



Mother's Day
Cornelia Osceola with granddaughter
Cindi Adair.

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2005 Graduates
Billy Yates and numerous other Seminoles
walk across the stage

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Ahfachkee Field Days

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The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

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Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village Opens with Dual Celebrations



Iretta Tiger

Museum Director Tina Osceola and Chairman Mitchell Cypress cut the ribbons with special machetes.

By Iretta Tiger
HOLLYWOOD — It's no secret that Seminoles are proud of their culture. So much so that when the time came for the opening of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village the museum's Director Tina Osceola and the Manager Barbara Butera arranged for a private celebration for Seminole Tribal citizens. The Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum at Okalee Village in Seminole Paradise opened on May 17 with two celebrations on the same day. The first celebration, at 12 p.m., was for Tribal citizens only and the museum showered them with welcome gift bags. A new tradition started that day when Osceola, in lieu of scissors, had golden machetes specially made for the ribbon cutting. Tribal citizens stood awe-struck as they walked through the museum, especially when they saw the huge six-foot photographs hanging in the main hall; photographs of faces from long ago to the present.

❖ See MUSEUM, page 22

Special Council Meeting Held

By Iretta Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — A special council meeting was held on May 25. The first item on the agenda was tabled, and the next three resolutions were for the renewal of contracts for Chief Executive Officer of Seminole Gaming James Allen, Chief Financial Officer Brad Buchanan and Director of Gaming-Compliance & Regulations Edward Jenkins. All three were approved. Also approved was the last resolution of the meeting. The resolution allowed the Tribe to offer a deferred compensation plan in lieu of stock options for executive level gaming employees. Normally, stocks in the company are offered as a bonus to executive employees of the company. This is not possible for employees of a tribally owned

company. At the closing of the meeting Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress praised Allied Health Manager Suzanne Davis and the rest of the Health department staff for their efforts in removing junk food from the vending machines at the Big Cypress gymnasium. The sodas were replaced with juices, water and Gatorade®. Davis is also planning the same for the Hollywood and Brighton gymnasiums. "We also need help from the parents because our kids are getting too big," said Cypress. "Now we see younger children fighting diabetes and other health problems related to obesity. It's not right." The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 17 on the Big Cypress reservation.

Immokalee Looks to the Future

By Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — The turnout for Immokalee's Community Meeting and Dinner on April 20 was very impressive. The crowd had gathered to hear a proposal for a possible business venture and improvements on the reservation. Louise Motlow opened the meeting with the invocation followed by a buffet dinner. Then it was down to business. Rufus Tiger and Lois Alvarez, representing the Tribal Board on behalf of President Moses Osceola, supplied the subject of the meeting. The Board has been investigating the possibility of a Family Entertainment Center and has been researching their options with Brunswick. This corporation is not only the leading producer of bowling and billiard equipment, but the developer of state of the art entertainment complexes. Tiger said, "We want to show you what we have encountered and determine the following three things: Would you want this



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Paul Bowers, Cheryl Bolton, Elaine Aguilar, Benny Motlow and Lois Alvarez look over the plans.

in your community? What would you like to see in it? and Would you be interested in electronic bingo?" Executive Administrative Assistant to the President Lois Alvarez introduced Cheryl Ann Bolton, who had come to present

❖ See IMMOKALEE, page 18

Inauguration Day 2005



Iretta Tiger

Newly elected Brighton Councilman Andrew J. Bowers Jr., Big Cypress Councilman David Cypress, Tribal Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Hollywood Councilman Max B. Osceola Jr. Full coverage next issue, July 1, 2005.

Group Travels to Gathering of Nations

Story by Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — More than 20 members of the Immokalee community boarded airplanes with Native Americans from across the U.S. Their destination: the Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, N.M. This small group from Immokalee represented only a few of the Seminole Tribal citizens who participated in this annual event. In its 22nd year, the Gathering

of Nations originated in 1984 as a spring Pow-Wow at the University of Albuquerque. Two years later it moved to "The Pit" at the University of New Mexico. This arena was so named because it was built to resemble a Pueblo kiva, or underground ceremonial chamber. The Pow-Wow included more than 3,000 dancers and singers from 800 North American Tribes.

Performers showcased both Northern and Southern dance style. The expert judges for this awesome spectacle were Pawnee Tribal member George Shields and Randy Medicine Bear, Rosebud Sioux. Both are renowned and accomplished veteran dancers. Spectators at the two day event exceeded 150,000 people.

❖ See GATHERING, page 20

Monthly Tribal Council Meeting

By Iretta Tiger
TAMPA — On May 18, the Seminole Tribal Council held its May meeting at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Chairman Mitchell Cypress and the Council bid farewell to Councilman Roger Smith. This was Smith's last Council meeting. Smith thanked the Council. The first agenda to be addressed was the tabled item which remained tabled without further comment. Items on the consent agenda were in regards to homesite leases on the Brighton and B.C. reservations, business leases and business permits. All were passed in one vote. An interesting item on the regular agenda was for the Tribe to buy back homes

from Tribal members. The homes are on the reservations which cannot be sold to non-Tribal peoples and the homes will be reassigned to those Tribal citizens on Housing's waiting list. Utilities Director Susie Kippenberger gave an update on the 1995 conception plan for the Immokalee reservation. The plan is for further development of the reservation. Kippenberger also stated that the Utilities department has modernized the plan. The Council passed the resolution for Utilities to implement the updated version of the master plan. The next Council meeting will be on June 17 at the Big Cypress reservation.

Seminole Chosen for Rez Dog Calendar

By Susan Etxebarria
BRIGHTON — Keyah Osceola of Brighton, daughter of Sandy and Kevin Osceola, has been selected as one of the 12 models to be featured in the 2006 Rez Dog Swimsuit Calendar. All the models are chosen from Indian Country. This will be the first Seminole woman to be featured in the calendar produced by the Rez Dog Clothing Company of Norman, Okla. Osceola was picked from more than 100 applicants. "I was shocked," Osceola said. "I never thought something like this would happen. I always wanted to try modeling. It is nice to represent the Seminole Tribe. I hope it gets bigger from here."



Edy Aubourg

Keyah Osceola

The popular Native American clothing company was present at the 2004 Tribal Fair featuring their product lines when Mary DeHass, co-owner with her husband, Keith, spotted 18-year-old Osceola. She was impressed with the young woman's natural beauty and asked her to enter the contest. The 12 models chosen for the Rez Dog calendar are judged by a panel of 16 judges not only on physical appearance, but also on achievements, education and self-confidence. "There's something special about Keyah," said Mary DeHass in a phone interview. "She did a very professional job with her portfolio she submitted. I knew when I talked

❖ See CALENDAR, page 15



Can you guess who these three Seminole youngsters are?
Find out in the next issue of *The Seminole Tribune*, which comes out July 1.

Position Available: MICS Compliance Officer

Department: Finance
Location: Seminole Gaming Administration Office/Hollywood
Reports to: Vice President of Finance

Job Summary: Responsible to the vice president of finance, to ensure that the Seminole Tribe of Florida Casino operations are in total compliance with the Tribal rules and regulations, the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, including the Minimum Internal Control Standards (MICS), and all other Tribal and federal rules and regulations. The position requires an individual with a minimum of five years experience and who is familiar with all gaming activities, accounting, casino cage, count rooms and overall operations of the casino. They must be able to communicate with all levels of staff in a professional manner and must be able to

read and comprehend all Tribal and federal regulations. They must possess the appropriate writing skills and be able to promulgate these written procedures. In addition, they must have experience, knowledge and capability to observe, understand, note and communicate whether or not these regulations are being strictly adhered to. Employment Preference: The Tribal Council gives preference in all of its employment practices to Native Americans. First preference in hiring, training, promoting and in all other aspects of employment is given to members of the Seminole Tribe who meet the job requirements. Second preference is given to other members of federally recognized Native American Tribes who meet the job requirements. Please forward resumes to Jeanne.faccadio@seminolehardrock.com or fax (954) 894-7719, Attn: Jeanne Faccadio.

Attention Tribal Citizens

All **tribal citizens of The Seminole Tribe of Florida** who live **out of state** are eligible to receive a **free** subscription of *The Seminole Tribune*. Please fill out the information below and mail to:
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The Seminole Tribune

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

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The Supreme Court's Big Mistake

By Dr. Dean Chavers
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The Supreme Court has been a friend of Indians for a long time. The court defended Indian people against the depredations of the racist Andrew Jackson. It has upheld tribal sovereignty for more than 200 years, through hundreds of treaties and onslaughts of white settlers.

But recently it has begun to take another course. With the dominance of right wing people on the court, it has taken some decidedly anti-Indian, anti-sovereignty positions. There have been hunting rights cases, water cases, and jurisdictional cases in the past 20 years where Indians and Tribal sovereignty have clearly lost ground.

One of the most infamous of these is the recent case of Sherrill v. Oneida Nation, reported on March 29. The writer was a democrat, Ruth Bader Ginsburg; also the second woman to serve on the Supreme Court after Sandra Day O'Connor.

According to her biography, Ginsburg has been known for trying to pull liberals and conservatives together on issues. She has been known largely as a feminist and an advocate for women's rights. Bill Clinton appointed her to the court in 1993, so she has been on almost 12 years. She has been on so long that she is now apparently a member of the old boys club, which is a bad thing for Indians. The court is now dominated by conservatives.

The case involved the Oneida Nation of New York buying back in 1997 and 1998 some of the land it had sold two centuries ago. The Tribe started some businesses on the land, then refused to pay taxes to the city of Sherrill, N.Y., where the lands are located. The court said the lands had been lost to the Tribe as of 1805, when it deemed them to a Tribal member. That Tribal member then sold them to a non-Indian in 1807, thus breaking Tribal ownership of the lands.

The case clearly narrates the ways the Tribe lost its lands in New York. After signing a treaty in 1788 giving up their lands in New York, the Tribe was left with 300,000 acres for a reservation. The Tribe gave up six million acres.

Two years later, congress passed the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act, forbidding any sales of Tribal land without the approval of the federal government. Instead of following its law, however, the federal government followed a practice of removing Indians from their lands and forcefully taking them to Oklahoma and other places in the west.

"By 1920," the decision states, "the New York Oneidas retained only 32 acres in the state."

Most of the Oneidas left the state. Only a handful continued to live on the tiny piece of reservation land.

After winning in the District Court and in the Second Circuit Court, the City of Sherrill appealed the case to the Supreme Court, which sided with the city. Ginsburg said "two centuries of New York's exercise of regulatory jurisdiction...merit heavy weight here."

The fact that the lands were taken illegally, in violation of federal law, have no bearing with her, apparently. The rights of the Oneida Indian Nation have almost no bearing with her, either. Furthermore, she said, "this Court has recognized the impracticability of returning to Indian control land that generations earlier passed into numerous private hands."

In other words, Indian lands can only go one way-from Indian hands to non-Indian hands. It is impractical to let them go the other way-from non-Indian hands to Indian hands. Nothing I have ever seen more clearly expresses the federal theory of expropriation of Indian lands. A right wing conservative could not have stated it more clearly. Indians have no rights.

The only avenue for Indians to acquire lands is through the Interior Department buying or acquiring lands on behalf of

Tribes, she said, under Title 25 USC, Section 465. Tribes cannot simply go out and buy lands on their own; the secretary has to do it for them.

Justice Ginsburg also asserted a doctrine I don't ever remember hearing before, her definition of "ancient sovereignty." Sovereignty, to me, is neither old nor new. It is not applicable or not applicable.

"The Oneidas," she asserts, "long ago relinquished the reins of government and cannot regain them through open-market purchases from current title holders."

The next step in this process, from her perspective, seems to be for non-Indians to buy all Indian lands, thereby dissolving for all time the right of tribes to govern themselves.

"We now reject the unification theory of OIN and the United States and hold that 'standards of federal Indian law and federal equity practice' preclude the Tribe from rekindling embers of sovereignty that long ago grew cold," she wrote.

Sovereignty means the right to rule over a territory, and it is never ancient or outdated. Her words set a dangerous precedent to me. She needs some solid education in the concept of Tribal sovereignty.

Her other dangerous doctrine is her concept, also apparently new, of Tribal descendency.

"OIN is a federally recognized Indian Tribe and a direct descendant of the Oneida Indian Nation," she writes.

