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Volume XXV • Number 1

January 16, 2003



Michael Kelly

We three preschoolers - Hollywood preschoolers show off talents at the tribal auditorium.

## Preschoolers Perform Christmas Play

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On Wed. Dec. 17, the Hollywood Preschool children presented “The Christmas Story” to an auditorium filled with about 75 parents, grandparents, guardians, and friends. Maggie Osceola opened the presentation with a prayer, and immediately after, the cast walked onto the stage and re-enacted the story of the baby Jesus.

The first of many children to yell “hi mom,” was Howie Drake, one of the thirteen shepherds in the play.

“You never know what they are going to do,” said Carol Crenshaw, Center Manager for the Hollywood Preschool. “You just play it by ear.”

The children took on roles including angels, wise men, and soldiers, and entertained the crowd with a mixture of song and acting.

During a brief intermission, Delores Crumpler, better known as Miss Sweet Pea, sang a few Christmas favorites such as “I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas.” She asked the audience to

join in, and many sang along to “Jingle Bells.”

While the audience sang Christmas songs, the 5-year-old preschoolers changed their clothes and put on their tap shoes for “The Reindeer Dance.” Miss Patty, the children’s dance teacher, helped them remember their steps by dancing in the audience right along with them.

Crenshaw said she was proud of the children, especially of how no one seemed to have stage fright, even though this was the first time on stage for many of the children.

“Nobody was afraid to come out,” she added. “But when they did, they just wanted to run to mommy.”

Although the spectators enjoyed the presentation, the best part for the children came at the end of the show. Everyone moved into the dining room for a Christmas lunch, and the preschoolers received an unexpected visit from Santa Clause (AKA Charles Heirs), who handed out presents, spread some Christmas cheer, and wished everyone a Happy Holiday season.

## The Seminole Tribe of Florida’s First Annual Toy Drive

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — As Christmas approached, tribal citizens, Seminole employees, and community members showed they were ready to help less fortunate children.

Hard Rock offices.

Participants at the event donated toys, which organizers divided up at the end of the night and gave to three local nonprofit organizations: The Boys and Girls Club of Broward County, the YET Center, and the Community Partnership for the Homeless.

While some people brought one or two toys, others showed up with a truck-load full of toys. Hollywood’s Tribal representative Max Osceola and Chairman Mitchell Cypress each had to have assistance bringing in all of their donations.

According to Melissa DeMayo, Osceola’s daughter, her family went to Toys-R-Us and bought eight shopping carts full of toys. Cypress pulled up to the event in a super-stretch Ford Excursion limo full of toys.

DeMayo, who came with her three children, Trevor Osceola, Chandler DeMayo, and Clarice DeMayo, said bringing her children to events like toy drives show them that not all children are as fortunate as they are.

“I think it’s important [to donate toys] because we have so much,” said DeMayo. “I want my kids to understand that some people have nothing.”

In addition to Cypress and Max Osceola, tribal citizens including Tate and Robin Osceola also came to donate toys. Carol Collier from the Legal Department and Olivia Davis from the Marketing Department were among the Seminole Tribe’s employees who came to support the donation efforts.

Boxing stars Michael Moore and Ada Valez also appeared at the Toy Drive to sign autographs for their fans.

Local radio station WEDR 99 Jamz provided a live remote of the event, which broadcasted information about the Toy Drive



Shelley Marmor

Sally Tommie (left) helping Mitchell Cypress bring in his truck-load of donations.

On Tues. Dec. 22, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, The Hard Rock Casino, and Warrior Boxing promotions hosted the First Annual Toy Drive at the

WEDR 99 Jamz provided a live remote of the event, which broadcasted information about the Toy Drive

See TOYS, page 3

## U.S. Senate Passes Resolution Honoring Native Americans

**By Shelley Marmor**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — On Oct. 24, the United States Senate unanimously passed two resolutions, one honoring all Native Americans and the other honoring Native American war veterans.

Senate Resolution 239 designated November 7, 2003 as National Native American Veterans Day, and Senate Resolution 240 designated November 2003, as National American Indian Heritage Month.

Colorado’s Senator Bill Nighthorse Campbell-R-CO sponsored both of these resolutions. He is currently in his second senatorial term, and the only American Indian Senator serving this country.

According to Senator Campbell’s Press Secretary, Paul Moorehouse, next year another Senator will have to propose the same bills because these specific holidays only applied for 2003. He added that Senator Campbell will likely be the one to sponsor these same bills in 2004.

Moorehouse said the same dates will be chosen for next year’s National Native American Veterans

Day and National American Indian Heritage Month because these dates have significance.

“The week of Nov. 7 is a week to honor all military service members,” Moorehouse said.

He added that honoring Native American veterans is important because more native people have served in the military than any other demographic. When considering the entire Native American population throughout history, statistics show that in every war up to the present day conflict in Iraq, more natives have served than any other group based on the total population.

In addition to his work on this issue, Senator Campbell heads the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. He also serves as a member on four senate committees, including the Indian Affairs Committee, and the Veterans’ Affairs Committee.

For more information on Senator Campbell, please visit his website at <http://www.senate.gov/~campbell>.

## Broward Days Reception Presents the Honorable Johnnie Byrd

**By Alexandra Frank**  
**FT. LAUDERDALE, FL** — On Dec. 17, Broward Days Delegation Members held a reception featuring the Honorable Johnnie Byrd, Florida’s Speaker of the House. The reception started off with reports from Broward Days Delegation Members, legislators from various districts within Broward, and its overlapping counties who spoke about important work being accomplished in their districts.

Byrd drove home the ideals behind Broward Days and spoke briefly about the Speaker’s Ball, which is held for Broward Days. Byrd talked about the hard work done by individuals, such as John and Linda King, Belinda Kaiser, and Byrd himself.

Their work has helped cancer and Alzheimer’s Disease research for the most vulnerable members of society. This helps people in the county realize that they are not powerless when it comes to issues about the economy, water, health, population growth, education, and other important topics.

Broward Days needs to have effective leadership in Tallahassee. They need their own agenda because the one being presented is presented in a way that will only benefit the legislature. Byrd remarked that 98 percent of participating in the political process is simply being there in Tallahassee, which is what Broward Days does. The fact that the delegates are in Tallahassee makes a difference.

The community members are able to make a

difference by investing their time in Broward Days’ projects. They can also communicate with their legislature about the things they believe are important, not only in Florida, but also in Broward County as well.

Byrd commented on how regionalism, or dividing Florida into semi-autonomous regions, is the future in Florida. He commended delegates for embracing their fellow citizens in the area for doing what best helps their schools.

Byrd said, “Regardless of whether you are a democrat or a republican, you live in South Florida or North Florida, we all believe in successful students, want safer streets and domestic security.

“We all believe in a smarter government, we believe in affordable high quality health care, and we believe in a cleaner environment and better planning for growth.

“We all have a vision for Florida that makes it the wonderful place that it is to live, work, and raise a family in, I’m looking for a huge success for team leaders, a great party for you [delegates]. That night and the future looks very bright. Thank you.”

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is a proud sponsor of Broward Days and the organization has welcomed the Tribe with open arms. With the Broward Days Delegation on the list of friends of the Seminole Tribe, we can only move up and forward with the positive growth of Broward County.



Alexandra Frank

Financial experts in the making: Ahfachkee School students learn the importance of money.

## Ahfachkee Students Raise Funds Through Popsicle™ Sale

**By Alexandra Frank**  
**BIG CYPRESS** — On Dec. 16 Tammy Hughes’s second grade art class participated in a fundraising effort. They made homemade Popsicles™, sold the items, and gave the money to the Clewiston Animal Control.

The concept, introduced by Lester Brown at the Ahfachkee School, explained that this program would get kids working at changing their attitudes and some of their habits regarding money. The program will also show them how to save money and how to spend it wisely.

The program’s curriculum resulted in a project the kids used to gain some experience with money management. They will learn what making money is about, and what they can do with their money.

The second grade class sold Kid Pops and made a profit of \$65 in 45 minutes. This equates to about \$87 an hour, which means someone did extremely well.

The high school students have formed their own car wash company. This company is different because students will bring the car wash to the cus-

tomers.

They will charge various prices for washing vehicles depending on the size of each vehicle. They plan to reinvest the profits back into their car washing business.

When the students graduate, they will receive a lump sum of their share of the total profits. They will then deposit this money in the bank and watch it grow.

Students need to develop the right attitude and habits when it comes to spending money wisely. If children develop positive monetary habits in their youth, these habits will carry over into adulthood.

The third grade Ahfachkee class also held a fund raiser and raised money for the Children’s Hospital. Terri Rosen of the Clewiston Animal Control accepted the student’s check.

“Clewiston Animal Control appreciates the donation very much,” Rosen said. “The money will go to help hold some of the animals longer for adoption. We thank you very much.”



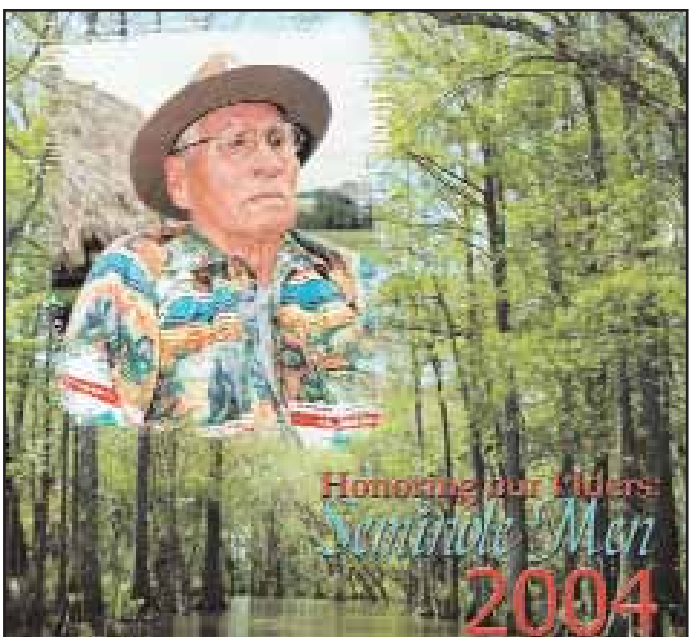
# The 2004 Tribal Calendar — Honoring our Elders: Seminole Men

The 2004 Seminole Calendar, which honors the elder men of the Seminole Tribe, is now available. Individuals from each reservation may pick up their free calendar from their Representative's office.

Employees may also pick up a calendar from their direct supervisors. If you have any questions, please call the Communications Department at (954) 966-6300 ext. 1263.

For non-tribal citizens or employees, you may purchase a calendar from the Communications Department, or visit the Seminole

Marketplace at [www.seminoletribe.com](http://www.seminoletribe.com). The price for the calendar is \$10.



## The Seminole Tribune

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

**Issue: February 6, 2004**  
Deadline: January 23, 2004

**Issue: February 27, 2004**  
Deadline: February 13, 2004

**Issue: March 19, 2004**  
Deadline: March 5, 2004

**Issue: April 9, 2004**  
Deadline: March 26, 2004

**Issue: April 30, 2004**  
Deadline: April 16, 2004

Please note: Late submissions will be posted in the following issue.

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If you need a reporter or you would like to submit an article, birthday or poem to the *Seminole Tribune*, please contact the Editor Michael Kelly at (800) 683-7800 ext. 1267. E-

mail [mkelly@semtribe.com](mailto:mkelly@semtribe.com), fax (954) 967-3482, or mail to: The Seminole Tribune, 6300 Stirling Road, Hollywood, Florida 33024. (800) 683-7800.



