Annual Native Roots & Rhythms® Native American Performing Arts Festival

Submitted by Melissa Sanchez, Emergence Productions

SANTA FE, NM — The Native Roots & Rhythms Festival (NR&R) is recognized as one of the nation's top venues for contemporary and traditional Native American music, dance, storytelling and comedy.

Consistently known for impressive lineups, the 2005 NR&R presentation is no exception, featuring an ambitious four sensational showcases in one night sure to captivate the diverse national audience NR&R draws annually.

When: Saturday Aug. 21
Gates Open: 6 p.m.
Show At: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Paolo Soleri Amphitheater, 1501 Cerrillos Rd. Santa Fe Indian School
Tickets: General Admission: \$10, Reserved: \$20, Children 10 & Under Free, Call the Lencis box office in Santa Fe at (505) 988-1234 or see www.tickets.com

Info: (505) 989-8898 or (505) 620-8539, or www.santafe.net/nativerootsnrhythms.

LAUNCH – A Native Youth Showcase
Ria Thundercloud (Ho-Chunk/Sandia Pueblo) 14 year-old traditional and contemporary dance sensation.

The Browns Comedy Duo (Navajo) Fabulously funny sister comedy duo.

Lil' Dre (Navajo) At 14, Lil' Dre performed original Hip Hop/Rap live on ESPN and was featured in Europe.

Yellow Bird Hoop Dancers – This award-winning hoop dancing team of brothers has performed around the world. They will perform at the Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington, D.C. in September.

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Showcasing "behind the scenes" individuals/organizations who have benefited many.
Po'pay – Pueblo Leader, Seminole Tribe of Florida

One World Beat – Indigenous Showcase
Maori Peoples of Aotearoa/New Zealand
Matou – An eclectic fusion of Native American music and powerful traditional Maori chants
Ardijah – Platinum selling, internationally touring 2005 Pacific Music Award Winners Ardijah (pronounced "R-D-Jah") are the pioneers of POLY FONK; the fusion of Polynesian roots, rhythms and melodies with inspired R&B/Funk/Reggae grooves. Ardijah's music has received Special Guest support from music legends George Benson, James Brown, Simply Red, and Quincy Jones

2005 Native American Music Award Winners Showcase

Jim Boyd (Spokane) – NAMA Record of the Year – Boyd's Contemporary Native American music was featured in the Miramax film "Smoke Signals."
Litefoot (Cherokee) – NAMA Artist of the Year – Native Rap/Hip Hop pioneer; Best-known for his starring role in the movie "Indian in the Cupboard."
Randy Wood (Cree) – Best Traditional Recording – Randy is known for his powerful lead singing with the legendary Northern Cree Drum of Canada. He has a mesmerizing singing style all his own.

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Trickster Tales – Theatrical storytelling, troupe includes Shkeme of Native Roots, James and Ernie, Brigadier and Delicate Brown, and more!

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LAUNCH – A NATIVE YOUTH SHOWCASE
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JR Patton's #67 car rounds the track.

Seminole Sponsors Native NASCAR Driver

By Iretta Tiger

Imagine doing what you love for a living. Now imagine doing it for 12 years and you are only 21 years old. For JR Patton, racing has been his dream and reality since he was nine years old.

Patton's father and full-blooded Cherokee grandfather introduced him to racing. After two years of racing, and at the age of 11, Patton realized racing was his calling and he started to pursue it on a more serious level.

As for school, racing did not interfere with it; racing is what kept him in school.

"[Racing] kept me from falling into the traps of adolescence and helped me to



Diamond III LLC

Patton's car makes a pit stop for maintenance.



Diamond III LLC

JR Patton

mature faster because I had to be around more mature people," said Patton.

Throughout his youth, Patton has earned several titles and special recognitions including being the youngest driver to win the Sprint Car Owners of Arizona (SCOA) Rookie of the Year and being the youngest driver to win the A-Main within SCOA.

In 2001, Patton began racing in NASCAR; and in 2003 he began racing in NASCAR's Craftsman Truck Series (NCTS).

Patton, a quarter Cherokee, is the only Native American driver in the NCTS. Because of his nationality, he said a new door has opened for NASCAR and for sponsors unfamiliar to NASCAR.

One of these sponsors is the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The Tribe was the primary sponsor for Patton in the Ford 200, which took place in November 2004 at the Homestead-Miami Speedway. Patton finished with an impressive 22nd place.

The Seminole Tribe's sponsorship began with a chance meeting with Hollywood Councilman Max B. Osceola Jr. at a local rodeo.

"Minority sponsorship will open a lot of new doors for NASCAR and for Tribes," said Patton.

Patton said his goal is to reach out to native youths through racing and to open their eyes to a whole different world. He is planning a visit with the Seminole youth within the next few months.

For more information about JR Patton, surf to www.jrpattonracing.com.



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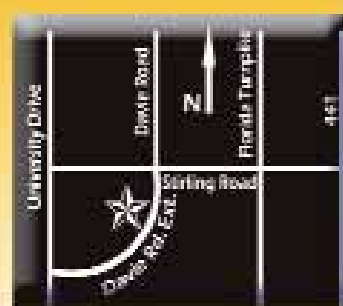
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(L-R) Trail Liaison William Osceola, JR Patton, RC North and Leon Pewo at the Homestead Miami track.

Trail Liaison Attends Driving School



William Osceola gets ready to put on his safety harness.

By Iretta Tiger
HOMESTEAD, FL — For one day, Trail Liaison William Osceola came as close as anyone could get to becoming a professional race car driver.

Osceola, RC North, Leon Pewo and Iretta Tiger were invited to participate in the Richard Petty Driving Experience. Native NASCAR driver JR Patton and his manager Lloyd Wideman, Diamond III LLC, were the hosts of this incredible experience.

Patton is an instructor for the Richard Petty Driving Experience which was held at the Homestead Miami Speedway Aug. 5-7. The RPD Experience offers the chance to ride and/or drive a real race car on a real race track and it's an exciting adventure for serious thrill seekers.

Before getting into a race car the group had to put on a jumpsuit and protective gear which was an experience in its self.

The first to ride with Patton was Osceola. They did several laps at 170 mph. Coming out of the car Osceola had a smile like a kid in a candy store. He said he loved it.

North was the next to ride with Patton and they too did 170 mph. North was a little queasy at the end of the ride but was just as happy.

Before the rest of the group could ride a thunderstorm had taken over and the school was canceled for the rest of the day.

Osceola said he loved the experience so much he plans on bringing his father, a race car enthusiast, with him next time.



RC North gets into #8. Will he be the next NASCAR driver?

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DETECTIVE HENRI SUISSA, is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who possesses a Master Degree in Clinical Social Work and Psychology and has substantial experience in treating, working, and dealing with issues of rape, incest and molestation. Officer Suissa's experience in Social Work and Law Enforcement is a unique blend that enables him to comprehend the dynamics that are involved with victimization; criminal procedure and treatment. Officer Suissa has over 13 years of experience in Social Work and Law Enforcement that allows him to be informative and comprehending to the sensitive issue of rape.

DETECTIVE STEVE LOPEZ, possess a Master Degree in Criminal Justice with an emphasis in Public Administration from Florida International University. Detective Lopez is a college instructor at Keiser college teaching criminal justice and mentoring college students. Detective Lopez has 7 years of Law Enforcement work and as a Detective, Steve Lopez 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 that the Seminole Police Department possesses.

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

Issue: September 2, 2005 • Deadline: August 19, 2005

Issue: September 23, 2005 • Deadline: September 9, 2005

Issue: October 14, 2005 • Deadline: September 30, 2005

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