This is the first time I have ever heard of a Tribe being a direct descendant of another Tribe. Either they are a Tribe or they are not, and in the case of the Oneidas both the courts and the executive branch have recognized the tribe as an Indian tribe. Period. Her argumentation is some kind of legal hair splitting that is beyond me.

There are several ironies involved in the case. One is that the deliberate failure by the U.S. federal government to protect the rights of the Oneidas is now being used against them. The "long delay" in seeking relief means the Tribe cannot "unilaterally revive its ancient sovereignty...over the parcels at issue."

Another irony is that just because the federal government failed to live up to its responsibility to protect the lands and the persons of the Oneida people two centuries ago, somehow time has made it all right and no crime was committed when Oneida lands were sold in violation of the law. No one is being held accountable for the deliberate failure by the federal government to protect Indian rights.

Only Justice Stevens dissented from the case.

"To now deny the Tribe its right to tax immunity-at once the most fundamental of Tribal rights and the least disruptive to other sovereigns-is not only inequitable, but also irreconcilable with the principle that only Congress may abrogate or extinguish tribal sovereignty."

I agree. The court has clearly overstepped its bounds in this case. It has never had the right to extend sovereignty to a tribe or to extinguish it. Only the congress can do that. If the Sherrill case holds, a fundamental shift in the power over Indian affairs will have occurred.

I don't claim to know the remedy to this situation. That remedy will have to be up to tribes and their leadership. But I think a challenge needs to be made to the Sherrill case.

This challenge could be a law letting tribes initiate actions under Section 465. It could be one or more amendments to that section. It could be new law altogether. The final irony is that if the Sherrill case holds, a tribe could not buy back, at current market value, land it used to own, and then exercise sovereignty over it. It would have to pay taxes to the county, city, or state from which the property was bought.

Is there anything in Indian affairs that is not ironic?

Letters & E-mail

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

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to write and convey my support for your stance on the Florida State University (FSU) mascot. I, for one, would be more than happy if FSU had adopted the Anglo-Saxon or a Scottish-Irish mascot. Stand strong and stand proud of your heritage.

Take care,
Jason C. Frodge

Dear Editor,

Does the Seminole Tribe have a dental clinic? My daughter is three-eighths Choctaw/Chickasaw with a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card and is in need of dental work. We are originally from Oklahoma and have recently moved to Lakeland, Fla. Please respond at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Tena Perez

Dear Ms. Perez,

Thank you for your inquiry concerning dental services provided through the Seminole Tribe of Florida. We currently operate three health clinics that offer dental services: the Hollywood Health Clinic, Big Cypress Health Clinic and Brighton Health Clinic.

In order to register for health or dental services, please contact me at the number below or contact the patient services coordinator at one of the clinics listed above. We will provide you with the registration forms and will advise you of the eligibility documents that are needed to be eligible for direct care services.

Kathy Wilson
Eligibility & Utilization Services
Program Manager
(954) 962-2009, Ext. 142

A letter of gratitude to my people,

I would like to start by saying that I'm very elated that my uncle Andy Bowers won the election in Brighton for Council representative. To me, my uncle stands for everything that our people dearly believe in, which is Integrity, moral values, most important a voice.

With that being said, I feel I have a greater responsibility in my recovery, so I also can be accountable.

I would also like to thank Gloria Wilson for winning her election. Gloria is the new Board representative on the Hollywood reservation. I'm very happy for my cousin Gloria; she is very deserving of this position. She's honest, trust worthy, business minded, and most importantly I feel Gloria is one of the most down to earth person that I know.

But my Uncle, man! That means a lot to me. This man has been able to live both sides of life-life in mainstream society, a lawyer by trade, as a father to his son, and a husband to his wife.

Thank you,
Norman A. Bowers
Snake Clan

Dear Editor,

I am writing to ask if any of your reservations have cancer treatment centers. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Nicholas & Sadira Steinbach

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Steinbach

Thank you for your inquiry. The Seminole Tribe of Florida does not operate a cancer treatment center. Please contact me at (954) 962-2009, Ext. 142, if you would like information on the health services we provide and eligibility requirements for health services. I will be happy to assist you.

Kathy Wilson
Eligibility & Utilization Services
Program Manager
(954) 962-2009, Ext. 142

Dear Editor,

My fiancée is Native American and speaks the Algonquin language. It would mean a lot to him and me to have our wedding ceremony as Native American as possible, i.e. customs, language etc.

We are not able to return to Arizona for about another year and would like to be married before then. Is there some way our marriage could be done here in South Florida with the Seminole Tribe helping in keeping Native American traditions and values and perform the ceremony?

Thanking you for your time,
Karen Burns

Dear Ms. Burns,

First, congratulations on your upcoming marriage. I understand your desire for an unforgettable ceremony. Unfortunately, members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida do not conduct marriage ceremonies for non-Tribal members because the traditional marriage ceremony is held at the Annual Green Corn Dance, an event where non-Tribal members are not allowed to attend.

I hope that you find another option and good luck.
Tina Osceola
Executive Director
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

Dear Editor,

Is the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum closed on Monday? Also, are the airboat rides at Billie Swamp Safari also closed on Monday?

We are planning a visit to Florida the second week of May and were planning on driving out to see/do the above on Monday, May 16. I was looking at your website and saw the hours that were listed for the museum, and thought I should double check with you first on when things were open.

Thank you,
Terri Hill

Dear Ms. Hill,
Yes, the museum is closed on Monday, but the safari is not closed on

Mondays. Billie Swamp Safari is open all year long and only closed on Christmas. Please be our guest at our museum and Billie Swamp Safari.

Billie Swamp Safari Staff

Dear Editor,

I'm a college student in an Introduction to Museums class. As groups, we are now in charge of creating a fake museum for a grade. My group chose to create an American Indian museum.

I'm in the process of gathering all of the information I can on what kind of art, pottery, artifacts, etc., which we should have. I noticed that your Tribe has a museum. Could you tell me how it came to be? Did history play a part in it?

Thank you,
Tina

Dear Tina,

Thank you for including our Tribe and our Museum in your research. In 1989, former Chairman James Billie began the process of forming an official Tribal Museum. He formed the museum for several reasons: a community/Tribal need, a need for a central repository for artifacts and archives and an opportunity to share our culture and history with all Tribal members as well as the general public.

The flagship museum is on the Big Cypress Indian reservation, located in Hendry County, and another facility will soon open in Hollywood, Fla.

The current Chairman Mitchell Cypress is a solid supporter of the mission of the museum and continues to inject the museum with new ideas, projects and funds to preserve and teach the culture and history of the Seminoles. Chairman Cypress has tasked the staff with taking the museum to the next level of professionalism therefore we will be going through the accreditation process over the next two to three years.

Good luck with your project and please come out and visit us.

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

Photo Quiz Answer



Alice Micco Snow and Cody Micco

Rez Hosts Bi-Monthly Culture Classes

Submitted by Wanda Bowers
HOLLYWOOD — Twice a

month, Donna Turtle and Vivian Delgado from the Culture department collect different colors of material, sewing machines, the beads, thread, needles, and whatever else they can think of that we would need in our Culture Class.

They bring the materials to the Seminole Gym where many Tribal citizens gather for a night and day of sewing—we get breakfast, lunch and even dinner. Ever ate garfish or a spinner?

It's really fun, we sit there sewing and talking about what article we want to learn to make. Donna would say "OK, I can show you how to make that," "OK, I can show you how to make that too." I don't think there's nothing in the culture class that Donna couldn't make and if she couldn't, she has the elders there to show us and her.

One of our teachers is Donna's

sidekick, Minnie Doctor, who is also a Traditional Seminole doll maker—from



Wanda Bowers

(L-R) Maydell Osceola shows Loretta Micco how to make a traditional sweetgrass basket.

head to toe—and basket maker. These two ladies I've mentioned are just the beginning of the self-taught, talented elders.

After we've received a few lessons on "How to," we sit around sewing and continue talking about our kids, our family, our travels, mind you there are about 15 young ladies, a few boys and about seven elders. Every once in a while someone will say, "Wanda, come here, take a picture of this," sometimes I get so caught up in taking pictures I just put my material away and just take pictures of people doing their own thing.

It's great, to have a place to go to learn and be with your friends, family and also the elders who I think also get a big kick out of being there too. The class consists of elders teaching mothers, mothers teaching daughters, daughter's teaching their

children. That's what makes it all worthwhile.

These classes are how our Tribe continues to grow because we teach each other with respect and friendship. I've evened learned a few designs from ladies younger than myself, thanks Regina and I'll pass it on to my daughter. If the young people aren't ready yet, we'll be here waiting for when they are ready.



Wanda Bowers

Clarissa Little Panther Jumper proudly displays her first hand-made basket.

grandmother Maggie Osceola. She is 85-years-old and still sits there making doll heads and gets them ready to attach to the body, to end up with a traditional Seminole doll. Maggie can also whip out a few keen Seminole baskets too.

Maggie's Seminole outfits are beautiful. I'm proud to say I own one of the outfits that Maggie has made. I don't think there's anything Maggie can't make.

Then next to her we have her



Felix DoBosz

(L-R) Business Analyst Ernest Tiger, Certified Business Analyst Carole U. Adams-Hart, Procurement Specialist J.M. Rule, Certified Business Analyst Michael J. Bell, Seminole Coffee Company Co-Owner Linda Osceola, Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger and Seminole Coffee Company Co-Owner Gem Osceola at the Seminole Coffee Company in the Hollywood Headquarters.

Small Business Development Center Reps. Visit Seminole Country

HOLLYWOOD — Tribal citizen and co-owner of the Florida Seminole Coffee Company Gem Osceola, co-owner Linda Osceola, Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger and Chief Operations Officer Stan Rodimon met with representatives Carole Hart, Jackie Rule, and Mike Bell of the Procurement Technical Assistance Center Program (PTACP).

PTACP is a Defense Department-funded group working with Small Business Development Center (SBDC). SBDC is a business support organization funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Tribal leaders sought to discuss the possible enrollment and assistance available to Tribal citizens from the procurement programs that the PTACP and SBDC offer.

Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger said, "We are interested in these programs due to the growth and profitability advantages they may bring to Tribal businesses become 8(a) certified."

The SBA 8(a) BD Program, named for a section of the Small Business Act, is a business development program created to help small disadvantages businesses compete in the American economy and access the federal procurement market.

"The Tribe has a lot of potential in this market because of the current preference status available to us," said Ernie Tiger. "The contracts that would be gained through this program could really take a lot of Tribal business investments to their next growth level if we can meet eligibility requirements."

Each year, the federal government purchases hundreds of billions of dollars in goods and services from a wide range of providers. To ensure small businesses get the opportunity to participate in this expenditure of tax revenue, the U.S. Congress requires federal agencies to offer 23 percent of these contracts to SBA-defined small businesses.

The SBA, created in 1953, is the only independent

agency of the federal government with the sole mission of assisting small business entrepreneurs to grow and strengthen their role in mainstream economic markets.

The SBA certifies two categories of small businesses for special consideration in earning federal contracting dollars: the Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) Program and the 8(a) Business Development Program. Both have been created to provide disadvantaged businesses with profitable opportunities.

The 8(a) Program provides a broader scope of assistance and opportunities to socially disadvantaged businesses; the program requires a long-term commitment from the business owner and assists with the development of the entire business structure. Certification in the 8(a) program automatically confers SDB status on the firm.

Eligibility for certification in the SBA programs is determined by meeting specific social, economic and other eligibility requirements. By meeting more of the eligibility preferences when certifying, individuals will receive added special benefits and evaluation credits.

These credits will boost subcontracting opportunities and preferences when competing in the following industries: agriculture, fishing, forestry, construction, mining, manufacturing, transportation and communications. Service opportunities include: electric, gas, sanitation, wholesale trade, retail trade, finance, insurance and real estate.

"Tribal members are our top priority," said Chief Operations Officer Stan Rodimon. "In my program, we want to provide customers with the best assistance possible for wealth accumulation and business ownership. This is why we chose the PTACP to help guide us, SBA meet these goals through the programs and seminars they offer."

The Annual Seminole Princess Pageant

WHEN: July 30, 2005

WHERE: Hollywood, Florida



If you are interested in running for the title of Miss Florida Seminole and/or Jr. Miss Florida Seminole please contact Wanda F. Bowers at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1468, or your local Princess Committee Member.