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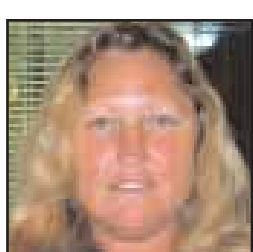
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# Indian Programs Underfunded

By Dr. Dean Chavers

Thank the Lord for small favors. Sometimes small favors turn out to be big times. Take for example free speech, which some of us old codgers fought and died for 40 years ago.

The free speech I just learned about is the freedom of the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights to criticize the federal government. The Chairperson of the Commission is one of my longstanding heroes, Dr. Mary Francis Berry.

She has long been a fighter for uncovering racism and discrimination in this country. She led the Commission within the past few years to look into discrimination in Indian Country, the first time to my knowledge that any federal agency has done this specifically.

The Commission is helped also by having a Native member, I believe for the first time. Elsie M. Meeks from South Dakota represents Indian Country on the Commission.

The Commission issued a report this summer called "A Quiet Crisis: Federal Funding and Unmet Needs in Indian Country." The report looks at funding for Indian programs in six federal government departments, including the Department of the Interior, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, Education, and Agriculture. The Commission reported that, "significant disparities in federal funding exist between Native Americans and other groups in our nation."

The most immediate needs, they said, were infrastructure development, tribal courts, and tribal priority allocations.

The report stated, "Native Americans living on tribal lands do not have access to the same services and programs available to other Americans, even though the government has a binding trust obligation to provide them."

Specifically, the Congressional Research Service found that funding within the Department of the Interior between 1975 and 2000 has declined by \$6 million yearly, when adjusted for inflation. There was a total of \$7.4 billion in unmet needs in the year 2000.

"BIA's mismanagement of Individual Indian Money trust accounts has denied Native Americans financial resources that could be applied toward basic needs that BIA programs fail to provide," according to the report.

There are also huge needs in school construction. The backlog in BIA schools is \$507 million and is increasing at an annual rate of \$56.5 million, due to inflation and natural aging. The real story here is the schools that are firetraps, the ones built a hundred years ago that do not have fire protection. God forbid that there is ever a tragedy such as fire or earthquake that kills helpless Indian children.

"The federal government spends less per capita on Native American health care than on any other group, for which it has this responsibility, including Medicaid recipients, prisoners, veterans, and military personnel. Annually, IHS spends 60 percent less on its beneficiaries than the average per person health care expenditure nationwide," according to the Department

of Health and Human Service's report.

These figures do not tell the real story, of course. The real story is the people who have to wait up to eight hours at an Indian hospital. The real story is the people who die before they are treated, and those who suffer from everything from appendicitis to diabetes because of the lack of medical personnel and facilities.

As for the Housing and Urban Development Department, the report says that 40 percent of reservation housing is inadequate. One in five reservation homes lacks plumbing. While their own funding has grown 62 percent in the past 25 years, Native American funding within the department has increased only 8.8 percent. Tribal housing actually lost spending power, according to the report.

The real story here is the housing that too many of know about where three or four generations of a family are still living in the same house. The real story is the children sleeping two or four to a bed, or sleeping on the floor because there is nowhere else for them to sleep. We all know about adults who have to sleep on the couch in the living room because there are not enough beds or bedrooms.

As for the Department of Justice, "All three components of law enforcement—policing, justice, and corrections are substandard in Indian Country compared with the rest of the nation. Native Americans are twice as likely as any other racial/ethnic group to be the victims of crime. Yet, per capita spending on law enforcement in Native American communities is roughly 60 percent of the national average."

"Correctional facilities in Indian Country are also more overcrowded than even the most crowded state and federal prisons... Native American law enforcement funding increased almost 85 percent between 1998 and 2003, but the amount allocated was so small to begin with that its proportion to the department's total budget hardly changed."

"Many Native people have lost faith in the justice system, in part due to perceived bias. Many attribute disproportionately high incarceration rates to unfair treatment by the criminal justice system, including racial profiling, disparities in prosecution, and lack of access to legal representation," according to their report.

The real story here is the disgraceful conditions of most reservation jails. The real story is the Native prisoner in a state prison who is denied his or her rights to worship freely. The real story is the Native who gets 10 years for a crime while his Anglo counterpart gets three years.

According to the Department of Education's report, "The federal government has sole responsibility for providing education to these [Native] students—an obligation it is failing to meet."

The report says tribal colleges, vocational rehabilitation, postsecondary education, vocational education, and school construction are all either underfunded or not funded at all.

"At no time during the period under review in this report have all OIE subprograms been funded," according to

the report.

The real story here is the neglect Indian students get in the schools. If they miss five days straight, no one cares and no one does anything about it. None of them read books, nor do they do homework. They are neglected and discriminated against. No one cares.

I had an Apache student call me last week looking for a scholarship. She has a 4.0 Grade Point Average, and wants to go to an Ivy League school. Her counselor had done nothing at all to help her find scholarships! Shame on him.

The Department of Agriculture's report states, "insufficient funding has limited the success of development programs and perpetuated unstable economies."

The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations lost funding between 1999 and 2003, when inflation is taken into account. Thus, hunger on reservations is more than twice as high as with the general population.

The general population has both a legal obligation and a moral responsibility to provide funding for basic Indian programs. Despite its obligations, the federal government has always tried to shy away from its responsibilities.

It began sending Indian students to public schools in the 1890s, for instance, instead of honoring its obligations under 114 treaties, and under Congressional law, to provide education to Indians. By 1938 half of Indian students were in public schools. Today, 85 percent go to public schools.

As far as I am concerned, this administrative shift is illegal and immoral. But it still goes on. If Ross Swimmer and Co. had had their way under former President Ronald Reagan, they would have closed all BIA schools. They did close several of them, for which one of the crew got an award and a cash bonus.

Every tribal leader needs to have a copy of "A Quiet Crisis: Federal Funding and Unmet Needs in Indian Country," and every one of them needs to storm Capitol Hill to demand that Indian programs be fully funded. Any tribal leader who does not do this has likely been bought off by someone.

I congratulate Dr. Berry, Ms. Meeks, and the author of the report, Mr. Manuel Alba. They did a great job, following up with what the Congressional Research Service has been doing for over a decade. Roger Walke, a researcher for CRS, has been preparing an annual report on funding for Indian programs. It consistently shows that Indian programs lose money every year, while other programs constantly gain more funding. He is to be congratulated for looking at the problem early. The Civil Rights Commission should also be congratulated for looking at the problem over the long range and pointing out the huge disparities that remain.

**Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of *Catching the Dream* in Albuquerque, a national scholarship program for Native college students. CTD also promotes school improvement programs in Indian schools.**

## Letters & E-mail

6300 Stirling Rd. Hollywood, FL 33024 • [tribune@semtribe.com](mailto:tribune@semtribe.com)

Dear Editor,

My son and I would just like to wish the Seminole Tribune staff a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are not living in Florida anymore so it is hard for us to keep up with everything that it going on in Hollywood and the other reservations, but getting the newspaper has helped us keep up with everything.

Thank you for always doing a terrific job. Thank you,  
**Vickie Sanders  
and Larry Howard Jr.**

**Dear Ms. Lucy Evanicki, Marketing Director of Billie Swamp Safari,**  
Congratulations! Kenney Communications, Inc. submitted your Billie Swamp Safari brochure as an entry in the Association of Professional Brochure Distributors 2003 International Best Brochure Competition. On behalf of the Association, I am pleased to inform you that SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA was honored as a regional nominee in the competition. The contest results were announced at our recent annual meeting in Shannon, Ireland.

From a possible field of over 7,500 brochures, representing the collective client base of the Association membership, nominees were narrowed down to a list of 38. These nominated brochures, which included yours, were then evaluated through competitive comparisons using

specific criteria including: headline quality, construction, content and overall appeal. The judges were industry professionals representing brochure distribution and display companies from across the U.S., Canada and Ireland.

The Association commends you for the competitive advantages of your brochure. Please accept this letter of recognition, and sincere congratulations from Kenney Communications, Inc. and all the other members of the Association of Professional Brochure Distributors for a job well done!

**Barbara Kenney  
President**

Dear anyone who will help me,

I need to know if I can obtain a copy of the Seminole alphabet, Seminole numbers and Seminole colors in the native language. I have two Seminole sons who I would like to show and teach their heritage to. It is not easy when we live 5 hours away from you, and the language is something I want my boys to learn.

If you can help or guide me, I would appreciate your help. I know these things are hanging on the wall of an office in some building, but I was afraid to ask for a copy since I did not want to upset anyone. I respect your culture and would like to bring it to my boys any way possible, until I can one day move to the reser-

vation with my Seminole husband. Thank you.

**Ruth Osceola**

Dear Seminole Tribe of Florida,

I just received my new vest. It is really nice! I've been looking at them for years and finally decided I would treat myself for Christmas. The quality and colors are exactly as I expected.

That's one present I'm not wrapping, I'm wearing it! Maybe I'll even purchase a jacket for next year. Thank You,

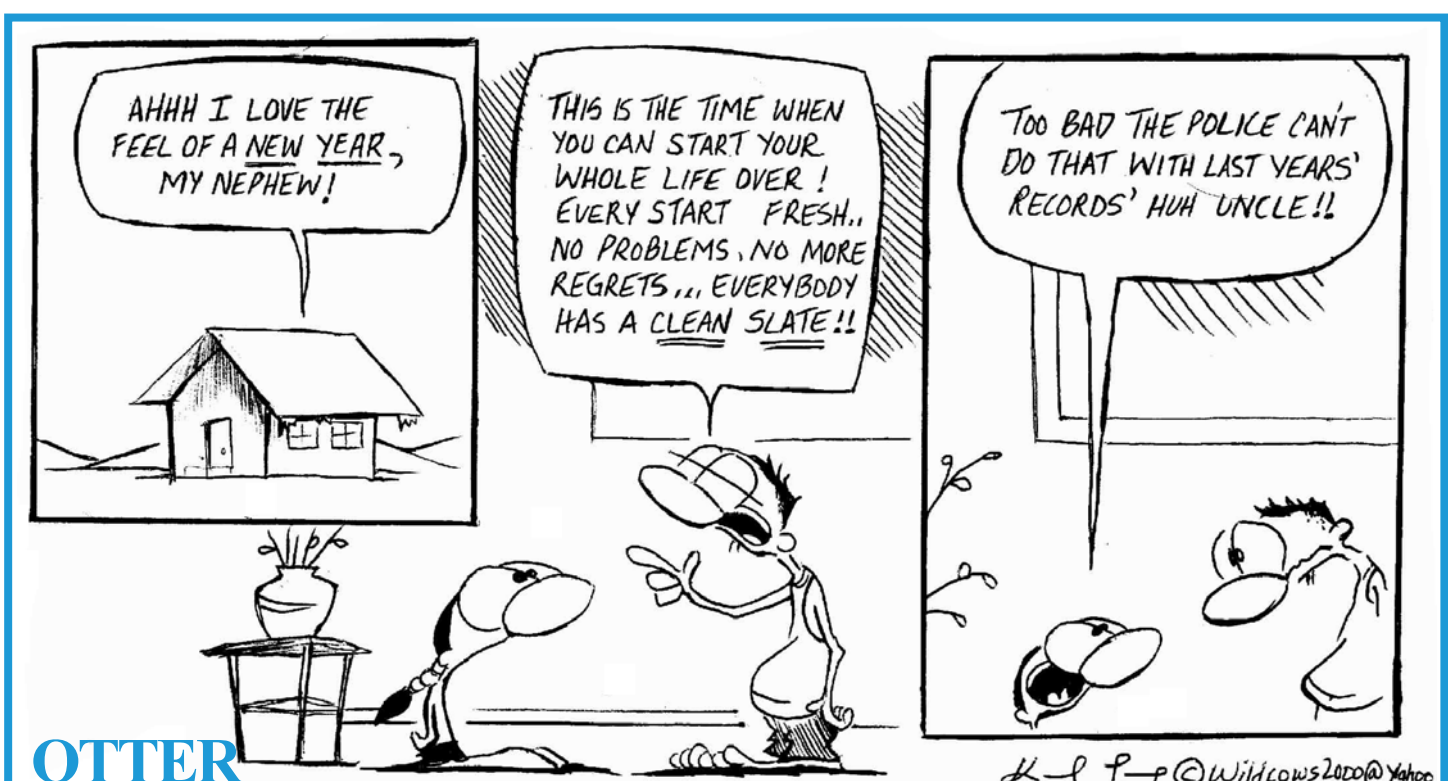
**Mike Shaw  
Native3feathers@netzero.com**

Dear Editor,

I would like to talk to, or write to, Betty Mae Jumper. I hope this message will reach her, as I have a question for her. I belong to a SASHA Doll Club and we are having a 3-day festival in Ft. Lauderdale in June of 2004.

I have read her book "Legends of the Seminoles," containing the Legend of the Corn Lady. I would like to ask permission to photo copy this legend and give out to help people during the festival. The picture would not be included, but a necklace of beaded corn will accompany the handout.

**Laura Ramshead  
347 Mendell, MA 02770  
dollbath@aol.com**









# The Inaugural NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBAL FINANCE CONFERENCE

February 18th- 20th, 2004

The Spa Resort & Casino • Palm Springs, California

*Owned and operated by the  
Agua Caliente Band of  
Cahuilla Indians*



## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:

Due to the stunning rate at which Native American tribal finance is evolving, a forum dedicated solely to addressing the issues this growth has generated is essential. The goal of the event is to help Native American tribes network with key industry professionals, and to provide an educational opportunity in this burgeoning area of finance. The event will attract municipal finance professionals and representatives from Native American tribes from diverse regions of the United States. Topics to be covered include:

- The Fundamentals of Municipal Bonds
- The Rating Agency Perspective
- Establishing Creditworthiness: A Buyer's Roundtable
- Credit Enhancement
- The Risks of Tribal Finance Deals
- Financing Casinos and Resorts
- Beyond Casinos: The Financing Of Other Revenue Generating Projects
- Building for the Future: Financing Infrastructure Projects
- Conduits
- Taxable vs. Tax Exempt Bonds
- Financing Housing in Indian Country

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

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## ABOUT IMN:

The goal of IMN's Municipal Finance Conference Division is to fill the current and growing void of much needed regional and sector specific public finance conferences. Using IMN's vast resources and, most importantly input from the market, IMN develops conferences on the most prevalent topics and provides a much needed forum where industry professionals, such as issuers, buyers, financial advisors, bankers, rating agencies, insurers, etc., can meet to discuss the issues affecting the municipal marketplace.

## A PARTIAL LIST OF PARTICIPATING TRIBES INCLUDES:

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| Aroostook Band of Micmacs                              | Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians          |
| Bishop Reservation                                     | Mohegan Tribe                                |
| Cedar Unified School District of the Navajo Nation     | Morongo Band of California                   |
| Citizen Potawatomi Nation                              | Navajo Nation of Kayenta Township Commission |
| Cherokee Nation  | Nez Perce Tribe                              |
| Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs                    | Port Gamble S'Klallum Tribe                  |
| Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians              | Pechanga Band/Luiseno Indians                |
| Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation | Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation   |
| Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians                    | Quinault Indian Nation                       |
| Fallon Soshone Paiute Tribe                            | Seminole Tribe of Florida                    |
| Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation                           | Seneca Nation                                |
| Hualapai Nation  | Southern Ute Indian Tribe                    |
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# Seminole Boat Wins “Best Use of Lights” at Winterfest Boat Parade

By Michael Kelly  
FT. LAUD-  
ERDALE, FL — The Seminole Tribe's entry at the 32nd Annual Winterfest Boat Parade shined, defeating more than 100 boats to take first place in the "Best Use of Lights" Showboat category.

According to Winterfest organizers, the parade is the world's most watched boat parade and the 7th largest one-day spectator event in the country.

Held on Dec. 13, the Winterfest Boat Parade aired on Sat. Dec. 20 on Channel 7, WSVN and again on Christmas Day at 12:00 p.m. The Broadcasting Department has inquired about obtaining a copy for tribal citizens to view.



First place winner of the “Best Use of Lights” showboat category.

Lisa Scott-Founds, Executive Director for Winterfest Inc., thanked the Seminole Tribe for their continued support of Winterfest.

"I can't tell you what your sponsorship and participation means to this holiday tradition," said Founds.

What will the tribe come up with next year? Stay tuned.

| JANUARY 2004<br>MONTHLY EVENTS<br>HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY MEMBERS<br>TO PUT YOUR NAME ON A TICKET LIST CALL ROBIN OSCEOLA 954-383-1071 |                              |                              |                              |                              |  |   |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Sunday   | Monday                       | Tuesday                      | Wednesday                    | Thursday                     | Friday                                 | Saturday  |
|  |                              |                              |                              | 1                            | 2 PANTHERS VS PHIL HEAT VS MAGIC       | 3 PANTHERS VS COLUMBUS                            |
| 4  | 5 HEAT VS INDIANA            | 6                            | 7 HEAT VS CHICAGO            | 8 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A.  | 9 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A.            | 10 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A.                      |
| 11 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A.   | 12 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A. | 13 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A. | 14 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A. | 15 RINGLING BROS CIRCUS A.A. | 16 SARA BRITMAN ODC 8PM CIRCUS A.A.    | 17 PANTHERS VS TAMPA                              |
| 18 LIPIZZANER STALLIONS 2PM / 6PM  | 19 PANTHERS VS ST. LOUIS     | 20 HEAT VS BOSTON            | 21 PANTHERS VS COLORADO      | 22                           | 23 PANTHERS VS WASHINGTON HEAT VS N.J. | 24 MONSTER TRUCKS PRO PLAYER KING OF THE CAGE ODC |
| 25 BILL CLINTON ODC 2PM  | 26 HEAT VS HOUSTON           | 27                           | 28 PANTHERS VS PHILADELPHIA  | 29                           | 30 HEAT VS CLIPPERS                    | 31  |

PLEASE CHECK VENUE FOR TIME CHANGES OR CANCELLATIONS  
OFFICE DEPOT 954-835-8000 / AMERICAN AIRLINES 786-777-1000 / PRO PLAYER 305-623-6100 / SOUND ADVISE 561-793-0445



Travel Channel film crew get up close with a juvenile panther.

## Big Cypress Reservation Among World's Best Places to View Wildlife

By Ernie Tiger  
BIG CYPRESS — The Travel Channel has chosen the Big Cypress Reservation as one of the World's Best Places to View Wildlife. Viewers will be treated to a narrated segment on the popular channel in the summer of 2004.

Aboard a customized airboat and swamp buggy, viewers will experience a safari throughout the 2,200 acre everglades habitat. They'll get a chance to view some of Florida's rarest indigenous inhabitants, such as the Florida panther and black bear.

"The Billie Swamp Safari is very beautiful," said producer Lissete Fernandez. "The staff is very knowledgeable about the Seminole's culture and the animals that are found here. This made today's film shooting segment go very smoothly; we got some great footage."

Other top places that the Travel Channel visited included Homosassa Springs and the Florida Aquarium located in Tampa.

"I'm glad to see these types of programs showing interest in the Seminoles. This is great advertisement for the tribe," said Billie Swamp Safari tour guide Jonathan Vasquez after his day of tour guiding through the Big Cypress swamp lands.

After spending the morning aboard an airboat and viewing the many exotic deer and large alligators found on this tour, the group was given the rare opportunity to actually get their picture taken with a juvenile panther. Swamp Safari guides answered questions on why the panther is one of Florida's rarest and top predatory animals to inhabit this area.

Before finishing their day of filming the Seminole Tribe's Eco-Tourism facilities, the Travel Channel film crew made one last stop at the gator pit



Cruising through the Everglades.

to fill their eyes with Florida's number two predatory creature, the alligator.

After the long shoot, the film crew dined on some Seminole Indian food at the Swamp Water Café. It was a well deserved meal.

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### EVENING HOURS

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SUNDAY - CLOSED





Nery Mejicano

The coldest morning of the year did not prevent the Seminole riders from giving their time to support needy children

## Seminole Riders Participate in Christmas Toys in the Sun Run

By Nery Mejicano  
HOLLYWOOD — On Sunday, Dec. 7, 29

motorcycle riders participated in the largest Christmas motorcycle event in the nation. This was the 16th year motorcycle riders got together to raise funds to benefit the Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital in Hollywood, Florida, and the Boys and Girls Club.

All the riders brought at least one toy, with most bikes covered with stuffed animals, dolls, toys and many other children's playthings.

Steven Tyler, from the rock group Aerosmith, followed by Max Osceola and the Seminole Riders, led the approximately 36,000 bikers on a 21-mile journey from the Pompano Harness Track to Markham Park in Sunrise.

In the 2002 Toys in the Sun Run, bikers and supporters donated \$400,000 to the hospital and collected more than 30,000 toys. They gave the donations to the Fraternal

Order of Police who distributed them to kids in need throughout the tri-county area.

The 2003 run collected \$481,000 and more than 40,000 toys. The morning of the ride was the coldest of the year, but that did not prevent the Seminole riders from participating. The morning started by a hot breakfast at a Denny's restaurant, and a ride to the harness track in Pompano.

The riders journeyed down I-95 and I-595 escorted by the Broward Sheriff's Office who re-routed all other traffic. This is both the only time of the year when I-95 and I-595 are closed to traffic, and cops and bikers have the same goal — helping sick and needy children.

At Marham Park, more than 100 vendors sold food, clothing and motorcycle's accessories. Rock bands the Smithereens, Foghat, and several local bands played on this beautiful day.



Nery Mejicano

Mary Jean Koenes at the Sun Run.



Virginia Mitchell

L-R: Virginia Osceola, Jo Lin Osceola, Joyce Escobar, Joe Dan and Noel Escobar.

## Celebrating with Joe Dan Osceola

By Virginia Mitchell  
HOLLYWOOD — Following a two-week trip in Peru, Ambassador Joe Dan Osceola came back home in time to celebrate his birthday amongst family and friends.

This Tribune employee was warned prior to the party that anyone asking year of birth or exact year of age would have to pay a \$100.00 fine, so I dared not ask.

Daughter Courtney hosted a bingo competition. Prior to the band arriving, we ate a delicious meal that was cooked on an open fire.

Why wouldn't you know the ambassador even brought in a Peruvian band to entertain for the evening. Many songs sounded familiar to me, but the accents threw me for a loop. Don't get me wrong; they were very good.

Many more great times are ahead for you Joe Dan. Stay healthy, wise and we will be there again to celebrate with you, no matter how old you'll be.



Joe Dan, Jo Lin and son Tiger, showing off the outrageous cake.

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# WHO SHOT JIM SHORE?

**CRIME STOPPERS WILL PAY UP TO  
\$51,000 AND THE SEMINOLE TRIBE  
WILL PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$49,000 FOR  
THE ARREST OF THE SUSPECT(S).**

ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2002, JIM SHORE, THE GENERAL COUNSEL FOR THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA, WAS SHOT WHILE SITTING INSIDE HIS HOME. PLEASE HELP US CATCH THE CRIMINAL(S) AND BRING THEM TO JUSTICE! IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CRIME, OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES...