Further information will follow.

Even a fish wouldn't get caught if it kept its mouth shut

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The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should be based solely upon advertisements. Guy J. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the State Attorney and Public Defender offices in Duval and Alameda Counties; he has been in private practice for 16 years. He graduated from Nova Southeastern University Law School in 1987 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1989.

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Fire Rescue Announces Promotions

Submitted by Eva Cain, PIO, Department of Emergency Services
BIG CYPRESS — The Seminole Tribe of Florida is proud to announce the promotion of four departmental employees.

Fire Inspector/Fire Prevention/Logistics Coordinator David Logan was promoted to lieutenant. Lt. Logan moved to Florida and joined the Department of Emergency Services in February 2004, after 23 years of service to the New York Fire Rescue in Great Neck, N.Y. He is a certified Fire Safety Inspector, Fire Inspector II, and Plan Examiner II.

Firefighter/Medic Brian Brown was promoted to lieutenant. He joined the department in November 2004. Lt. Brown is a certified instructor in basic life support /CPR, advanced cardio life support, and pediatric advanced life support. He has five years of work experience, training, and education in the emergency medical field.

Lieutenant Robert Suit was promoted to cap-

tain. He joined the department in February, 2004, and was promoted through the ranks from Firefighter/EMT to lieutenant and then to captain. Captain Suit brings more than 30 years of fire rescue experience to the department.

Lieutenant Bryan Stokes joined the department in May 2003, after serving nine years of dutiful training with the Okeechobee City Fire Department. He was promoted through the ranks from Firefighter/EMT to lieutenant to captain. Captain Stokes' extensive training and experience allows him to provide leadership and guidance to new recruits.

The Department of Emergency Services is extremely proud of these members of our department and their achievements. The department wishes them continued success.



Submitted by Eva Cain
Seminole Fire Rescue's (Back row, L-R) Captain Bob Suit, Lieutenant Brian Brown, (Front row, L-R) Captain Bryan Stokes and Lieutenant David Logan.

Seminole Police Department

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2005 Summer Prayer Conference

YOU'RE INVITED

***FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JUNE 24th & 25th**

Come and hear what the Spirit of the Lord is saying (Rev.3:20) through His dynamic Servants on the teachings of *the purpose, the passion & the power of prayer.*

THEME: "Rekindling, the Passion for Prayer"

The fire (passion for prayer) shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out. Lev. 6:12

TIME: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

PLACE: Seminole Youth Center
(Next to the Boys & Girls Club)
Hollywood, FL

Has your prayer life been powerless?
Has your prayer life been hindered?
Have you given up fighting on your knees?
Is it your goal to become so intimate with God that you know His will?
Do you love to pray?
Those who do not pray; the more negligent you are of this work, the less desire you will have to pray.

Come, Hear and Return to the Altar of Prayer
Can anyone seriously doubt God's desire to refresh, restore, and revive prayer?

***CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED**

Any questions? Contact Moses Jumper @ 954.931.7118 or Terri Clah @ 954.873.0580

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(L-R) McGruff the Crime Dog, SPD Officer Koloske and Jack Micco.

SPD Hosts Appreciation Day in Honor of Tribe

By Susan Etxebarría
BRIGHTON — In gratitude for the opportunity to work for the Seminole Tribe, the officers at Brighton hosted a fabulous Seminole Police Department (SPD) Appreciation Day at the Fred Smith Rodeo Grounds on May 21.

“We want to show the people here at Brighton how much we really appreciate them,” said Sgt. “Gator” Sapp. “We are so glad to work here. We are included in many functions at Brighton and we get to enjoy them.”

The event was catered by Sonny’s Bar-B-Q, and featured music by the Clewiston, Fla. band The Chase, an interesting K-9 demonstration performed by the Okeechobee County Sheriff’s Office, and the antics of the Lake Placid Clowns amused kids of all ages. The children had a blast, jumping in the bounce house.

It was a special occasion for the whole department and all the residents who came to visit, laugh and enjoy themselves.

“This is our way of giving back



Drake Lawrence makes bubbles with his giant wand.



Agnes Jumper holds her balloon creature made by the Lake Placid Clowns.

to our community,” said Sergeant Angela Comito, event organizer. “The people at Brighton take care of us and we love the Brighton community. They are good to us. We wanted to do something for them.”

At the end of the day, there were many nice door prizes for the guests. Comito said there were a “ton” of prizes donated by area businesses. There were coupons from the Golden Corral, R.J. Gator’s, Winn Dixie, Pat’s Lakeside Café, and Eli’s Western Wear. The police department bought prizes, too, such as a DVD, MP3 CD player, water guns for the kids, and many more.



Seminole Tribal firefighters assisted the Broward Sheriff’s Office in putting out the bus fire.

Seminole Tribe Firefighters Provide Mutual Aid

Submitted by Eva Cain, PIO, Department of Emergency Services

BIG CYPRESS — An early morning fire caused 33 passengers of a Greyhound bus to seek shelter from the sweltering sun under tents provided by the Seminole Tribe’s Emergency Services Department.

Shortly after 6 a.m. on April 6, the Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue received a call for mutual aid from Broward Sheriff’s Office reference a Greyhound bus that was ablaze on Eastbound I-75, Mile Marker 59. The Ochopee Fire Control District and Broward Sheriff’s Office Fire Rescue were already on scene upon the arrival of STFR and had contained the fire. According to Seminole Tribal Fire Rescue Chief Manuel Diaz, the bus had departed from Naples, Fla. and in route to Miami, Fla. when a spark



The charred Greyhound bus. Submitted by Eva Cain

from the rear axle area ignited the back tire. There were no injuries to the passengers; however, two individuals did receive unrelated medical attention for a post knee operation and hypoglycemia.

In an attempt to provide a comfortable setting, Tribal Emergency Management Coordinator for the Laurie McRoy supplied cold water and Gatorade to the passengers that spent approximately four hours waiting for the replacement bus to arrive from Miami.

McRoy also shuttled individuals to and from the public lavatories located at a nearby rest area. The total estimated damage to the bus was \$750,000, as it was a total loss.

Broward County is one of five counties that the Seminole Tribe of Florida currently provides with mutual aid.

SPD Holds Gang Awareness Seminar

By Susan Etxebarría

BRIGHTON — Officer Shawn Norton of the Seminole Police Department (SPD) hosted a gang awareness class for Brighton parents on May 18. Norton aimed to help them understand the threat gangs pose to their children.

He invited a speaker, Detective Brad Stark of the Okeechobee County Sheriff’s Office, who specializes in the prevention of gangs. Since many Brighton kids go to Okeechobee County schools, Officer Norton wanted parents to know the dangers lurking out there. The same thing is going on in major Florida cities so this information applies to parents at all reservations.

Stark said there are currently eight criminal gangs operating in Okeechobee County with 140 members. He has identified more than 89 gangs in this particular county in the past 16 years and he said, “gangs come and go.”

These gangs attempt to recruit new members in the schools. If a parent does not know what gang symbols look like they are encouraged to ask the Seminole Police Department for a copy of his booklet about gangs.

“Gangs are here and they are not going away,” said Stark. “A parents’ job is to try to identify some of this stuff and ask questions.”

According to Stark, children join gangs for several reasons; perhaps the child feels neglected at home or maybe the child is afraid of bullies at school and the gangs offer protection.

There are three gang stages, according to Stark.

There is the “wannabe” stage. That is usually the stage at which a child has a brother or family member in a gang and the child thinks there is prestige in gang life. Next comes the “associate” stage. That is when a wannabe child grows older and starts to hang out with gang members. The final stage is

called “hard core.” The hard core stage is when the youth goes through an initiation as a member and the gang life begins.

Gangs often require members to perform criminal acts and some go so far as having to pay dues, have a gang bible and placing hits on their enemies. Some gangs recruit girls who are required to have sex with all the male members.

Gangs always have a common name, such as the Vice Lords, the Latin Kings, or the Imperial Gangsters. They use symbols, colors and signs to identify the gang. Recruited children are encouraged to adopt the gang dress, learn hand signs and get gang tattoos.

The appearance of graffiti is believed to be a primary indicator of gang activity, said Stark. The purpose of gang related graffiti is to glorify a particular gang and make its members well known. Graffiti on buildings, walls, on any surface available, is a way of marking turf and challenging rival gangs.

If a rival gang alters or places the gang symbols upside down this is referred to as “war talk” and is considered very disrespectful. This may lead to verbal or physical altercations. This type of confrontation has even led to drive-by shootings.

Stark wants parents to know that the most important deterrent to gang activity is being interested in your child’s activities. Be aware of your child’s schoolwork, behavior and whom they hang with. Learn about the different gang symbols, signs and activities that go on locally so you as a parent can watch for signs. Be aware of pictures drawn by your child on school papers, notebooks, and on their body.

Officer Norton said there has been no indication of gang-related activity at Brighton but all parents need to know that this kind of thing does take place in schools and they should learn about it, it is part of good parenting.



SPD Offers Summer Safety Tips for Children

Submitted by Sergeant Al Signore, SPD

Always check first with your parents or the person in charge before you go anywhere or do anything. Be sure to check in regularly with your parents or a trusted adult when you’re not with them.

Always take a friend when you’re playing or going anywhere. It’s safer and more fun.

Don’t be tricked by people who offer special treats or gifts. Never accept anything from anyone without your parent’s permission.

Stay safer when you’re home alone by keeping the door locked; not opening the door or talking to anyone who stops by unless the person is a trusted family friend or relative, you feel comfortable being alone with that person, and the visit has been approved by your parents; and never tell anyone who calls that you’re home by yourself.

Have a neighbor or trusted adult you can call if you’re scared or there is an emergency.

Never go into a public restroom by yourself.

Never go alone to malls, movies, video arcade, or park. Take a friend with you, and always check first with your parents to make sure it’s ok. Don’t panic if you feel lost; identify the safest place to go or person to ask for help in returning with your family. Never search for them on your own, and never go off alone with anyone who is not trying to reunite

you with your family.

Be careful when you play, stay away from iron pools, canals, and other bodies of water unless you are with an adult. Don’t play near busy streets or deserted areas, and never take shortcuts unless you have your parents permission.

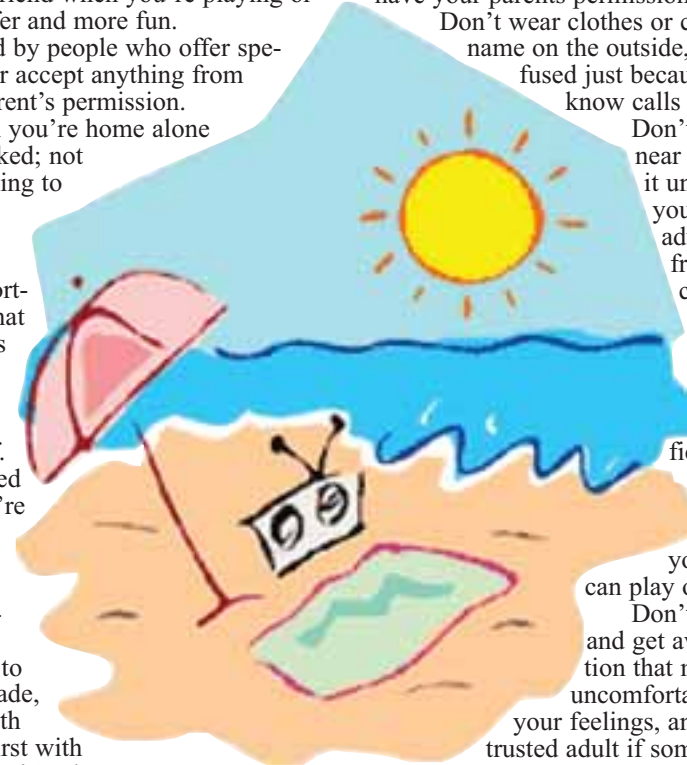
Don’t wear clothes or carry items with your name on the outside, and don’t be confused just because someone you don’t know calls out your name.

Don’t get into a car or go near a car with someone in it unless you are with your parents or a trusted adult. Never take a ride from someone without checking with your parents first.