**PLEASE CALL AND  
REMAIN ANONYMOUS!**

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Job Opportunities

For an application or more information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 954-967-3403, The Seminole Tribe of Florida is a DRUG FREE WORKPLACE, Drug Screening is a requirement of employment, WE EXERCISE NATIVE AMERICAN PREFERENCE.

**HOLLYWOOD**  
Position: Budget Analyst  
Dept: Accounting  
Position still available.  
Salary: Negotiable with exp. with benefits

Position: Receptionist/Secretary  
Dept: Communications  
Position Opens: 1-12-03  
Position Closes: 1-26-04  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Quality Control Technician  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens: 11-10-03  
Position Closes: 11-24-03  
Salary \$25,000.00 annually with benefits

Position: Reporter  
Dept: Communications  
Position Opens: 1-12-04  
Position Closes: 1-26-04  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Nutritionist  
Dept: Health  
Position Opens: 1-12-04  
Position Closes: 1-26-04  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Recruiter  
Dept: Human Resources  
Position Opens: 11-3-03  
Position Closes: 11-17-03  
Salary : Negotiable with experience

Position: Travel Clerk  
Dept: Travel  
Position Opens: 12-15-03  
Position Closes:12-29-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Accountant  
Dept: Accounting  
Position Opens:11-24-03  
Position Closes: 12-08-03  
Salary: Negotiable with experience

Position: Outreach Worker  
Dept: CAA  
Position Opens:9-2-03  
Position Closes: 9-15-03  
Salary: \$8.00/hr with benefits

Position: Maintenance Mechanic  
Dept: Housing  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Vehicle & Equip Coordinator  
Dept: Fixed Asset, Accounting  
Position Opens: 12-22-03  
Position Closes: 1-12-04  
Salary: \$20, 800.00 - \$24, 960.00 annually with bene-fits

Position: Fixed Asset Accountant  
Dept: Accounting  
Position Opens: 12-22-03  
Position Closes:1-12-04  
Salary: \$30,000 - \$37,000 annually with benefits

Position: Network Administrator  
Dept: Information Systems  
Position Opens: 11-24-03  
Position Closes: 12-08-03  
Salary: Negotiable with experience

Position: Building Custodian  
Dept: Building & Grounds  
Position Opens: 12-01-03  
Position Closes: 12-15-03  
Salary: \$24,960.00 annually with benefits

Position: Background Investigator  
Dept: Human Resources  
Position Opens: 12-22-03  
Position Closes: 1-12-04  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Finish Carpenter (2)  
Dept: Housing  
Position Opens:9-2-03  
Position still available  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Environmental & Safety Worker  
Dept: Health  
Position Opens: 12-15-03  
Position Closes: 12-29-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Resource Specialist (Elig. & Util)  
Dept: Health  
Position Opens: 12-15-03  
Position Closes: 12-29-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Permit Coordinator  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens:11-10-03  
Position Closes: 11-24-03  
Salary \$25,000 annually with benefits

Position: Office Clerk III  
Dept: Family Services  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Rough Carpenter  
Dept: Housing  
Position Opens: 9-2-03  
Position still available  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Director of Housing  
Dept: Housing  
Position Opens: 11-17-03  
Position Closes: 12-01-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefit

Position: Purchasing Agent (non-Certified)  
Dept: Seminole Police Dept  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Safety Officer  
Dept: Human Resources  
Position still available.  
Salary Negotiable with benefits.

**BIG CYPRESS**  
Position: Tour Guide  
Dept: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
Position Opens: 10-13-03

Position Closes:10-27-03  
Salary: \$7.50/hr with benefits

Position: Sales Associate, F/T & P/T  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 10-21-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary Negotiable with experience with benefits

Position: Curator of Education  
Dept: Ah-Tha-Thi-Ki Museum  
Position Opens:10-20-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary: Negotiable with experience and benefits

Position: Environmental & Safety Worker  
Dept: Health  
Position Opens: 12-15-03  
Position Closes: 12-29-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Instructional Aide  
Dept: Ahfachkee School  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable w/exp. with benefits.

Position: Fire Inspector  
Dept: Emergency Services  
Position Opens: 12-8-03  
Position Closes: 12-22-03  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Administrator, Emergency Services  
Dept: Emergency Services  
Position Opens: 12-01-03  
Position Closes: 12-15-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Fuel Truck Driver/Line Man  
Dept: Aviation  
Position Opens: 1-5-04  
Position Closes: 1-19-04  
Salary: \$18,720.00 annually with benefits

Position: Water Sampler  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens: 1-12-04  
Position Closes: 1-26-04  
Salary: \$21,840.00 annually with benefits

Position: Elementary Educ Teacher  
Dept: Ahfachkee  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Food Prep. & Service Assoc.  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 10-27-03  
Position Closes: 11-10-03  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 11-3-03  
Position Closes: 11-17-03  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Ast. Store Manager  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 10-21-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary: Negotiable with experience with benefits

Position: Elem. Music Teacher  
Dept: Ahfachkee School  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Mechanic  
Dept: Housing  
Position Opens: 10-20-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary: \$23,920 annually with benefits

Position: Community Health Rep.  
Dept: Health  
Position still available.  
Salary: \$20,800 - \$22,880.00 annually with benefits.

**BRIGHTON**  
Position: Operator Maintenance Trainee  
Dept: Utilities  
Position still available.  
\$ 18,700 annually with benefits.

Position: Video Programmer, P/T  
Dept: Broadcasting  
Position still available.  
Salary: \$8.00/hr.

Position: Sales Associate, F/T & P/T  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 10-21-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary Negotiable with experience with benefits

Position: Transporter  
Dept: Health  
Position Opens: 9-8-03  
Position still available.  
Salary: \$18, 720 - \$20,592 annually with benefits

Position: Ast. Store Mgr.  
Dept: Corp. Board, Gas  
Position Opens: 10-21-03  
Position Closes: 11-3-03  
Salary: Negotiable with experience with benefits

Position: Counselor II  
Dept: Family Services  
Position Opens: 1- 5-04  
Position Closes: 1-19-04  
Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Teacher Aide (3)  
Dept: Preschool  
Position Opens: 8-18-03  
Position Closes: 9-2-03  
Salary: negotiable with benefits & education

Position: Water Resources Mgt. Coord.  
Dept: Water Resources Dept.  
Position still available.  
Salary: \$ 30, 000 annually w/ benefits.

Position: Weed Control Technician  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens: 11-10-03  
Position Closes: 11-24-03  
Salary \$19,760.00 annually with benefits

Position: Heavy Equipment Mechanic  
Dept: Natural Resource Program  
Position Opens: 10-27-03  
Position Closes: 11-10-03

Salary: Negotiable with benefits

Position: Water Sampler  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens: 1-12-04  
Position Closes: 1-26-04  
Salary: \$21,840.00 annually with benefits

Position: Heavy Equipment Operator  
Dept: Water Resources  
Position Opens: 11-10-03  
Position Closes: 11-24-03  
Salary: \$21,840.00 with benefits

Position: Bus Monitor  
Dept: Education  
Position Opens: 11-24-03  
Position Closes: 12-08-03  
Salary: \$16,640.00 annually with benefits

Position: Tribal Outreach Worker II  
Dept: Family Services, Health  
Position still available.  
Salary Negotiable with benefits

**FORT PIERCE**  
Position: Counselor II  
Dept: Family Services, Health  
Position still available.  
Salary Negotiable with benefits,

**IMMOKALEE**  
Position: Counselor II  
Dept: Family Services, Health  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Cultural/Lang. Instructor  
Dept: Culture Education  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Maintenance Worker  
Dept: Recreation  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits.

Position: Teacher I  
Dept: Preschool  
Position Opens: 11-24-03  
Position Closes: 12-08-03  
Salary: Negotiable w/experience w/benefits

Position: Operator Maint. Trainee (1)  
Dept: Utilities  
Position still available.  
\$ 18,700 annually with benefits.

Position: Nutritionist /Health Educator  
Dept: Health  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Position: Counselor 11  
Dept: Family Services, Health  
Position still available.  
Salary negotiable with benefits

Emergency Services

Position: Fire Inspector/Public Education Specialist  
Location: Big Cypress and Other Reservations  
Salary: \$38,000. (negotiable) Plus Benefits  
Responsibilities include: Fire safety inspec-tions of fire suppression and notification systems, new construction, existing occupancies and hazardous material sites. Manage Hazardous Material Program. Provide presentations on fire safety to educate the public and employees of the Tribe. Accept other duties as required. Essential for satisfactory perfor-mance are: good communication skills (verbal and written), the ability to work with the public in a cour-teous manner, the ability to work in a "self directed" environment, a working knowledge of the National Fire Protection Agency's Life Safety Code, State Building Codes including the rules and regulations of the State Fire Marshal's Office and the ability to research and comprehend technical material. Ability to travel between all Reservations (Statewide) is mandatory.

Minimum Qualifications: Current State of Florida Fire Inspector Certification, experience con-ducting Fire Inspections and working with the public. \*Preference will be given to candidates pos-sessing State of Florida Firefighter Certification, rele-vant college degrees and certifications plus extensive Fire Inspection/Public Education experience. Other Requirements: High School Diploma,Valid Florida Driver's License, Ability to pass an extensive Background Investigation and Drug Screen

Tribune Jobs

Positions Available at the Seminole Tribune!

Interested in writing articles and covering events for the Seminole Tribe of Florida? The Seminole Tribune currently has positions available. Each position offers a competitive salary, flexible working hours, and a chance to travel.

**Freelance Reporter:** Write stories and cover events. For example, if you live in Brighton, generally you will cover events there, or ones that are close by. Basic 35mm and/or digital camera experi-ence are needed. A good understanding of grammar rules and solid writing skills are important. A valid driver's license is required. Strong computer skills needed (Windows/MS Office, Word).

If you would like more information, please call the Human Resources Department at (954) 967-3403, or the Seminole Tribune at (954) 967-3416.

Police Jobs

Position: Police Officer  
Starting Salary: \$39,591.00  
Locations: Big Cypress, Hollywood, Immokalee  
Police Officer position available. Must already have/his/her certification. Needs to be a citizen or have alien resident card, 19 years or older, with a high school diploma or GED. Shift work. Benefits include PPO Health Insurance, Life Insurance, 401K, Take Home Car Program, Clothing Allowance. If you are interested please call (954) 967-8900.

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Sports ♦ Ham-pa-leesh-ke ♦ Vkkopvnkv

7th Annual Marie Billie Memorial Basketball Tournament

**By Paula Cassels**  
**HOLLYWOOD** — On Dec. 9, 11, and 13, Francine Osceola hosted the 7th Annual Marie Billie Memorial Basketball Tournament at the Hollywood Recreation center.



First Place Lady Seminole.

The all-Indian tournament featured men's, women's, and Legends division. Later that week, there was a both a free throw and 3-point competition. On Dec. 9 and 11, Vivian Delgado kicked off the Marie Billie Basketball Tournament serving a hardy dinner to attendees. Delgado, tirelessly

cooked all the Seminole favorite dishes, Spam and tomatoes, short beef ribs, hamburger gravy with rice, fry bread, sofkee and more. Natives from other states including Choctaws from Mississippi,

attend the North American Indigenous Games meeting presented by Bo Young, Assistant Director of the Hollywood Recreation," John Powless said. Both brothers are returning home winners. Jeremiah Powless defeated 30

contestants in the free throw competition, and John Powless won the 3-point throw competition.

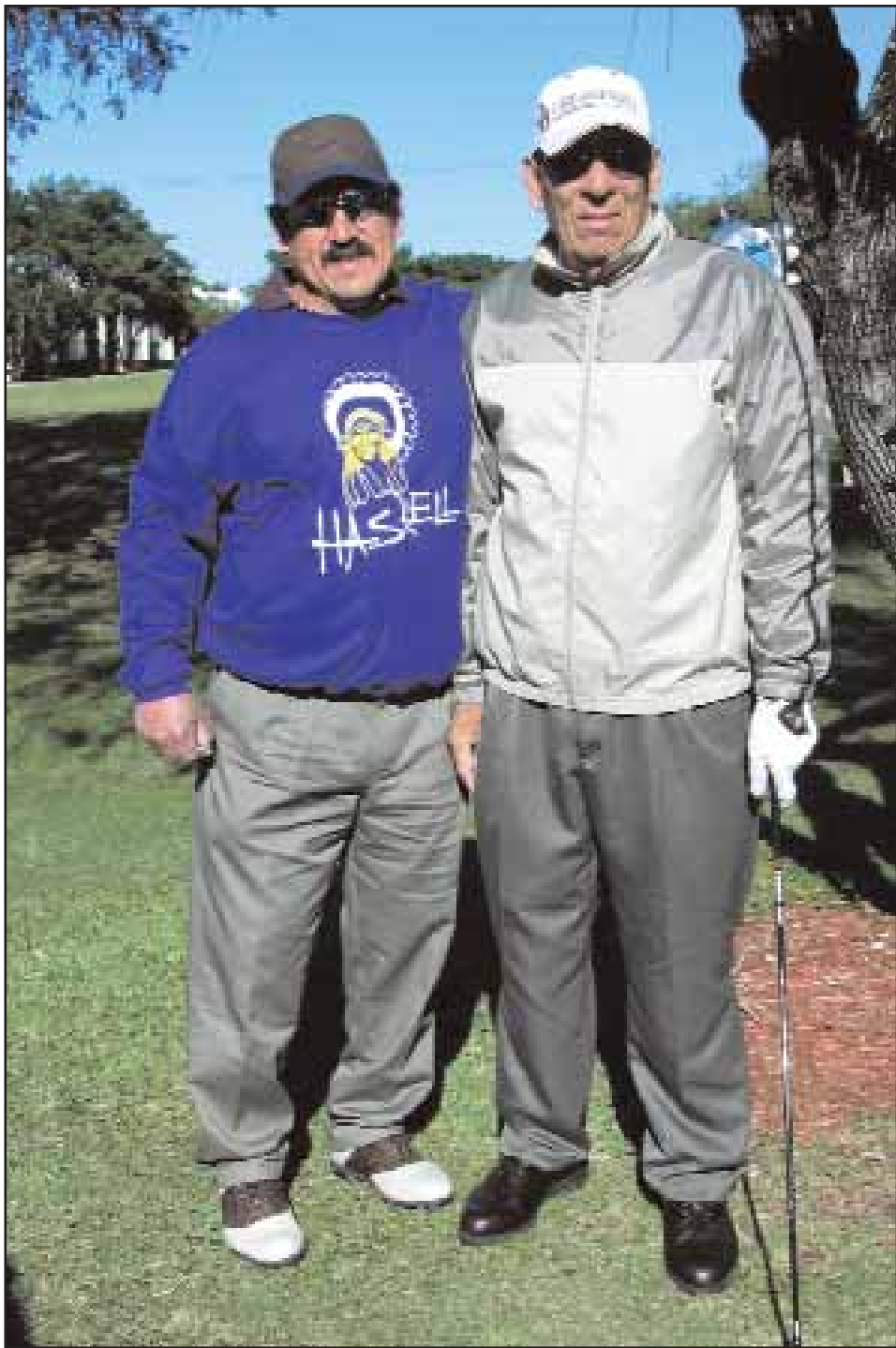
At the games, the Hollywood Urban Legends held on to the championship title, winning first place for the best 2-out-of-3 games against Big Cypress Legends. Urban Legends received honorary jackets for best all around basketball team.

Winning teams received jackets, sweat-shirts, tote bags and a cash prize.

A big thanks to Vivian Delgado for cooking, Francine Frank for hosting the games. Special thanks to Council Representative Max Osceola: for sponsoring the 7th Annual Marie Billie Memorial Basketball Tournament.

**Winning Results:**  
Men's Legends Division - 1st Place Urban Legends, 2nd Place B.C. Legends. Women's Legends

Division - 1st Place Miccosukee Women 2nd Place Virginia's Team. Men's Junior Division - 1st Place Canes, 2nd Place Mississippi Pims, 3rd Place South Central. Women's Junior Division - 1st Place Lady Seminole 2nd Place Miccosukee Ladies



Paula Cassels

“Big Shot” and “Kino King” tee up for the Net Skins.

Max's Christmas Skins Golf Tournament 2003

**By Paula Cassels**  
**WESTON, FL** — On Dec. 20, tribal members and tribal employees teed

off on Bonaventure's west golf course in the early morning, with weather temperatures as low as 49 degrees.

The tournament featured Nets Skins for men, women and senior, and men and womens divisions.

Participants brought unwrapped toys for boys and girls to cover the golf tournament's entry fee.

Earlier that morning Hollywood's Family Services employee Tina Mennella stopped by Bonaventure to collect the toys. The toys were wrapped and then delivered to twenty-eight foster children living on the Hollywood Reservation.

"Along with the toys, one half of the Net Skins Golf Tournament prizes money is donated to Family Services," Hollywood Recreation Assistant Director Bo Young said.

"This tournament is all about the children," Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola said "[And] donating Christmas toys to the foster children's families."

After the game, attendees met back at Bonaventure's restaurant and enjoyed fun, fellowship, prizes, and a chicken and ribs barbecue lunch.

Special thanks to Max Osceola for sponsoring the Christmas Skins 2003 Golf Tournament.



Paula Cassels

Max Osceola, Council Representative.

2nd Annual Oscar B. Johns Memorial Pool Tournament

The 2nd Annual Oscar B. Johns Memorial Pool Tournament is slated for Sat. Jan. 26 at the Brighton Recreation Gym. Sign up is between 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Starting time begins at 10:30

a.m. This event is for all Seminole tribal citizens.

If you need any information, please contact the Brighton Recreation department at (863) 763-3866.

4th Annual Council vs. Board at the John Jimmy Arena

**IMMOKALEE** — The 4th Annual Council vs. Board will take place at the John Jimmy Arena in Immokalee on Saturday, Jan. 24. It is open to all tribal members, their spouses and children, tribal employees and tribal affiliates. Admission is free for the rodeo at 6:00 p.m. and includes a free barbecue at 4:00 p.m. All events will be open to both males and females.

Events include: Mutton busting - 6 years and under, Calf riding - 7 years - 10 years, Junior bull riding - 11 - 16 years, Senior bull riding - 17 and older, Barrel racing - 10 and under, Barrel racing - 11 to 16 years, Barrel racing - 17 and older, Calf scramble: contestants must use rope youth, Goat

team roping: contestants may use youth ropes only, Team penning - 2 man teams Ribbon roping - team of 2 males or females Wild cow milking - team of 2 team, Rope and brand - team of 3 with 1 or 2 girls, Trailer race - 3 person team, Money the hard way - 17 and older.

Buckles will go to the first place winner in all events. The traveling trophy will be displayed at host tribal office for 1 year. Added money per event.

For more information, please call Moses Jumper at (863) 983-9234, Paul Bowers at (863) 447-0020, or the Immokalee Field Office at (941) 657-6567.

Jerry Micco Sr. Memorial Ride I

**By Tribune Staff Writer**  
**FT. LAUDERDALE, FL** — On Oct. 25, 31 motorcycles and 10 cars lined up for a memorial ride honoring the late Jerry Micco Sr. Motorcycles came from Hollywood, Big Cypress, Brighton, Immokalee, Tamiami Trail, Kendall, and Naples.

Jerry Micco lived on the Big Cypress reservation, and was a member of the Otter Clan. Two years ago he passed away due to health problems, and this year his oldest son, Vincent Micco, decided to honor his father's memory with this first memorial ride.

Vincent Micco said a prayer and

then the bikers left Everglades Holiday Park at 9:00a.m. and headed for their first stop in South Bay. From there, they traveled to Okeechobee, followed by a stop at the Brighton reservation, passing by where Jerry Micco use to live.

The riders then went to Ortona Cemetery where Chairman Mitchell Cypress placed a wreath that read "In loving memory of Jerry Micco Sr." on his grave.

Cypress said Jerry Micco was like a brother to him and that the memorial ride was a respectful tribute. Vincent Micco expressed his appreciation to everyone who participated in doing the ride in memory of his dad, saying it meant a lot to his family. He ended the ceremony with a prayer.

The riders then headed for their last stop on the Brighton reservation where they enjoyed a cookout and some entertainment. The weather was beautiful that day, and everyone said they had a good time.

Special thanks to Mitchell Cypress for his hospitality, and to all others who helped make this ride a memorable one.



Convoy of motorcycles cruising along the Tamiami Trail.

Third Annual Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament

**By Libby Blake**  
**BRIGHTON** — Alice and James “Buddy” Sweat hosted the Third Annual Holiday Cheer Pool Tournament on Saturday Dec. 20. The Brighton Recreation department, Chairman Mitchell Cypress, and Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress sponsored the event, and Sonny's Bar-BQ provided the chicken, ribs, cole slaw, and baked beans.

Contestants played in 8-Ball tournaments for men, women, and children. There was also an adult scotch doubles event. Only tribal citizens and their legal spouses could participate in the events. Due to a shortage of women, tribal employees were allowed to play in the scotch doubles.

Results of all events were as follows: Girls 6 – 11 years: 1st place – Rosa Urbina, 2nd place – Stevie Brantley, 3rd place – Taylor, 4th place – Brianna

Nunez, 5th place – Cheyenne Nunez. Girls 12 – 17 years: 1st place – Jewel Buck, 2nd place – Courtney Nunez.

Boys 6 – 11 years: 1st place – Nathan Gopher, 2nd place – Marshall Tommie, 3rd place – Trent Osceola, 4th place – Jonathan Boromei, 5th place – Joshua Trent, 6th place – Daniel Nunez, Jr. Boys 12 – 17 years: 1st place – Pierson Hunsinger, 2nd place – Cordell Jumper, 3rd place – Cordey Jumper.

Men 18 – 49 years: 1st place – Nick Tiger, 2nd place – Jack Billie, 3rd place – Jessie Urbina, 4th place – Tony Lee Osceola, 5th place – Weems Buck. Men 50 years and older: 1st place – Joe Jr. Billie, 2nd place – David Cypress, 3rd place – Russell Osceola, 4th place – James Sweat, 5th place – Truman Bowers.

Women 18 – 49 years: 1st place – Peggy Nunez, 2nd place – Theresa Nunez Boromei, 3rd place – Miranda Tommie, 4th place – Linda Tommie, 5th

place – Crystal Smith. Women 50 + years: 1st place – (split) Linda Billie and Juanita Osceola, 3rd place – Rosie Billie, 4th place – Alice Sweat, 5th place – Esther Buster.

Scotch Doubles: 1st place – Joe Jr. Billie/Linda Billie, 2nd place – David Cypress/ Theresa Nunez Boromei, 3rd place – Sammy Gopher/Rosie Billie, 4th place – Daniel “Boogie” Nunez/Peggy Nunez, 5th place – Skeeter Bowers/Libby Blake.