Be careful playing or riding your bicycle as it gets dark. Sometimes it gets difficult for people driving in cars to see you. Wear reflectors and protective clothing if your parents say you can play outside after dark.

Don’t be afraid to say no and get away from any situation that makes you feel uncomfortable or confused. Trust your feelings, and be sure to tell a trusted adult if something happens that make you feel this way.

Have a safe and fun summer. For more information for safety tips call Sergeant Al Signore with the Seminole Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at (813) 623-5748.



AMERIND Risk Management 2005 National Fire Safety Poster Contest

Hey Kids...

Here’s your chance to win a \$2000.00 savings bond in your name.

Pick up an entry form at your local housing office and send in your poster by June 13th to your local housing department.

Contest is open to children from Kindergarten thru 8th grade.

All entries must be original and created by the child on 8.5 x 11 paper using crayons, markers and/or paint. Please do not use pencils.

Please see Official Rules.

Any questions please call

Monica 954-966-6300 ext 1750

Ahfachkee Students Travel to Nation’s Capital

Submitted by Eileen Hager
WASHINGTON, DC — The seventh and eighth grade students at the Ahfachkee School in Big Cypress went on a six-day trip to Washington, D.C. from May 8–13. The students are all in Miss Hager’s class and worked hard to earn this trip. Students were chosen to go based on attendance, academic success and behavior. Everyone was eligible to go this year. The students who attended are: Breanna Robbins, Kelcie Jumper, Jon Ross Billie, Keifer Bert, Nelson MacElroy, Ronnie Billie, Herschel Frank, Brittany Huff, Billy Cypress and Chebon Gooden-Harden. The adult chaperones were Classroom Aide Mrs. Perez, Kitchen and Custodial Director Keeno King and teacher Miss Eileen Hager.

Sunday, May 8

By Kelcie Jumper and Keifer Bert
When we arrived in Washington, D.C., we went right from the airport to Arlington Cemetery. We saw the Eternal Flame at JFK’s gravesite. We also saw Robert E. Lee’s house up on the hill. We were lucky enough to see the changing of the guards at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Nelson MacElroy said, “It was honorable,” while Breanna Robbins said, “It was scary.” We did a lot of walking up the hills and we were tired after that. Finally, we went to dinner at Hamburger Hamlet. We met our fourth grade teacher there, Ms. Weinberg, but she’s married now and her name is Mrs. Dominek. She lives in Virginia. She brought us homemade brownies! We checked into the Crystal City Marriott. “Fancy,” is how Chebon Gooden-Harden described our hotel. We all had to be in our rooms by 10 p.m. for room checks.

Monday, May 9

By Breanna Robbins and Nelson MacElroy
At 7:30 a.m. we ate breakfast at CC Bistro at the Marriott. At 9 a.m. we arrived at Mt. Vernon, where George Washington lived and died. He lived here with his wife Martha Washington. This is also the place where he did all of his educational studies and gardening. Washington’s estate consisted of 550 acres.

Next, we went to Old Town Alexandria, ate, and did a little shopping. Then at 2 p.m. we went to the National Archives. This is the place where they keep the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, and the Constitution. It was amazing to actually go and see these documents. Over there you had to be very respectful.

Brittany Huff said, “The documents are old and you can’t take pictures. It was important to see the documents because it was what our nation was based upon. It was very serious.”

Then, after that we went to the Air and Space Museum. It was kind of big. They had a simulator there. It was a plane and two people had to control it or they would crash. They also had several planes hanging down from the ceiling or sitting down in a room. Some of the planes we saw were Glamorous Glynnis and The Spirit of St. Louis.

Then they had half of an actual space shuttle that had been to the moon. For just half of a space shuttle, it was humongous! “It was historic,” said Herschel Frank. “There were space ships that were small. The planes were fast. Some engines of the planes were big. The exhibits were awesome!”



Submitted By Eileen Hager

Chebon Gooden-Harden shows off the rocket he bought at the Air and Space Museum.

After that, we went to Union Station for dinner at Pizzeria Uno. Then again did a little shopping. Then later on we went to the Iwo Jima monument. It is a statue of men planting a flag. There was an Indian man named Ira Hayes.

Then we went to the Korean War Memorial. This is the place where there were 19 statues of the men walking. They were in the Korean War. To the right of the statues was a wall that was engraved with people and objects having to do with the war. Then finally after that we went back to the Crystal City Marriott.

Tuesday, May 10

By Brittany Huff, Ronnie Billie and Herschel Frank

Our day off with a Capitol Building tour. We met our Capitol Building tour guide in Mark Foley’s office, but we didn’t get to see our county’s representative—he was out of the office. Our tour wasn’t like the ones they usually give to everyone.

It began with us getting to go underground in one of the passageways that important people, such as the President, get to use. When we were above ground we went into a room that had a model of the Capitol Building and how it changed over the years. We also stood above a star in the center of the room which was supposed to be the center of the city.

Then we walked along a beautifully painted hallway that had statues of people from every state.

Keifer Bert said, “It was neat how they had to put support under the statues so they wouldn’t fall through the floor.”

We also walked into the room that was originally where the Senate would meet. After that we went to a room that had a dome-shaped ceiling which was painted in many vibrant colors. We also learned a story of the painting that went around the dome. It was about why there was a picture of a man’s face, painted onto a tree trunk, in the painting.

Then we walked to the next room where the House of Representatives would meet. In there, we learned that there was one flaw in how the building was designed. It was that if you are across the room in a certain spot you could here anyone who is there even if they whisper.

Ronnie Billie said, “I learned that James Madison would pretend to be sleeping, but he could hear whispering from across the room and know what other people were saying.”

After our tour, we walked across the street to get our picture taken in front of the Capitol Building. We took a while to get it taken because some woman wouldn’t move out of the way of our picture.



Submitted By Eileen Hager

The students in front of the Capitol building (Front row, L-R) Breanna Robbins, Kelcie Jumper, Jon Ross Billie, Keifer Bert, Nelson MacElroy, Ronnie Billie, Herschel Frank, Brittany Huff, Billy Cypress, Chebon Gooden-Harden, (Back row, L-R) Chaperones Mrs. Perez, Mr. Keeno King and Miss Hager.

Anyways, after our picture we went to Union Station for lunch and a bit of shopping. After lunch, we drove along Embassy Row and learned that Florida is the only state that has an embassy.

Then we arrived at the National Cathedral where we went on a tour of it. One thing that is so unique about the National Cathedral is anyone could worship there, no matter their religion. We saw many beautiful stained glass windows.

Billy Cypress said, “It was big! We saw a moon rock in a stained glass window. It was brought back by the astronauts from Apollo 11.”

We also got to see where Helen Keller is buried in the cathedral. Woodrow Wilson is also buried at the National Cathedral, but we didn’t get to see his grave.

After the tour of the cathedral we went to the Vietnam Memorial. We walked along the memorial and saw the many names upon the wall. We then walked over to the Lincoln Memorial which was a great site to see. On the wall was the Gettysburg Address which says “Four score and seven years ago...” It is very important to our society and how it is today. It also gave a great view of the Washington Memorial.

When we were through looking at the Lincoln Memorial we went back to the hotel to get ready to go to dinner. We ate dinner at Benihana’s, which is a restaurant where the chefs cook in front of you. After we ate our delicious dinner we went to the Kennedy Center, which is right across the street from Watergate Hotel, where we watched the play, Shear Madness.

Breanna Robbins said, “It was funny. They asked the audience to help out by voting on who the killer was.”

After the play we headed back to the hotel to rest up for another busy day.

Wednesday, May 11

By Brittany Huff, Ronnie Billie and Herschel Frank

We started our day off by going to the National Museum of Natural History. There we went as a group to see the Hope Diamond a beautiful and large diamond.

Billy Cypress said, “The Hope Diamond was big, shiny, real and worth a lot.”

We were then able to walk around the museum. Our tour guide, Eric, told us that if you spent 30

seconds looking at every exhibit it would take several years. We were able to watch an IMAX movie while we were there. It was called T-Rex Back to the Cretaceous Period and it was in 3-D.

After that we walked over to the Museum Of American History. While there we were able to see the Ruby Red Slippers that were from the movie the Wizard of Oz. Another item from our history that was there was the actual Star Spangled Banner. We also got to see the First Ladies’ dresses.

When we were done with seeing the museum we went to the Hirshorn Museum of Modern Art. This museum was no ordinary one it was full of “unique” art. Many of the sculptors were abstract and the paintings were what looked like to me, blobs of paint. We weren’t allowed to touch any of the art either, which was pretty tempting for some of us.

We left the museum and went underground to King Street Blues where we were having our dinner. However, we had some time to kill so we were allowed to walk in the little “mall.” We went into the restaurant and ate our dinners.

After we finished our dinner, we went to the subway to purchase our tickets, because we were taking the subway to another mall. We then waited for the subway that was going to our stop. It was a great experience to ride the subway, but you have to be quick or you’ll either get caught in the door or left.

When we got to our destination, Pentagon City Mall, we then were allowed to shop for an hour-and-a-half. When our time for shopping was up we went back down to the subway. We put our subway passes through the machine and were ready to go back to the hotel.

After our ride on the subway, we went to our hotel. What was different about the way we went back to the hotel was that we went back using the underground passageway that was under our hotel.

Thursday, May 12

By Chebon Gooden-Harden and Billy Cypress

On Thursday, we went to the International Spy Museum and it was really weird. We got to see our houses from a spy satellite in outer space! Ronnie Billie described it by saying, “Awesome”.

We got to change our identity, our name, face, life to somebody you don’t know. You had to answer questions on the computer to get clearance. I only got one question wrong. My identity was John, age 34, clothes salesman and I was visiting for 14 days.

After that, we went to Fuddruckers for lunch.

We were going to eat at McDonald’s, but there was a guy yelling at the lady behind the counter and he wanted to fight another man. Fuddruckers was a nice restaurant. They let us get a refill for free. Chebon Gooden-Harden ate a one pound burger!

After lunch, we went to the Federal Bureau of Engraving and Printing. That’s the place where all of our money is made. We got a cool tour that showed us how the money was made and how much there was. Billions!! We also got to buy money notes and two dollar bills.

Then we went to the Holocaust Museum. We went through the whole museum and saw some very sad pictures. We also went through another part of the museum called, “Daniel’s Story.” It was about the children who were killed in the Holocaust. Daniel got sent to a concentration camp.

Nelson MacElroy summed up the experience this way, “The museum made me feel emotional and surprised because I found out just how many victims there were. When I saw the pictures I was shocked.”

For dinner, we ate at a restaurant called America. We had a lot of food. We then went back to the hotel. Some students went swimming and some went to the underground mall.

Friday, May 13

By Keifer Bert and Kelcie Jumper

We had breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and checked out of our hotel. Then we got on the bus to head for the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI).

Our tour guide, Ed Shupman, met us outside the museum, like we were V.I.P.’s. He took us to the Seminole display and it was interesting that there were people from Big Cypress. We saw “Big Shot” on a flat screen T.V. on the wall. There was a computer that you could touch. On the computer, it showed all the clans in a circle. You can touch one of the clans and a person would pop up and tell you about the clan. There was also a Seminole patchwork dress on display that was from the 1800s—now that is an old dress!

Finally, we left for the airport to depart to Ft. Lauderdale. We had to go through security, it was long and boring. We finally got our luggage and found our families. Then we went home.

As a class, we would like to thank Mitchell Cypress, David Cypress, Paul Bowers and Lee Zepeda for giving us this opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. It was all worth it!

Jon Ross Billie wants to know, “Can we go to New York City next year?”



Submitted By Eileen Hager

(L-R) Students Chebon Gooden-Harden and Billy Cypress sit inside a “termite mound” at the Smithsonian Institute’s Museum of Natural History.



(L-R) Sheila Jones, Lewis Gopher, Immilakiyo Osceola, and Ashlee Gopher, along with Education Director Louise Gopher (back row) celebrate Pemayetv Emahakv's anniversary.

Pull-Out Program Completes Third Year

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — Another successful year has come and gone for “Pemayetv Emahakv,” or The Brighton Pull-Out Program. On May 13, the teachers and staff of the Pull-Out Program hosted an end of the year celebration for the parents and community of the Brighton Reservation.

This program was an opportunity for the teachers of the program to share their unique teaching approach and to display the leaps and bounds gained by the students through their culture and language demonstrations during the program.