An open 9-ball tournament followed with the winners below:

Men: 1st place – Corey Penrod, 2nd place – Glen Olsen, 3rd place – Jack Billie, 4th place – David Cypress, 5th place – Joe Chandler.

Women: 1st place – Ellen Van Buren, 2nd place – Miranda Tommie, 3rd place – Linda Tommie, 4th place – Shannon Gopher, 5th place – Alice Sweat.

12th Anniversary Home Depot BCAHPED Scholarship Run/Walk Family Fitness Event

This 12th Anniversary event is designed for the whole family with great sponsors, live music, fabulous food, and vast amounts of door prizes, along with an expertise management team. The Sun Sentinel rated this race the top race of 2001 along with best Race Director, Janet Parke.

Participants can sign up for a variety of events: **USATF 10-K Run/Walk, 12-Mile Training Run/Walk, USATF 5K Run/Walk, 5K Racewalk, 1-Mile Fitness Walk, Kids Depot Dashes, and Elementary & Middle School Mile.**

A Fitness Expo will be held in conjunction with the event. Proceeds will benefit BCAHPED by providing scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

The event takes place on Jan. 18 (7:30 a.m.) at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, (NW

Broward County) just off the Sawgrass Expressway.

Location: Pine Island Road (Coral Springs Drive) & Holmberg Rd (Do not use Holmberg Rd. to access the school.)

You may pre-register on-line Jan. 16 and in person on Jan 17. Fees are: 1 OK, 5K or 12 Mile Run and Walk (pre-registration thru Jan 17 is \$10.00). Race Day is \$15.00.

Kids Dashes, Mile Runs and Mile Family Fitness Walk pre-registration is \$3.00 (No Shirt) or \$8.00 (With shirt) Race Day is \$5.00 (No Shirt) and \$10.00 (With Shirt)

For more information call (954) 771-1060 or <http://csprrc.com/links.htm>. Register on-line at <http://active.com/event>.





Happy Birthday



**Dear Vicky,**  
I would like to take this time to wish you, my Little Sweetheart, a Happy Birthday!  
Also, I want you to know that I love you and miss you. Once again as a little reminder, that it's not so much as being surrounded by many so call friends, but it's knowing who you are in Jesus Christ.  
So when that feeling of loneliness start to set in your mind during these very special times of events, just turn to the Lord and say, Lord, thank you for all these years which you've blessed me with as well as being with me, in Jesus' name.  
Though I am a little late with this, I remembered you in my prayers on your very Birthday as I do everyday.  
**Your Dad,**  
**Coleman Josh**



**Happy 6th Birthday (Jan. 12) to Miss Denise Emanuell Osceola.**  
You're a beautiful young lady; be good and have fun.  
Love you lots,  
**Egoosh and the Otter Gang**



**Happy 22nd Birthday (Jan. 12) to Candice Sharon Osceola.**  
We think of you and miss you every day. We love you very much . . . to infinity!  
**Love Mom, Carla-Jo, and Brandon**



**Happy Birthday Peggy**  
To the world's greatest grandma, mom, great-grandma, and egoosh. You're the best. We love you very much forever, **The whole Otter Gang and all your kids in Trail.**

**Happy Birthday to Greg Jumper**  
God has blessed me with a wonderful son who is a loving, kind, and awesome young man. I am so glad you are growing up. Be careful and always take care of yourself.  
I love you and miss you,  
**Mom**

**Happy Birthday (Jan. 15) to our aunt and cousin, Marcella "Nook" Billie.** Have fun and keep up the good work with the kids!  
Love you,  
**Doris and the Otter Gang**

**Happy Birthday to my sisters Marcia Cypress on Jan. 27 and Devon Cypress on Jan. 15 from Doreen, Akol, Akira and Asiana.**

Thinking of You

To the families  
I feel like I've been gone forever. Every time I read my tribal paper, I read of someone passing to the next world: Cindy Osceola, Laura Mae Osceola, Hot Dogg, Solomon Cypress, Roger Jumper, William Jumper, Jeffrey Storm, and Michelle Cypress. There's so many of

you.  
You guys have made it to that place we were told about growing up. We are stuck in this sinful world, but when our time is up, we'll be reunited with you guys and my Mom and Dad, who I miss so much. There's not a day that goes by that I don't think about you.

To the families of those who passed on, you are all in my heart and prayers. Rosetta, I love you!  
  
Forever in my heart,  
Cynthia Osceola

Poems

I've Been Lookin

*The days past torment  
Into my soul  
I search for reasoning  
It makes no sense  
Confused alone  
Crying for the ones  
Which cry no more  
Nor can hear my pleas  
I speak to the night*

*Whispers – hushed tones  
Just a sign  
Where are you guys  
My brothers  
Where did you all go  
When I wasn't looking  
I stand alone  
Surrounded  
– Thomas Storm Sr.*

Captured By Love

*Captured by love is,  
Looking at you a thousand times  
And each time is like  
The very first time I saw you  
You took me in  
It was warm  
We watched TV  
I didn't want to leave  
Each time since I wanted  
To always be there for you  
We had a baby  
I knew then we'd know  
Each other eternally  
We had another  
I could not have been happier  
Your kiss was warm  
It touched me deep inside  
Your kiss was warm & tender  
Your skin so smooth*

*I never wanted another  
I was overcome with your beauty  
Beauty I thought existed  
Only in storybooks  
I now know that such things... exist  
Till death do us part  
Never hit me as does now  
Captured by love is my only description  
My heart cries out for you  
I know if I whisper on  
The night's wind  
That you will hear me  
This feeling its real  
This is what I will do anything to keep  
I'm captured by love*

One love,  
– Thomas Storm Sr.

Feeling Free

*I've often contemplated  
Feelings sensual and erotic  
It is known to cross  
Many barriers  
The actions are not  
Limited to behind  
Closed doors  
Eating, exercise, swimming  
Or having an exotic drink  
In a far away place  
Even just taking a drive  
In the country  
The excitement of  
Reaching a destination*

*What we know of it  
That sheets with the most  
Beautiful woman  
Time and again - touch  
Feel, kiss, caress  
To lightly breathe  
The nape of her neck  
The experience that shiver  
Which comes from deep  
Within her  
Just these thoughts  
Put to paper  
This to, far goes behind closed doors  
-Thomas Storm Sr.*

Love Is...

*Untouchable, indescribable  
The speak it in the shadowed  
Hushed places private  
May slightly  
Touch its edges  
When overcome with it  
Deep in the pit of  
Our very being  
You know, feel,  
And can not speak or breathe it  
Your heart just  
Wants to jump  
Telling the whole world  
That you are in it*

*But words - do not come forth  
If a dream is real for  
As long as it lasts  
Then too loves moment  
Is in fact eternal  
It is this light which can never  
Be extinguished  
It is what we grasp for  
And hold with both hands  
In a vise like grip..., life  
It is this very thing...inside us  
Called – love  
– Thomas Storm Sr.*

Night of the Heavyweights

**Warrior's Boxing Promotions, Inc., in association with the Seminole Coconut Creek Casino, will offer live professional boxing on Sat., Jan. 17 in Coconut Creek, FL.**

Former two-time Heavyweight champion Michael Moorer continues his quest to recapture the title, while Elieser Castillo defends his NABF Heavyweight title.

Two other championship fights on tap include Jermell Barnes vs. Ramon Garbey for the NABO Cruiserweight Championship. Hard-hitting Super

Middleweight Tito Mendoza takes on Ettianne Whitaker for the WBC Latin American Championship Cruiserweight Championship.

The Seminole Coconut Creek Casino is located at 5550 NW 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Coconut Creek, FL 33073. Doors open 5:30 p.m. (Eastern). First fight is at 6:30 p.m.

**TICKETS:** \$30 General Admission, \$100, \$125 and \$150 Ringside Reserved. On sale Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by calling 1-877-50FIGHT.

Warrior's Boxing wins NABA award in inaugural year!

Warrior's Boxing Promotions, one of the sport's most active promoters, has been named North American Boxing Association Promoter of the year for 2003.

Currently, Warrior's Boxing Promotions has four NABA champions, including heavyweight contender Lance Whitaker (27-2-1, 22 KOs), hard-hitting featherweight Whyber Garcia (13-1, 10 KOs), slick southpaw and super bantamweight prospect Celestino Caballero (19-1, 14 KOs) plus flyweight sensation Angel Priolo (29-1, 20 KOs).

George Martinez, President of the NABA observed, "It is not common

for a promoter in its first year to receive such an honor. However, the NABA is very impressed with the quality of the fights that took place in 2003 as well as the overall organization of Warrior's Boxing Promotions."

Jessie Robinson, Executive Director of Warrior's Boxing Promotions told FightNews, "We are extremely honored to be the NABA promoter of the year. Last year was a fantastic beginning for Warrior's Boxing Promotions. We look forward to a very aggressive schedule in 2004, which includes a minimum of 12 shows. As our stable of fighters continues to grow, we will be very active."

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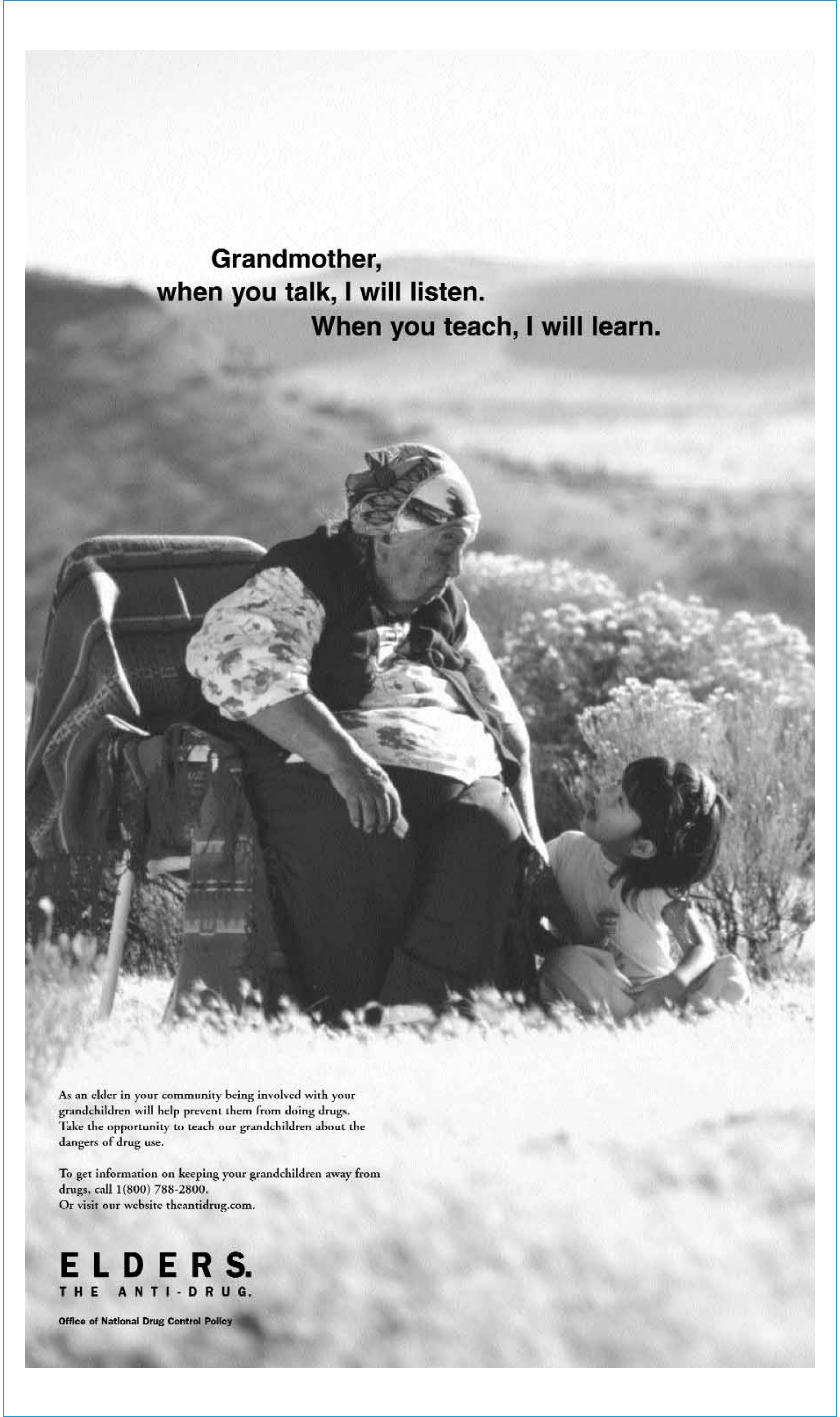
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# Tampa Community Welcomes New Year

By Randi M. Simmons

TAMPA — Community tribal citizens and their families celebrated New Year's Eve by gathering together for a late evening buffet style dinner, fun, entertainment and fireworks along the beach.

Held at the Bahia Beach Resort on Tampa Bay, it was a stunning sight to see the boats, decorat-

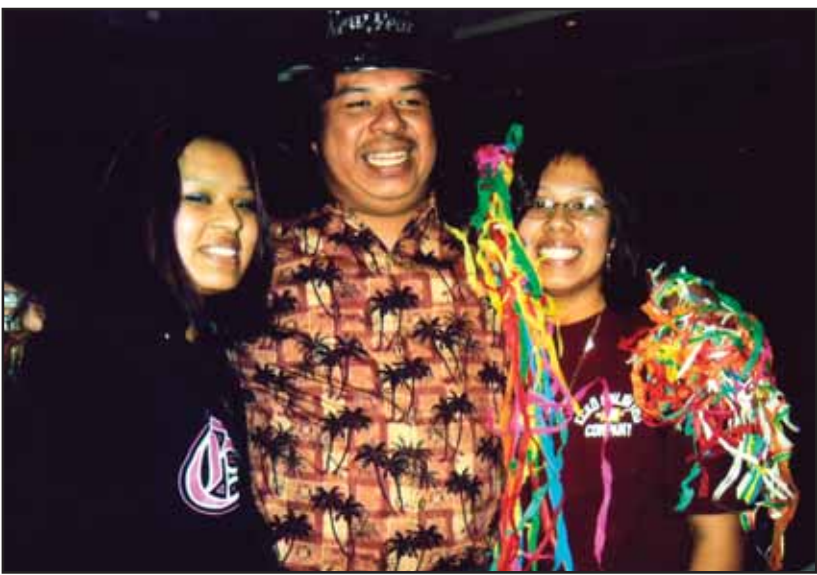
ing, if the DJ hadn't reclaimed his hoop.

An atypical version of musical chairs with a twist was a big hit for the kids. When the DJ stopped the music, he announced a specific item like a penny or a twig, and the children had to scramble to try and find it before they could come back and vie for one of the chairs. When they were off and searching, the DJ would remove one or two of the seats to make it more challenging.

Everyone played a variety of party games until an announcement was made saying there would be a doorprize drawing for the adults. Everyone went home a winner that evening with one or two door prizes. Penny Jimmie, Liaisons Secretary, did the doorprize selection for the ladies, and people won gifts such as lotions, purses, fancy glassware, and candles. Tampa Liaison Richard Henry and his crew selected items for the men including sporting goods, tools, and more.

As the minutes drew closer to midnight, eyes fixated on the big screen TV which had been brought in so everyone could watch the count down in New York City's Times Square. As 2004 arrived, another door

prize drawing took place for the adults. This was doubly exciting for tribal citizen Linda Lee Storm because she had the winning ticket waving in her hand.



Colleen O. Henry

Linda Jane, Jerry Henry and Alana Henry ringing in the new year.

ed with an assortment of twinkling holiday lights up and down the marina docks.

The Royal Palm Room, the club's dining room had elegantly decorated set tables complete with burgundy and snow white linen adorning the tables. Between the crystal water glasses were assorted party top-hats and glittery tiaras. Bobby Henry offered a special prayer of blessings and thanks.

When the buffet line slowed down and wait staff began to clear the plates, people made their way to the dance floor. Disc jockey Jacob had a whole lineup of game show-type contests who wanted to participate for some party prizes. The spectators seemed to enjoy the games as much as the players themselves did.

They played several rounds of trivia games in which contestants had to hit a big buzzer first and answer questions for points. Winners would receive little flashing lights on a small magnet. They hung them from their ears like earrings, and also from around their hair and clothes. Then they ran around on the dance floor like little glowing fireflies.

Phaydra Clark, daughter of Debbie Henry from Tampa's Recreation Department, surprised quite a few onlookers when she did an exceptional job of swiveling a hula hoop around her waist for the longest amount of time. She won that contest by a large margin and received a lot of applause. She might even still have been there the next day swivel-



Colleen O. Henry

Connie Osceola and son, Brian Osceola.

The New Year finally arrived. Everyone in the room gave thanks that they were around to be with their family and friends, and made their way out to see the colorful fireworks above the Tampa Bay beach. Happy New Year to All.



Mitchell Cypress and Henry John Billie enjoying the Christmas celebration.

## Big Cypress Seniors Celebrate Christmas

By Libby Blake

BIG CYPRESS — More than 60 seniors turned out in their winter finery to celebrate Christmas on Thursday Dec. 18. The day was full of fellowship, friendship, prizes, gifts, and a visit from Santa Claus.

The seniors started gathering at 10 a.m. and were served sofkee and sweet rolls while they played bingo for prizes. The Paul "Cowbone" Buster band provided the musical entertainment.

After a blessing from Pastor Salah Hummingbird, the seniors dined on a fine meal of beef brisket and barbeque chicken with all the trimmings.

All the seniors were then invited to get their picture taken with Santa, and he and Mrs. Claus distributed presents. Chairman Mitchell Cypress gave each senior a gift bag, which included a copy of Patsy West's latest book titled, "The Seminole and Miccosukee Tribes of Southern Florida: Images of America."

A pool tournament followed. Sammy

Gopher took first place honors for the men. Second to fifth place went to Joe Jr. Billie, Leroy "Keeno" King, Dan Bowers, and David Jumper, respectively.

Annie Jumper came from the losers bracket to place first among the women participants. Second to fifth place were Louise Billie, Rosie Billie, Ruby Osceola, and Virginia Tommie, respectively.



Big Cypress seniors and their loved ones celebrating Christmas together.

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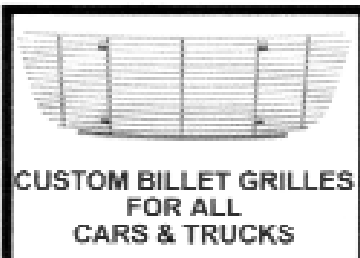
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BRAD PENNY, AJ BURNETT & MANY MORE DID!

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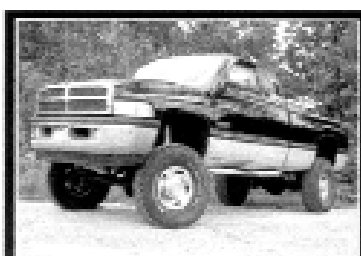
TOOL BOXES



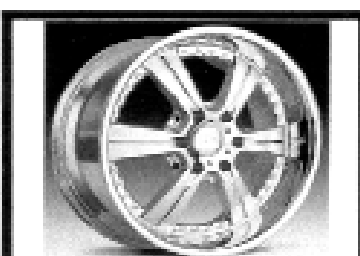
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Paula Cassels

Clothing contest participants line up for the judges.

## John and Louise Billie's Annual Christmas Party

By Paula Cassels

**BIG CYPRESS** — On Dec. 21, John and Louise Billie and family hosted a Christmas celebration at their home on the Big Cypress Reservation. Friends relaxed and enjoyed a warm, early-morning breakfast, but soon things would get competitive.

The celebration featured one of the largest horseshoe tournaments in Big Cypress. The competi-

tion started at noon and continued into the night. Floodlights were even set up for the championship games. Winners of the women's horseshoe competition were: Myra Jumper, Jennie Billie and Betty Osceola. Winning men's division Ronnie Billie and Kenny Tommie tied for first place.

While the horseshoe tournament continued tribal citizens Teresa Husher and Richard Osceola entertained guests, singing country and western songs on the karaoke machine.

Later that afternoon, freinds of Ronnie Billie from The Clewiston Band came and entertained attendees with an assortment of Christmas tunes including Jose Feliciano's classic, "I want to wish you a Merry Christmas", some Rolling Stones tunes, and more.

In the late afternoon, attendees dined on a huge buffet dinner, followed by a cash and gift drawing. During the gift drawing, a traditional clothing contest took place, featuring contests for the best fancy jackets, fancy skirts, men's vests, and young girl's dresses.

A big thanks and a Merry Christmas to John and Louise Billie for presenting the Annual Christmas Party, horseshoe tournament, clothing contest and gift giveaway. Special thanks to Mitchell Cypress for sponsoring the holiday celebration.

Tribal citizens enjoyed sharing Christmas cheer, fellowship, and a lot of fun.



Paula Cassels

John and Louise Billie at their home in Big Cypress.

## Hollywood Community Celebrates Christmas

By Alexandra Frank

**HOLLYWOOD** — The Hollywood Seniors sure know how to have a good time and they proved it during the Seniors Christmas Party held at the Hollywood Senior Center on Dec. 19. The event got started off with Christmas songs and church hymns sung by The Masters Touch.

The group from Oklahama kept the seniors entertained while they ate a buffet style lunch. A Hawaiian Island dance troupe also performed various dances for the seniors. The troupe danced to traditional South Seas music and even danced to modern music, including Elvis Presley's "Blue Hawaii" and other Christmas themed music.

The seniors enjoyed gift cards from the Hollywood representatives as well as each others company during the hectic holiday season.

The entire Hollywood community also enjoyed a dinner at the Hollywood gymnasium on Dec. 18. At the dinner, they enjoyed a special treat when Paul Buster and the Cow Bone Band performed Christmas music. The Cat in the Hat made a special appearance for the children, and of course, to hand Christmas bonuses to all Hollywood tribal residents.

There were door prizes and a special drawing for a Christmas gift that will be given out in Jan. to six lucky individuals who will soon be much richer! Here's to a Happy New Year. May it be prosperous for one and all.



Alexandra Frank

Hawaiian Island dance troupe entertaining tribal residents.



Alexandra Frank

The Cat and the Hat came to play at the Hollywood Gym.