Upon arrival, parents and guests were able to visit each classroom to see what the students have been participating in and many visitors ventured across the street to see the traditional garden planted by the students and teachers of the program.

Following the classroom visits Director of Education Louise Gopher shared a little of the history of the program with the audience and how, through the support of Okeechobee County School Board, the Pull-Out Program was able to become a reality. The Student Council then led the audience in the pledges, and sang “Happy Birthday” in Creek.

Next, Gopher introduced the many dignitaries from Glades and Okeechobee County that were present.

Superintendent of Okeechobee Schools Dr. Pat Cooper said, “I commend you on keeping your language alive and you have come a long way this year.”

Brighton Board Representative Johnny Jones gave thanks to the kids and told them to be proud of where they come from. Gopher also shared how much the program has grown in the past three years with the guests. This year, the program added two new classrooms and tripled the size of its traditional garden.



Emma Brown
Trevor Thomas with his award.

The Student Council then had an opportunity to share with friends and family what they enjoy most about the program.

President Sheila Jones said, “I like all of the classes because they all teach you about Seminole culture and language.”

The Friday Pull-Out Program classes are very important to the students and help them recognize the importance of preserving their language and culture.

Next, the invocation was asked by the students in Creek and

lunch was served. Following lunch, Coach John Waterhouse presented Emery Fish, Wade Micco, and Justin Osceola with archery participation awards, followed by Barbara Boling and Beth Skinner who presented awards for the Health department.

The Health department has been extremely instrumental in this year's program and created a pedometer challenge which took students on a virtual tour of parks in the state of Florida. The mileage goal for the tour was 465 miles, and the students tracked their miles by wearing pedometers and finished with total mileage of 488 miles.

The program wrapped up with student awards and door prizes and concluded another successful year of Pemayetv Emahakv.

Indian Credit Initiative Program Now Recruiting

Submitted by Teresa Magnuson, FSA American Indian Credit Outreach Initiative
BOX ELDER, MT — Are you between the ages of 10 and 20 with a hobby, skill, or talent you know you could market? The Farm Service Agency makes loans available to individual youth to establish and operate income-producing projects.

The project must be planned and operated with the assistance of an advisor, produce sufficient income to repay the loan, and provide the youth with practical business and educational experience. Projects do not necessarily have to be agricultural

related. Youth loans may be used to finance nearly any kind of income-producing project. Some common projects include livestock and crop production, lawn and gardening services, and craft and art sales.

Those interested in learning more about the National FSA American Indian Credit Outreach Initiative or would like personalized assistance may contact Teresa Magnuson at (517) 694-7784 or by e-mail at teresa@indiancreditoutreach.com.

For more information, visit indiancreditoutreach.com. Megwetch!

Scholarship and Paid Trip to Nation's Capital

Submitted by Lynn Himebauch, Education Advisor

WASHINGTON, DC — The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) will be held in Washington, D.C. from March 4–11, 2006. Two students from each state, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity will be selected as delegates.

Any high school junior or senior is eligible for the program provided he or she is currently serving in

an elected capacity in either student government or civic or educational offices during the 2005-2006 school year.

Each student who participates will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship and an all expenses paid stay in Washington, DC from March 4–11, 2006.

For more information call the National Indian Education Association at (703) 838-2870 or to download the application, please visit www.usenateyouth.org.



Career, Education & Health Fair

<<< All Seminole Reservations! >>>

Middle School / High School / College Students!

_Location: >> Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood

_Date: >> Tuesday, June 14th

_Time: >> 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

_Prizes: >> Cash Gift Cards to the first 50 attendees

_Fun: >> Great raffles, give aways

_Food: >> Breakfast & Lunch provided

<< visits by the Mad Scientist



4th Annual Hollywood Youth Conference of the Seminole Tribe of Florida
July 7th – July 12th, 2005

Pon-ta-sha-ka-le A-la-che-ta-hon-ka
“Our Warriors that have gone on before us”

Requirements:

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

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

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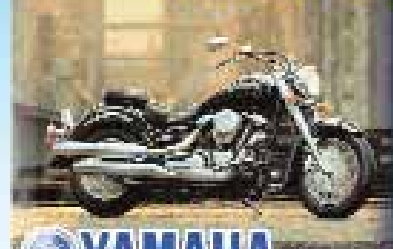
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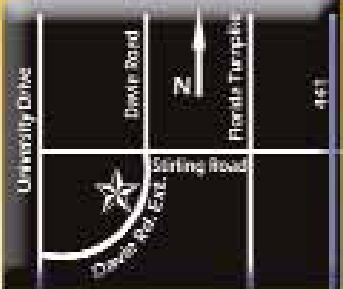
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Emma Brown

After 100 miles spent together, the dedicated walkers still found the energy to smile.

Walkers Come Back Beside Lake Okeechobee

By Emma Brown

BRIGHTON — “They are taking us beyond Miami, they are taking us beyond the Caloosa River, they are taking us to the end of our Tribe, they are taking us to Palm Beach, coming back beside Lake Okeechobee, they are taking us to an old town in the West.” This Seminole lament depicts things that might have been said when Seminole people were being removed out of Florida.

In an attempt to experience the past, a group of dedicated individuals set out on a 110 mile journey around Lake Okeechobee in honor and remembrance of their ancestors. Lake Okeechobee or the “Big Water” is a 730-square mile freshwater lake with an average depth of nine feet. It is the second largest lake in the continental U.S. and a big part of Seminole History.

“Coming Back Beside Lake Okeechobee” was the phrase chosen by the group of walkers to represent this long journey and to give tribute to Seminole history. This journey began as talk and a

Eagles, bobcats, snakes, birds, alligators, indigenous plants, and breathtaking sunrises.

On May 26, the 110 mile journey came to an end with a two mile walk ending at the 441 pier in Okeechobee. It was a milestone for the group that represented health, remembrance and lasting friendships. After the final walk, a small presentation was held at a local restaurant with a power point slide show that gave reference to the entire journey.

Mable Haught, the group elder, shared how during, saying she “felt close to her past and that she would miss the time spent with her friends during these walks.”

President Moses Osceola and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers congratulated the walkers on their accomplishment and commend them on their efforts to stay healthy and for remembering where they came from. McDuffie, the heart of the journey, received tokens of appreciation for her dedication and commitment and for making this journey possible. Each walker also received a beautiful walking stick created by Donelda Mercer and an umbrella with the group’s logo and theme on both.

Everyone in the group expressed happiness for their accomplishment, but the sadness of the journey ending was present. Lasting friendships, connections to their ancestors, and visions of beauty will forever remain in the hearts and souls of each participant.

Walkers: Michele Thomas, Rita Gopher, Rita Youngman, Cecilia Solano, Jose Solano, Jackie Booth, Danielle Jumper-Frye, Jeanette Cypress, Samantha Frye, Mike Tiger, Linda Tommie, James Madrigal and Emma Brown.

Walkers completing the entire 110 mile journey: Patty Waldron, Barbara Boling (dedicated driver and photographer), Connie Whidden, Beth Skinner (dedicated driver), Helene Buster, Mable Haught, Donelda Mercer, Nicky Brown, Melanie Mello, Edna McDuffie (115 miles), Sheila Madrigal and Suzanne Davis.

“Coming Back Beside Lake Okeechobee” walks: Nov. 21, 2003, 5.6 miles, Liberty point to Clewiston, Dec. 12, 2003, 8.2 miles, Clewiston to John Stretch Park, Jan. 23, 2004, 5.2 miles, John Stretch Park to South Bay, Feb. 13, 2004, 7.6 miles, Liberty Point to

Moore Haven, March 26, 2004, 7.2 miles, Moore Haven to Ole Sportsman Village, April 23, 2004, 7.2 miles, Ole Sportsman Village to Harney Pond, May 21, 2004, 5 miles, Harney Pond to pump station 129, June 18, 2004, 3.2 miles, Pump station 129 to Indian Prairie, July 23, 2004, 7.2 miles, Indian Prairie to Buck Head Ridge, Aug. 27, 2004, 7 miles, Buck Head Ridge to 441 Lake Pier, Oct. 8, 2004, 7.6 miles, South Bay to Rardon Park, Oct. 22, 2004, 6.2 miles, Rardon Park to Pahokee, Nov. 19, 2004, 7.4 miles, Pahokee to Sand Cut, Jan. 28, 2005, 4.8 miles, Sand Cut to Port Mayaca, Feb. 24, 2005, 7.4 miles, Port Mayaca to J&S Park, March 24, 2005, 6.4 miles, J&S Park to Henry Creek, April 21, 2005, 6.5 miles, Henry Creek to Taylor Creek, May 26, 2005, 2.3 miles, Taylor Creek to 441 Lake Okeechobee Pier.



Emma Brown

Walkers (L-R) Edna McDuffie, Mabel Haught and Connie Whidden.

good idea, until Edna McDuffie from the Health department said “Let’s do it,” and initiated the task of making this visit to the past a reality.

McDuffie put in many hours of hard work and dedication, mapping out each mile and working with the Corps of Engineers to figure out starting and stopping points around the lake. The journey began in November of 2003 with a piece of the walk taking place nearly every month. Most distances ranged from three to five miles, with at least one walk being 11–14 miles.

The walk started with a core group of dedicated individuals and picked up different walkers each month who wanted to share in the remembrance and beauty of the lake and Seminole history, and lead active healthy lifestyles. Along the way, walkers witnessed the beauty of Lake Okeechobee, sighting

Second Annual Rez Women’s Health Fair

By Barbara Boling, Brighton Health Educator

BRIGHTON — The second annual Women’s Health Fair was held at the Brighton Clinic on May 11, to coincide with National Women’s Health Week.

The Women’s Health Fair was packed with interesting booths and presenters. The topics ranged from fitness and how exercise can help relieve the symptoms of menopause to Alzheimer’s screenings in the Memory Van.

Tribal and community members came out to enjoy the event and some of the hands on demonstrations such as the stress relief station provided by Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner Melanie Mello. Women of all ages found information relevant to improving their health.

The Seminole Health department would like to thank the following organizations, departments and individuals for their participation in the event: The March of Dimes, American Cancer Society, Martha’s House, the Alzheimer’s Association, Senior Solutions of Southwest Florida, the Okeechobee Health Department, the Pregnancy Resource Center of Okeechobee, the Seminole Allied Health Department, the Seminole Dental Department, the Seminole



Barbara Boling

Tribal Citizen Claudia Olivarez (top right) organized a field trip for the teenage girls from Brighton First Indian Baptist Academy to attend the Brighton Women’s Health Fair.

Fitness Department, the Seminole Police Department, the Seminole Medical/Social worker, Billie Tiger, and Melanie Mello.

Dental Health Awareness Presentation

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — During the month of April, the Seminole Health department joined forces with the Education department in an effort to introduce the young people to the importance of proper dental care.

Tribal Nutritionist Charlotte Porcaro and Intervention Specialist Diana Rocha gave a very informative presentation centered around dental hygiene to the Immokalee youth. They skillfully lectured the gathering, while employing arts and crafts to demonstrate and focus the group’s interest.

As the instructors interacted with the boys and girls, they encouraged roundtable discussions and the sharing of dental experiences. Daily tooth care and healthy diets were emphasized. Each participant created a poster designed to portray some message concerning dental care.

All of the children gave a great deal of thought to their project and used a variety of ideas on their posters. They were so creative that it was very hard to judge, but finally the winners were selected. Alexis M. Aguilar, Julissa



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Charlotte Porcaro and Diana Rocha led the presentation.

Arreguin and Selena Perez were awarded top honors and received dental kits which included toothbrushes, dental floss, mouthwash and toothpaste.



Judy Weeks

(L-R, front row) Alexis Aguilar, Julissa Arreguin and Selena Perez won the dental health tote bags.

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Health Corner

Health Dept. Offers Lifestyle Balance

Story by Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — Sixteen weeks ago, a Lifestyle Balance Program began in Immokalee. Under the direction of Health Education Coordinator Brenda Bordogna and Immokalee Health department Nutritionist and Educator Charlotte Porcaro the participants met weekly in the gym.

A support group was formed, weigh-ins conducted and an exercise program established. Each meeting dealt with topics of extreme concern, including diabetes, diet modification, weight management, physical activity, healthy food preparation and motivational techniques.

The schedule varied from week to week as the group reviewed their progress, set new goals, learned healthy alternatives and behavior modification. They established weight charts, attended cooking classes, health lectures and participated in exercise activities.

By encouraging each other, they soon came to realize the benefits of their efforts. There was not only a loss of body fat, but increased energy and building of self-esteem.

"Exercise is your friend and you must find time to make and keep that friend," said Porcaro.

Upon completing the sixteen week program, Porcaro and Bordogna organized an outing to the Audubon Society's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. On May 23, the Lifestyle Balance Class met at the Gym for weigh-in at 8 a.m. and then traveled to the Sanctuary. This proved to be a wonderful experience for the entire group.

Walking on the boardwalk for approximately one mile through the serene atmosphere of the cypress swamp was not only peaceful but exhilarating. They enjoyed the quiet beauty broken occasionally by the calls of the birds, insects and wildlife. The walkers not only spied on baby hawks in their nest, but watched a family of otters catch and eat fish, alligators floating in the water and a pair of deer grazing at the edge of the trees.

Following their trip down the boardwalk, the



The Lifestyle Balance Group on their walk. (L-R) Brenda Bordogna, Amy Yzaguirre, Anna Puente, Charlotte Porcaro and Tracey De La Rosa.



The Health department staff: (L-R) Anna Puente, Tracey De La Rosa, Charlotte Porcaro, Suzanne Davis, Amy Yzaguirre, Sylvia Marrero, Jade Marrero and Brenda Bordogna.

participants enjoyed a healthy breakfast at a picnic table under the trees. Fruit, juices, high fiber cereal, hard boiled eggs, bagels and yogurt proved to be not only tasty, but heart smart, nutritious and very satisfying.

Porcaro and Bordogna spoke to the gathering about ways to remain motivated, overcome stumbling blocks and continue encouraging each other. The group planned to meet again and chart their achievements. The meeting concluded with the presentation of Certificates for the 2005 Lifestyle Balance Program.



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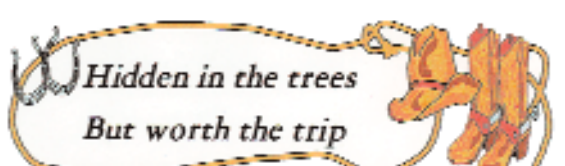
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Health Corner ♦ Chah-nee-ken chàò-ke ♦ Cvfeknetv onakv

Dear Counselor,

I enjoy reading your articles. I like the way you use words to resolve difficult situations. I hope you can help me with my problem.

I am a 23-year-old Seminole male. I do not use drugs or abuse women. I am presently attending college. I plan to graduate from college with a business degree and return to the reservation and help my people. I recently met a young lady that I am crazy about. I think about her all day. I call her nine to 12 times a day.

My girlfriend is Seminole; she is an angel. I told my mom that I plan to marry my girl in three months even though we have only been going out for 12 weeks. My mom said that I should wait and that I am not in love. My mom said that I was infatuated with my girlfriend.

What is infatuation?

Signed,

Confused

Dear Confused,

Infatuation is immature love. Infatuation may occur when one meets a person who seems to fit the idealized image of the person one hopes to marry.

Since girls mature earlier than boys and have fewer obstacles to marriage, an infatuation usually begins with a girl deciding she likes a boy and letting him know. This makes him feel wonderful, so he thinks she's wonderful.

In dating, it is very important for you to realize that physical attraction has played a large role in your decision. Infatuation may change suddenly, unexpectedly, and unpredictably. When love changes, the reason tend to be more or less apparent. Infatuation may change for no apparent reason. Two people in love are not indifferent to the effects of postponing their wedding; most do not feel an almost irresistible urge toward

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

haste.

An infatuated couple tends to feel an urge toward immediate marriage. Physical attraction is a relatively smaller part of their total relationship when a couple is in love, but it is a relatively greater part when the two are infatuated. Many of us spend a great deal of time seeking love, believing that what we want and need is outside ourselves. We continue to place expectation on others to meet our needs consequently we give others the option to decide for us whether we are going to be happy or sad.

Forgetting that you alone are responsible for your own peace within, true love is not when you conclude that your peace of mind is caused by someone or something outside

of yourself. Confused, your mom is a very wise woman. What she is saying to you is that most of us practice conditional love in our relationship and in our lives, not "I will love you if..."

When we are in a relationship that is based on infatuation, we frequently behave as though we are like an automobile that is about to run out of gas. We search desperately for someone to fill us up with love in order to keep on going. We forget that true love will continually renew itself as we extend it to our partner. Instead we perceive it as something outside ourselves, given to us by others in limited quantities, which we are constantly afraid, will run out.

According to the law of love, mature love means that all of one's love is extended with patience. The other person is under no obligation to create self love within you, self-respect within you, self-worth within you or self esteem within you. Mature love means the other person is under no obligation to change as you see fit.

Mature love is true love, it is unconditional love.

Signed,

Counselor

Seminole Wellness Conference Around the Corner

Mark the dates for the Twelfth Annual Seminole Wellness Conference

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Woman to Woman: Insights and Issues The Joy of Living

By Cathrine Robinson, Immokalee Family Services

[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@semtribe.com. The opinions expressed here are her own.]

Have you ever known someone to be completely stagnated in life? He or she is not interested in pursuing goals, mending relationships, saving money, recovering from addictions, resolving problems, or letting go of resentments.

I once had a friend who could provide a million reasons why she was entangled in self-defeating behaviors, but could not provide one solution to stepping out of just one predicament. Problems and predicaments fueled her submersion into the unrelenting abyss of self doubt and fear. She lived day to day without responding to the challenge of change.

In fact, she creatively molded new situations to fit her stagnated pattern of being, rather than meeting the challenge of trying the reverse. She was invested in the pattern of existing, rather than the process of evolving. To her, this pattern felt safe and unobtrusive. However, resisting evolution eliminated her ability to achieve joy in living.

Initially, I was perplexed by my friend's stubborn adherence to this pattern of life. Merely existing, appeared to me, a contradiction to the evolving process of living. Her resistance frustrated me to the point where I felt it was my duty to rescue her from herself. Of course that quest was unrealistic. In fact, it just made me feel sick and helpless.

Her feelings of unworthiness would not allow her to feel excited about any positive event that crossed her path and the state of evolving was not her priority. I had to finally accept that evolving as a person was my value, not hers. I had to learn to let go and care for her from a distance.

Letting go of this acceptance did not mean I had abandoned all hope for her to assert her choice for change. On the contrary, I praised any movement toward the positive; I just did not get swallowed up into her poor choices.

It appears that often times, when people get overwhelmed with problems, they forget that they have the power to alter the impact of most problems by just challenging their self defeating beliefs regarding themselves, and their surrounding world. This is not to minimize the truth of the inevitability we will get exposed to one or many events in life which may yield us, to powerlessness, manipulation, abuse, inactivity, pain, and loss at one time or another.

We do not, however, have to accept negative events as permanent afflictions destined to cripple us for life. Unfortunate experiences do not shape who we are, or define our characters. So long as the process of living presents a new moment in life, we

have the ability to maneuver a change. We have a choice to transform potentially devastating obstacles, into stepping stones toward enlightenment.

The major challenge is being proactive in this process of growth, and there are several ways we can accomplish this:

1. We can challenge our ability to learn.

Rosalyn Yalow, a famous physicist once said, "as long as you are learning, you are not old". Learning keeps us renewed, refreshed, and resilient. There are several ways we can pursue learning. Reading a different book each month, exposing ourselves to different cultures, traveling to distant places, taking on a new hobby, returning to college, obtaining a positive mentor, and working a new career are a few of the many ways we can expand our understanding of ourselves and the world. Learning makes life worthwhile.

2. We can take good care of ourselves. Most of us are better at taking care of others rather than ourselves. If we are seriously interested in evolving into a more resilient person, capable of battling life's challenges, we must become nutritionally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually fit. Eating nutritionally balanced meals, exercising regularly, abstaining from illicit mood altering drugs, and staying spiritually connected are all building blocks toward endurance.

3. We can stay away from drama. Drama can be both enticing and intimidating. Volatile, toxic, and insincere people can create unforgettable chaos that will kill the joy in any situation. Gossipers, abusers, controllers, connivers, and smitters are all people who reap superficial gain from exploiting a person or situation. No person or situation is worth sacrificing a peace of mind or wasting a precious moment in time.

On the other hand, what if the drama comes from within? Refusal to release guilt, shame, anger, resentments, and other types of old baggage fuels the setting for drama. If deep seeded issues are burdening you, get help and talk to a professional counselor, elder, minister, or mentor. It is better to be a part of a solution, than to perpetuate a problem.

4. We can be open to positive relationships. There are good people who cross our paths every so often. Sometimes we are blinded, or worst, misguided by the notion that we do not deserve the goodness they offer, thereby avoiding what could have potentially been a positive relationship. Be open to the joy of giving and receiving goodness.

If more people were receptive to the notion that they deserve kindness and respect, there would be no tolerance for accepting abuse and degradation in any form. Being receptive to associating with people who want to compliment your life will undoubtedly increase your joy.

In closing, there may be current or future challenges which may temporarily diminish your quality of life. However, facing these very challenges directly, will only build strength, faith, self confidence, and self worth. By transforming obstacles into avenues of growth, we validate the understanding that we all have the potential to find joy in the next moment and the power to create a new beginning.

Unpaid Medical Bills Wanted

Submitted by Health Director Connie Whidden

Attention Seminole tribal citizens, we want your unpaid medical bills. It is your responsibility to make sure that your medical bills get paid. If your medical bills remain unpaid, they will often be referred to collection agencies and this can damage your credit rating.

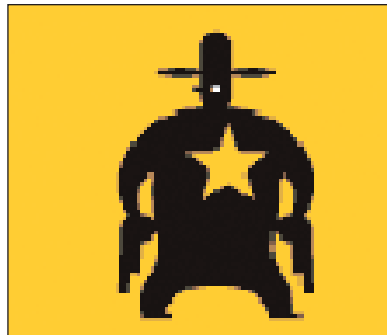
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So, if you receive an invoice in the mail for an unpaid medical bill, this is what you need to do: Please bring the bill to the patient services coordinator at one of the following health clinics: Hollywood Health Clinic, Karen Lee, (954) 962-2009, Brighton Health Clinic, Gail McClenithan, (863) 763-0271,

Big Cypress Health Clinic, Wendy Powers, (863) 983-5151, Immokalee, Ana Puente, (239) 657-6567, Tampa, Sue Harjo, (813) 246-3100.

The patient services coordinator will in turn forward the bill to your Health Plan for review. Covered bills will be processed per Health Plan benefits and limitations.

Or send the bill directly to your Health Plan



office so that your bill can be processed. Following is the address of your Health Plan and the telephone number should you want to contact the staff directly:

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(866) 505-6789 or (954) 981-7410**

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* Name of the person calling
* Telephone number
* Name of the medical provider or

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* Your account number
* Date the medical service was rendered
* Amount of the bill

In addition, please inform the caller that Debi DeHass may be calling them for information about your bill.

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Immokalee Gathers for Women’s Health Day

Story by Judy Weeks
IMMOKALEE — The Seminole Health department declared May 11 Women’s Health Day in Immokalee. Several organizations came together under their direction at the gym in an effort to educate the women of the community. Anna Puente, Cindy Ledbetter, Cris Scanlon and Debbie Haywood staffed the Health department booth.

Nutritionist and Health Educator for Immokalee Charlotte Porcaro enlisted the assistance of the Recreation department in putting together this presentation. The theme for the day was “A Woman’s Health Priorities Throughout Her Lifetime.”

As women age, their bodies become more susceptible to illness and disease. That’s why it the Health department puts on these types of events—it is important to stay active, have current vaccinations and health screenings. Circulating around the room, the ladies visited booths with information from the American Cancer Society and American Heart Association. Healthy choices, early detection and periodical medical exams were stressed.

The Hendry Regional Medical Center booth

not only passed out information on mammograms and pap smears, but offered a bone density test, which screens for osteoporosis. Toni McDaniel was on hand to administer the exam, gave immediate results and offered information on ways to treat and help prevent serious bone loss.