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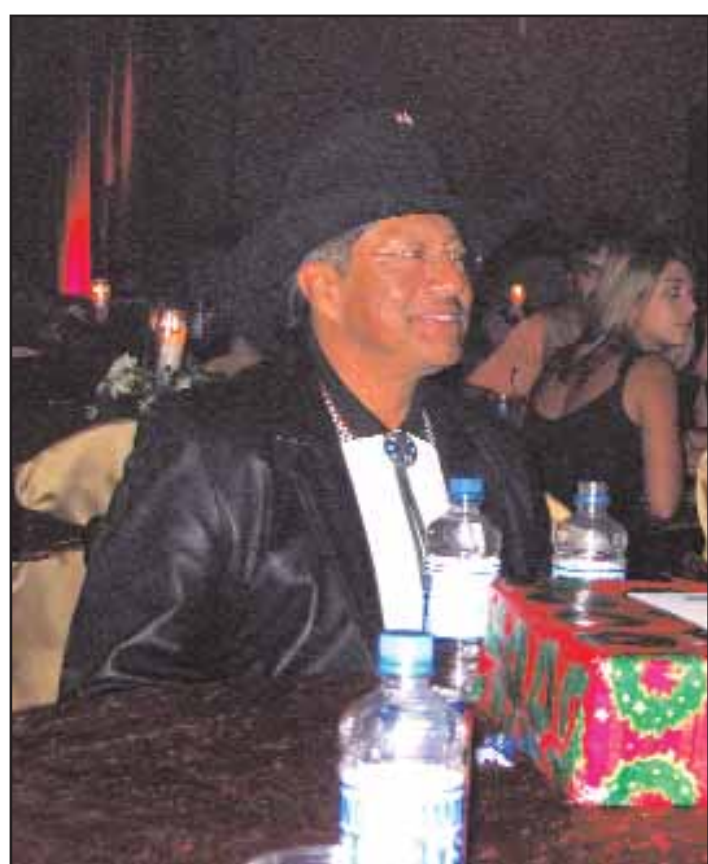


# Seminole Tribe Celebrates with Christmas Party



**By Michael Kelly**  
**FT. LAUDERDALE, FL** — On Friday Dec. 12, tribal citizens from every reservation enjoyed a huge Christmas celebration, complete with a children's choir, activities for every age group, and featured recording artist "Boyz II Men."  
Held at the Broward County Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale, there were so many people in attendance that an extra dozen-plus tables had to be set up.  
In the Santa's Workshop area, young children enjoyed face painting, balloons, and of course, Santa Claus himself. Two children asked Santa for a pony, while a young girl wanted the "Lilo and Stitch" movie . . . on DVD.  
Club Seminole offered teens a party atmosphere, complete with a DJ spinning the hottest rap and hip-hop music. In the lobby area, families or couples could get professional photos taken.  
Many people, young and old, enjoyed the opportunity to dress up for the occasion. 15-year-old James Tiger looked

dapper in his Seminole jacket. Younger children wore red and white outfits. Some parents just relaxed and watched their children laugh and sing Christmas songs.  
Ft. Pierce Liaison Sally Tommie and Naples Liaison O.B. Osceola did a wonderful job emceeing the festive occasion. Throughout the evening, tribal citizens and employees registered for dozens of raffles. Audience members waited eagerly as the two pulled raffle tickets from a bowl.  
Chairman Mitchell Cypress even won a raffle, but returned it to give someone else a chance. The top prize of the evening was a 42 inch Plasma television.  
Chairman Cypress and President Moses Osceola, along with other tribal representatives, expressed their warm holiday wishes to everyone in attendance and hoped that everyone would be with family and friends and be safe.  
For everyone to start the holiday season. Merry Christmas.



50% off all Christmas Giftware

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This was the first year the preschool kids



**One preschooler molds snow into a perfect ball, no doubt to throw at an unsuspecting victim.**

had a Snow Day, and believe me, they greatly appreciated it.

No one will forget Snow Day any time soon. Many thanks go out to Glynnis Bowers for helping locate a snow making company from Miami, and to David Cypress for helping make Snow Day possible.



## Preschoolers frolicking in the snow - a rare treat for Floridians.

The classes are available from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Monday through Thursday. For more information, please contact the Employment Assistance and Training department at (954) 989-6840, prompt 5.

FREE PSAT PRACTICE TEST - Jan. 24  
(10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.), Jan. 29 (5:30 p.m. to 8:30  
p.m.)

Later Tommie earned two degrees in air-conditioning, one from the North Technical Education



**O'Hara "Chino" Tommie, a welcomed addition to the Hollywood Preschool's staff.**

O'Hara "Chino" Tommie would like to say thanks to the Hollywood Education department and a special thanks to Leona Tommie and the rest of the preschool staff for their continued support.

**Talk together:**

Teaching is a mixture of failures and successes. Your child will learn to accept success and failure by observing how you respond to your own successes and failures. Remaining positive when meeting challenges teaches appropriate coping skills for learning life.

**ON SELECT MODELS  
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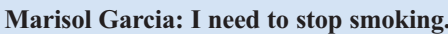


Here are some ideas from Family Services Department. Which ones will work for you?

Appreciate what I have every day.  
 See more movies.  
 Pray daily.  
 Keep a journal.  
 Identify the 10 happiest moments in my life.  
 Elicit honest feedback from my co-workers.  
 Take stock of my life and where I'm going.  
 Write down what I've learned from setbacks.  
 Get my GED and apply to college.  
 Get along better with others.  
 Eat dinner at my parents' once a week.  
 Reestablish communication with my father.  
 Make more friends.  
 Never sweat the small stuff.  
 Prioritize building a relationship.  
 Find the humor in adversity.  
 Seize the day.  
 Spend more time with children and the elderly.  
 Laugh more.  
 Reduce stress in my life.  
 Make time to listen to music.  
 Like who I am.  
 Instill self-worth in my children.



Teach my kids to resist peer pressure.  
Be myself, and not who somebody else wants  
me to be.  
Project an image of confidence.  
Become comfortable making decisions on my  
own.  
Learn CPR.  
Travel across country.  
Take my daughter horseback riding.  
Watch the sunset.  
Remember to enjoy what I have.  
Ride a roller coaster once a year until I'm 65.  
Take pleasure in life's simple things.  
Apologize.  
Never lie.  
Help complete strangers when they need it.  
Remain humble and forever teachable.  
Find my limits, and then go beyond them.  
Try things even though I might not succeed.  
Go bungee jumping.  
Write down my doubts.  
Set four short term goals for this month.  
Discover my hidden dreams  
and turn them into goals.  
Start taking ballet lessons.  
Identify my biggest dream,  
and take it by the horns.



# Hollywood Family Services



**HOLLYWOOD** — The Hollywood Family Services Department welcomed the New Year by setting up a booth at the Jan. 5 dividend day. The booth theme was how individuals can make healthy goals for the new year.

Tribal citizens were encouraged to write down their resolutions or to talk with a counselor at the booth on how to come up with healthy goals. Counselors were also available to answer any questions about the services provided by the

Family Services Department. Many tribal citizens participated in the activity and sampled some healthy fruit bars.

Each month, Family Services will set up a booth with a different theme about prevention and community education. The staff is looking forward to seeing more community members each month at their booth.

Stop by next month for some information or enjoy a snack with the Family Services staff.



The Big Cypress Family Services Department dividend day display was a huge success. The presentation was a fun and rewarding learning experience for our staff and community. It was great everyone back from the holiday break and ready to take on the New Year our topic was fitting.

The community response was warm and welcoming of our top 12 New Year's Resolutions: *Compliment more Criticize less, Drink more water and less of other things, Stop smoking or quit, Do something nice for yourself everyday, Eat*

*less sweets and more fruits and vegetables, Watch less TV and exercise more, Get rid of stress, Make new Friends, Spend more time with family, Clean house, Spend less money, and Be open-minded.*

Noella O'Donnell started the ball rolling by posting flyers (made by Marisa Garcia) depicting the top 12 resolutions for 2004. Our family service in-house artist, Linda Fleischman, painted each person's resolution onto T-shirts provided by Family Services Department.

**SEMINOLE RESERVATIONS** — This year, the Family Services Department came up with its own New Years resolution by setting up a booth on dividend day to connect with the community.

You may have seen our booth on Jan. 5 where you could make a New Years resolution, learn about setting goals, or just get more information about the services we provide.

Each month on Dividend Day, Family Services will have a booth geared toward prevention and community education. The Family Services staff looks forward to seeing more community members at their booth each month.

Stop by next month for some information or just a visit with the Family Services staff.

**TAMPA** — The Tampa Family Services Department welcomed tribal citizens into the New Year by disseminating and discussing several useful tips for staying on track with New Year's resolutions.

Some specific keys for success include being realistic, setting specific goals, and sticking with them! Other tips include, partnering with a friend or family member with

similar goals, and avoiding situations that may tempt you to break your resolution.

Although following our New Year's resolutions may be difficult at times, these tips offer a sensible approach to making personal changes happen in 2004.

Good luck with your individual resolutions and have a happy and safe New Year.

Tom – Tampa FSD.

**Counselor Kay Begin, Site Supervisor Tony Bullington and Counselor Harold Baxley.**

**BRIGHTON** — The Family Services Department at Brighton kicked off the New Year by having a resource table available for community members during dividend day.

The staff set up the table in the parking lot of the field office, and provided cold drinks and hand-outs for those who came by for a visit. The theme for this month was “7 Tips for Staying on Track with

The staff provided a hand-out with detailed information about seven tips for keeping resolutions and being successful in the New Year. Tony Bullington, Site Supervisor was also pleased to introduce Kay Begin, a new counselor to the community members. Harold Baxley was also available to meet and serve the community members.

Billie Napper and Laura Heritier of the Immokalee's Family Services Department offered tips and strategies for making those dreaded New Year's resolutions at dividend day.

They didn't have much room for a booth, but instead they put up a table outside in the beautiful weather. Many tribal citizens expressed interest in the handouts, and there were also some humorous remarks about making resolutions

and keeping them (or not!). About 50 tribal citizens drank soft drinks and bottled water in the morning, while several others had drinks later in the day. It seems that almost half of us want to lose some weight this year. However, in Immokalee, the cookies, chocolates and candies were plentiful at the field office, and none of us could resist! Greetings from Billie & Laura and a happy new year to all!

Well here it is again, that special time of the year when many of us like to make what's called New Year's Resolutions.

You know the drill, quick smoking for three days only to start back, attempt to lose weight only to find yourself at an all-you-can-eat buffet the very next day, or how about my personal favorite – the plan to get out and exercise more accompanied by the buying of more work out equipment than can be found at Warriors Gym — only to become the number one couch potato of the year.

Sounds pretty dismal doesn't it? Well, if you're ready to give up on failure and start to realize some personal goals this year, here's a quick Top 10 List of things to keep in mind to help you succeed in 2004.


A personal goal is just that... personal. It's yours. Make your goals something you truly desire to accomplish for you, and not because someone else thinks you should.

Set specific goals – Have a step-by-step plan for how to achieve your goals.

Be realistic. Don't confuse reasonable with realistic. Reasonable

means it makes sense, realistic means it is likely to happen.

**Pace Yourself.** The number one reason why we often fail to meeting goals is because we try to do too much too soon. When we don't see immediate results or when the effort seems too difficult, we get discouraged and quit.



Think Success! When you believe in yourself from the start, the biggest battle is already won.

Write down your goals. Committing them to paper solidifies them and makes them more real. Also, place your written goals where you can see them often, which will help you remember what you want and need to be doing.

Record your successes/accomplishment in a journal. There's nothing more encouraging than seeing the actual results.

Be consistent. The number two reason we often fail is because we procrastinate. When changing habits or life styles, remember how much time went into developing that which you want to change. Realize that it takes 30 days for a change in behavior to become a habit, and six months for a habit to become a natural part of your personality.

Never give up! If you suffer a set back, it's not over. Failure comes when you



stop ... not when you stumble.  
Don't hesitate to ask for help when you need it.  
Happy New Year from the Family Services Department.