Porcaro introduced everyone to Registered Nurse Debbie Haywood, who will be available at the new health clinic facilities on the reservation. Using a prosthetic, the Health department taught self breast exams and showed how to detect small elusive breast lumps. Puente gave hearing exams while Haywood tested for blood sugar and monitored blood pressure.

Family Services’ Mental Health Counselor Basil Phillips passed out flyers on depression, physical and sexual abuse, drug and alcohol dependency. He made the group aware of various programs provided in the community by himself, Cathrine Robinson and Social Worker Lucy Ortiz to combat these serious problems. Ted Nelson presented information about the Foster Care Program, which he directs.

Kim Crews and Selina Harvey traveled from the Brighton Dental Clinic to provide information on

Signore stated, “A safe community depends on the cooperation of the residents as well as police officers. Working together we can build a healthy environment to safe guard our homes and loved ones.” Porcaro discussed a grave danger to the Seminole Tribe—diabetes.



(L-R) Delores Jumper talks about dental hygiene with Kim Crews.

Judy Weeks

“There is prevention and control, if we are willing to put forth the effort,” she said. “We have an active Lifestyle Balance Program in Immokalee that meets on Mondays at the Gym. Your participation is welcome or make an appointment with me. I work for you and together we can improve your overall health.”

The Education department went all out with a large display offering information on upcoming health presentations, youth programs and career opportunities. Education Advisor Norita Yzaguirre, America Martinez and Jaime Yzaguirre counseled the group on many important issues.

As the school session draws to a close, many programs will begin for the summer. A few of these are: June 13–14, The Tribal Health Fair highlighting career, education and health, July 9–23, Governor’s Counsel for the Florida

Indian Youth Program; Vacation Bible School; and August 1–4, Big Cypress and Immokalee Youth Wellness Conference.

Norita Yzaguirre said, “There are many other things in the works, but the Seminole Pathways Program is the most exciting. It offers opportunities for employment while advancing your education. You can acquire your GED, summer high school, college internship and work experience. There are fantastic employment options in the Tribal Career Management program which includes the casinos and hotels as well as vocational. Education holds the key to the future. Don’t be left standing outside the door.”

By far the most popular booth in the room was massage therapy. The Seminole Tribe hired licensed massage therapist Tracey De La Rosa to work with the seniors. Her services are available after hours by appointment.

For Women’s Health Day, she set up an exam chair where she provided introductory massages. Her chair was never empty and a line formed for prospective recipients. De La Rosa’s mother, Marlene Ayala assisted her by administering Therabath Wax treatments designed to soothe, soften and renew the tissues of the hands and feet.

Therabath sessions have helped with arthritis and carpal tunnel problems, in addition to increased circulation and skin restoration. The booth had a very informative display of the muscular and skeletal system, aroma therapy, relaxing flute music and a waterfall.



Toni McDaniel of the Hendry Regional Medical Center (right) checks Michelle Ford’s bone density.

Judy Weeks

De La Rosa said, “Massage is the systematic manual and mechanical manipulation of the soft tissues of the body for therapeutic purposes. Massage has direct psychological and physiological benefits.”



Iretta Tiger

(L-R) Cherelee Hall, Corinna Frank and Beverly Alumbaugh recieve welcome bags from the Healt dept.

Health Department Celebrates Women’s Wellness Week

By Iretta Tiger

BIG CYPRESS — Mother’s Day was the starting point for Women’s Wellness Week; a week that focused on the spiritual, mental, physical and emotional needs of women. On May 12, Big Cypress hosted a Women’s Wellness Fair at the Family Investment Center.

Education was the theme of the fair and there was plenty of it. “It’s really good, there’s a lot of information here” said Judy Jim, a Tribal citizen and Tribal employee who came to the fair on her lunch break. “Everything is here.”

Indeed everything was there, from dental to personal security to the more female-specific information such as mammography and self-breast examination. In addition to the information, several tests were available such as blood



Iretta Tiger

Judy Jim watches her ear exam live on TV!



Iretta Tiger

Mary Jene Koenes (left) learns how to win the battle against aging.

sugar, blood pressure, hearing and body fat.

The body fat testing is pretty interesting. The fat is measured using ultrasound and the test is conducted by putting the probe to the bicep. In a few seconds, a receipt is printed that indicates what percentage of a person’s weight is fat and what percentage is muscle. It also reveals the body’s water percentage.

For the hearing test, the machine was hooked up to a screen so that you could actually see the inside of your ears as the test is being conducted.

The fair was not only for the women; several men came to check it out. Toi Andrews was accompanied by her husband Nick. Andrews, who was

also the winner of the fair’s raffle; a basket overflowing with edible gifts.

Gift bags were given to everyone at the fair. The bags contained several items including a 2005 day book from The National Women’s Health Information Center. This day book alone was a great source of information.

The day books are no longer in print, but the information within the book can still be obtained at www.4woman.gov. To obtain any of the health-related information at the fair contact Debra Hamilton with Family Services at (954) 964-6338.



Iretta Tiger

Edna McDuffie gets her blood pressure checked out at the fair.

1. Sam Jones - A Very Important Figure in Seminole History - White Chocolate & Raspberry
2. Billy Bowlegs - Lead the Seminoles in the 3rd Seminole War - Dark Chocolate & Caramel
3. Remember the Clans! - All 9 Clans: Otter Bear, Snake, Panther, Big Town, Bird, Deer, Wind and the extinct Alligator
4. Josie Billie - One of the Strongest Medicine Men of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Hazelnut
5. Ingram Billie - Brother of Josie, also a Powerful Medicine Man - Vanilla & Hazelnut
6. Laura Mae Osceola - Instrumental in getting Federal Recognition of the Seminole Tribe - Dark Chocolate & Bananas
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

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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

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



Judy Weeks

The ISY&LR boys and girls competed in relay races during the annual Cinco de Mayo festivities.

Cinco De Mayo Celebration

Cinco De Mayo Celebration

By Judy Weeks

IMMOKALEE — The annual Cinco de Mayo celebration in Immokalee was a two-day event this year. Festivities got under way on May 7 at the John Jimmie Memorial Arena with the Immokalee Seminole Youth and Livestock Ranch (ISY&LR) hosting the event.

ISY&LR Director Benny Motlow made arrangements for several activities both days as well as two rodeos. A small carnival with rides, jousting, rock climbing, water sports and bounce houses entertained the younger set.

The Eastern Indian Rodeo Association (EIRA) provided one of their usual fine performances on Saturday evening with the Marki Rodeo Company supplying the livestock and professional arena help.

Motlow organized foot races and a calf scramble both days to the delight of Immokalee's youth. Children from the audience enjoyed having the opportunity to participate in both events. The foot racers broke down into age groups, with awards in each category. The calf scrambles drew a crowd of approximately 30 youngsters. When the whistle blew, the kids run in an effort to retrieve the colored ribbons from the calves' tails. Each color represented a specific cash value, with the children unaware of the amount until the competition was over.

Two wagons drawn by large draft horses were on hand both days for hayrides. This gave everyone a chance to experience the transportation of yester year and enjoy a ride through the beautiful grounds of the ISY&LR.

By far, the attraction that drew the most attention was "Nocona," a huge long-horned steer. Weighing approximately 2,000 pounds, this enormous and docile creature ambled about the grounds with a steady stream of youngsters in his saddle. Even the adults flocked to him for a great photo opportunity. This magnificent animal was so tame that Cody Motlow, 12, stood up on his saddle for the camera.

The ISY&LR, with the help of Marty Johns and his Marki Rodeo Company, entertained audiences Sunday night with a Mexican-style rodeo. Announcer Norman Edwards shared the microphone with Gabriel Acosta, delighting the crowd with a steady flow of information and jokes in both Spanish and English.

The rodeo began with every child's favorite event—mutton bustin'. Wearing helmets, vests and chaps the young cowboys rode the sheep to glory with the following results: 1. Greg Betancourt, 2. Kenny Joe Davis, 3. Solomon Ramos, 4. Marco Garza, 5. Jorge Espinosa and 6. Augie Montoya. Steer riders came next as they tried their hand at the sport that will prepare them for riding the bulls in a few years. Putting on a very good performance for the crowd were: 1. J.J. Johns, 2. Josh Johns and 3. Cody Motlow.

Junior Bulls found several of EIRA's experienced young riders back in the chutes for this dangerous ride that they love so much. Results are as follows: 1. Justin Aldridge, 2. Ethan Gopher, 3. Seth Randolph and 4. Garrett Anderson.

A few brave men from Immokalee sacrificed themselves on the bulls before a cheering audience. Most of these riders had never been on a bull before and were fulfilling a life-long dream. With high hopes and determination, they each took their turn lowering themselves on the backs of these unpredictable beasts. The audience participated by cheering and shouting encouraging words to each contestant.

One young man stood out among the rest—Joey the Playboy. Being a good sport and never hav-



Judy Weeks

Cody Motlow rode his steer for the full eight seconds.

ing done this before, he allowed his friends to talk him into sacrificing himself. With shaking knees and chattering teeth, he lowered himself on the bull three times before he ever left the chute. There was a hush of anticipation in the air as everyone waited for the chute to open and they waited and waited.

As the noise died down, a shout came loudly from the chute, "No, No, No..." Joey the Playboy yelled. Then the door flew open and Joey experienced the ride of his life.

When asked about his ride later, he said, "Well, I am adding that to my list of accomplishments I never have to do again."

Each of the brave young contestants put on a good show and some even went back for seconds, making for a very entertaining evening. We were able to identify a few of the riders: Gil Yzaguirre, Juan Carlos Espinosa, Jamie Summerall, Jose Peneva, Jr. and the infamous Joey the Playboy.

Following the rodeo, an enormous crowd gathered at the money machine. Here they had an opportunity to win cash or trade it in on a wide variety of door prizes in a multitude of price ranges. ISY&LR provided Immokalee with a Cinco de Mayo celebration that they will never forget.



Judy Weeks

ISY&LR kids took turns riding Nocona.



Judy Weeks

Cody Motlow stands on Nocona, the 1,200 pound gentle giant.

EIRA Honors Rodeo Star

By Tabitha Osceola

BIG CYPRESS — On May 21, the Eastern Indian Rodeo Association held a rodeo at the Big Cypress Rodeo Grounds and dedicated the rodeo to Matt Wilson, son of TR and Jeri Wilson. Matt died the previous weekend in a boating accident; he was a very competitive bull rider and will be missed by many.

Like all EIRA rodeos, the kids got to entertain the crowd first and in the first event, Mutton Bustin, the competition was tough. No one was able to ride for the full 30 seconds, but Rylee Smith walked away the Champion with a 4.53 second ride and Ahnie Jumper was n't far behind with a 4.50.

The Calf Riding was another event that had the cowboys and cowgirls falling to the ground before the whistle, except for Zane Duchenaux, who rode for the full six seconds and get a score of 48 for the championship. Acealyn Youngblood won the 4–8-year-old barrel racing event with a time of 18.03 seconds.

The main performance had its special moments as well; Shawn Best Sr. made a great ride on his saddle bronc but unfortunately was flagged out by the judges for failing to mark out his horse. In the breakaway roping, Billie Tiger was the champion for the night with a time of 5.28 seconds.

The toughest event of the evening was the team roping; only three teams were able to get their steer roped in less than 30 seconds and the fastest time turned in was the team of Jeff Johns and Todd Johns.

Brighton rodeo grounds will be hosting an EIRA rodeo on July 2 with the kids' events starting the evening off at 5 p.m.

Rodeo results: Mutton Bustin': 1. Rylee Smith, 2. Ahnie Jumper, 3. Shae Pierce, 4. Chastity Harmon.

Pony Riding: 1. William Bearden, 2. Thomas Bearden.

Calf Riding: 1. Zane Duchenaux, 2. Andre Jumper, 3. Kelton Smedley, 4. Blevins Jumper.

Steer Riding: 1. Josh Johns, 2. Cody Motlow.

Jr. Bull Riding: 1. Justin Aldridge, 2. Dayne

Johns.

Jr. Breakaway: 1. Hillard Gopher, 2. Josh Johns.

4–8 Barrels: 1. Acealyn Youngblood, 2. Calgary Johns, 3. Courtney Gore, 4. Jobe Johns.

9–12 Barrels: 1. Zane Duchenaux, 2. JJ John, 3. Nauthkee Henry.

13–18 Barrels: 1. Justina Billie, 2. Shyla Jones, 3. Ethan Gopher.

Jr. Bareback: 1. Jacoby Johns, 2. Seth Randolph.

50 & Over Breakaway: 1. Moses Jumper, 2. Billie Joe Johns, 3. Paul Bowers.

Bareback: No Entries.

Steer Wrestling: 1. Jason Grasshopper, 2. Jeff Johns, 3. Robbie Chalfant.

Saddle Bronc: No Qualified Rides.



Tabitha Osceola

Billie Tiger took first place in the breakaway roping event.

Calf Roping: 1. Naha Jumper, 2. Jason Grasshopper, 3. Josh Jumper.

Breakaway Roping: 1. Billie Tiger, 2. Tess Duchenaux.

Team Roping: 1. Jeff Johns/Todd Johns, 2. Josh Jumper/Naha Jumper, 3. Cicero Osceola/Jason Grasshopper.

Barrel Racing: 1. Tess Duchenaux, 2. Carrera Gopher, 3. Boogie Jumper, 4. Sheyanna Osceola.

Bull Riding: No Qualified Rides.

Tentative 2005 EIRA Rodeo Schedule

Josiah Johns Memorial Rodeo

Brighton, Fla., July 2

Kids rodeo at 6 p.m. — Sanctioned

rodeo at 8 p.m.

Call in Monday June 27 and

Tuesday June 28

Hollywood Rodeo

Big Cypress, Fla., July 23

Call in Monday July 18 Tuesday

July 19

Clewiston Rodeo—Tentative

Clewiston, Fla.

Please call (863) 763-4128, Ext. 124 for all rodeos.

Brotherhood Roping and Men's Conference

Story by Judy Weeks

BIG CYPRESS — On March 23, the Junior Cypress Arena hosted the Brotherhood Roping to kick off the Big Cypress First Baptist Church Men's Conference. Arena Manager Josh Jumper organized the Three Head Round Robin for Tribal citizens and affiliates.

Following the invocation by Reverend Salaw Hummingbird, Board Representative Paul Bowers greeted the roping enthusiasts.

"It gives me great pleasure to see such a fine turnout here today. I am happy to present to you, Clint Sinclair, an evangelist minister from Kansas, who will be meeting with the men of our community for the next four evenings at the First Baptist Church," Bowers said. "He is not only a religious man, but a fine roper and USTRC competitor. I look forward to watching him here this evening."

Pointing to a tooled and inscribed roping saddle on the railing of the announcer's booth, Bowers said, "This fine saddle will go to the high point money winner of the day. May the best man win."

The Round Robin that followed was fast-paced and professionally handled. With 27 ropers competing, the first round comprised 182 runs. Ropes, donated by Sal Labita, were awarded to the fastest time in the first round and went to Josh and Happy Jumper.

After three rounds, the cash winners were as follows: 1. Wayne Hicks and Amos Tiger, 2. Justin Gopher and Bear Weeks, 3. Happy Jumper and Amos Tiger, 4. Clint Sinclair and Josh Jumper, 5. Josh Jumper and Happy Jumper.

Everyone held their breath waiting for the scores to be tabulated and the grand prize winner determined. Finally, the microphone delivered the long awaited announcement. Amos Tiger, a veteran roper from Brighton, had won the coveted trophy saddle. Placing his one-year-old grandson, "Barnie" on top of the newly won saddle, he claimed his prize with a big smile.

At 1 p.m. on Sunday, a group of motorcycle riders gathered at Billie Swamp Safari for lunch. Then Brother Fred Phillips led the bikers on a pleasant ride around Lake Okeechobee. Returning to the Big Cypress First Baptist Church by 6 p.m., the riders ate a generous barbeque rib dinner prior to the evening meeting.

The Men's Conference took place each evening from Sunday through Wednesday at the church with interested individuals gathering from many communities to meet with Reverend Clint Sinclair.

Having a twenty year background in the ministry of Christ, Sinclair became a full time evangelist in 1998. He and his wife, April, are from Sedan, Kan. They have a family of four children, three girls and one boy. Supported by love offerings of the church, they were in Oklahoma prior coming to Big Cypress. Upon leaving, they will visit Louisiana and in May return to their home church in Chautauqua, Kan. Sinclair has been coming to Big Cypress since 1995.

During the four day conference, the evangelist's presentations dealt with family values, a man's duties in the church, family responsibilities and harmony with God. Reverend Hummingbird enjoyed sharing his congregation with Sinclair and hopes that he will return to help spread the gospel in the not to distant future.



Judy Weeks

(L-R) Amos Tiger and Evangelist Clint Sinclair.

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

Paul Bowers Sr. and Paul Bowers Jr.
PO Box 952 • Clewiston, FL 33440
Paul Bowers Sr. (863) 447-0020
Paul Bowers Jr. (863) 258-0869



Adelsa Williams
Samantha (far right) with her mother Barbara Butera (L) and grandmother Mary Moore (center).



Adelsa Williams
(L-R) Priscilla Sayen, Naomi Fewell and Connie Gowen.



Adelsa Williams
Kaylan with mother Allison Osceola.



Adelsa Williams
JudyBill Osceola with daughter Roberta Gopher.

Hollywood Mother’s Day Celebration

By Adelsa Williams
HOLLYWOOD — For all the women who have had the privilege and pain of being a mother, there’s one national day to celebrate that honor. In the Hollywood reservation, that day was April 7. The planned festivities took place at the Hollywood gym.
Hollywood Councilman Max B. Osceola Jr. hosted a luncheon for all the Seminole mothers. There were many flowers that adorned the establishment. Each mother took home a beautiful flower arrangement as well as additional dozens of roses that were made available for the take. Upon entering the gymnasium, mothers were given a raffle ticket for a later drawing. Almost every



Adelsa Williams
Tribal Clerk Holly Tiger with children (L-R) Tianna, Katelyn, Rhett and Jarred.



Adelsa Williams
Mom Jo-Lin Osceola, John Morales and son Tiger Morales.

number was called up for a gift, and there were many given out being that the event had a huge turnout. Tribal citizens David DeHass and Herbert Jim took charge of calling out every winning number. The majority of the prizes included dazzling Seminole beaded necklaces and sterling silver jewelry. One of the favorites was the fine turquoise stone pieces. The smiles of the winners were ear to ear.
Tribal citizen Darline Buster was one of the door prize winners.
“It was different and crowded, good thing my aunt saved me a seat,” she said. “It was a great opportunity for everyone to visit with their family and friends.”



Submitted by Wanda Bowers
First Seminole Baptist Church mothers unite for a special service by Reverend Paul Buster.

A Very Special Mother’s Day

By Wanda Bowers
HOLLYWOOD — Mother’s Day is a day for all children and father’s to be appreciative to their mother or to their wife. My Mother’s Day started out as attending the First Seminole Baptist Church as I’ve always done in the past years.
Reverend Paul “Cowbone” Buster reminded the audience that you must remember your mother on this special day. He said to treat her well because she is the backbone of the family and the nurturer of the family. He also said she is the one that comforts you when you are hurt, she is the one that makes you laugh when you are sad, and the one that makes you get up in the morning to go to work or to school.
He read several scriptures from the Bible on the importance of the mother in the house. Afterwards he asked all the mothers in the church to come forward so he could give fellowship to them. All of the congregation came up and shook hands with all the mothers.
Then Paul announced that since this was Mother’s Day, each family probably had special plans with their mom. He closed with the announcement that there would be no services that evening in order for the family to be

with their mother.
He was right; my kids took me to the Seminole Hard Rock for a Mother’s Day lunch at Renegade Barbeque, and then we had the afternoon to go window shopping through the Seminole Paradise.



Submitted by Wanda Bowers
Mothers and daughters embrace.





Bradford M. Cohen, Esq.
Bradford Cohen has been a legal commentator on MSNBC, Court TV and Fox News as well as appearing on Season 7 of the Apprentice with Donald Trump





José Izquierdo, Esq.
Associate

Bradford M. Cohen Law

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“The initial design work began in 2002, led by Gulf Design Group who worked closely with Elaine Aguilar, Immokalee Council Liaison and Connie Whidden, the Health department director. Actual construction, led by William Scottsman, began in May 2004.”

Agular continued, "By bring a clinic to Immokalee and placing Registered Nurse Debbie Haywood on full time staff, it will eliminate the need to drive all the way to Big Cypress for minor medical

The seniors' building will provide a social area and place for a ceramics program as well as Hot Meals. Leah Minnick reminisced about the first Hot

Judy Weeks

(L-R) Leah Minnick, Susie Kippenberger, Crissie Carter, Raymond Garza, Mitchell Cypress, Elaine Aguilar, Terry Sweat, Paul Bowers Sr.

Kippenberger returned to the podium for the actual distribution of the keys and then asked everyone to move to the front of the clinic for the ribbon

Kippenberger concluded the event by saying, "All of us who worked on the project are proud of what we have accomplished and thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I want specifically to mention Norita Yzaguirre of Land Acquisition and Education. She has worked with us from the very beginning and provided a place for us in the library



Elaine Aguilar, Mitchell Cypress and Paul Bowers Sr. at the ribbon cutting.

“What started as a small camp over on the curve with no running water, only a hand pump, has grown into something our forefathers never could have imagined,” he said. “The Tribal members moved here when five and a half acres were donated and then the Smoke Shop followed. Slowly the reservation came into existence, but not without a struggle. Your Council Representative Elaine Aguilar has known that struggle. She worked in the fields to make sure her sons and daughters could graduate from school. Today our youth have it easy, but life is not smooth—progress requires teamwork. The quarterback never works alone.”

Pointing to the three modular units, Cypress said, "Today we are gathered together for another milestone. Immokalee will have new facilities to house Family Services, Hot Meals and a Clinic with a registered nurse."



Seniors check out the new Hotmeals facilities.

for our numerous meetings. As the children would file in after school, they would look at our blueprints and now they have an opportunity to see the real results and benefit from them."

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News From Indian Country

First Peoples Fund Announces 2005 Fellows

Eight American Indian artists chose for Artists in Business Leadership and Cultural Capital Fellowship programs

Submitted by Jhon Goes In Center, Director of Operations

RAPID CITY, SD — The American Indian non-profit organization, First Peoples Fund announces the recipients of their Artist in Business Leadership and Cultural Capital program fellowships. Meeting the program criteria and stringent review process, the 2005 fellowship class brings their diverse visions, maturity and creative, innovative projects to the First Peoples Fund programs.

The Artist in Business Leadership fellows for 2005 are: Leonda Fast Buffalo Horse, Blackfeet, a stained glass and porcupine quillwork artist from Browning, Mont., Don Montileaux, Oglala Lakota, a visual artist of Rapid City, S.D., Janice Albro, Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota bronze sculptor of Bartlesville, Okla. and Roger Broer, Oglala Lakota, a visual artist formerly of Kent, Wash., now residing in Hill City, S.D.

The 2005 Cultural Capital fellowship recipients are Phillip Whiteman Jr., Northern Cheyenne, a story teller of Lame Deer, Mont., Lillian Pim Wasco, Warm Springs and

Yakima, a contemporary artist of Portland, Ore., Deloris Churchill, Haida, a weaver and basketry artist of Ketchikan, Alaska; and Lyn Risling, Yurok/Karuk/Hupa a culturalist and painter from McKinleyville, Calif.

Applications for 2006 Artist in Business Leadership and Cultural Capital Fellowship programs will be available by August 5 by writing to First Peoples Fund or accessing an application at www.firstpeoplesfund.org.

Founded in 1995, First Peoples Fund mission is to honor and support the creative community-centered First Peoples artists; and nurture the “collective spirit” that allows them to sustain their people. Collective Spirit™ is the human spirit that provides awareness and a sense of responsibility to sustain the cultural fabric of a community. Artists selected for the fund’s programs demonstrate a strong desire to give back through teaching and sharing their knowledge.

For further information, please visit www.firstpeoplesfund.org, or write to First Peoples Fund, P.O. Box 2977, Rapid City, SD 57709-2977, or e-mail at info@firstpeoplesfund.org.

Media Association Seeks Native Talent

Submitted by Frank Blythe

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

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

Interested applicants should visit the website, www.thundermountainmedia.com, for more information. Due to a high volume of interest, the deadline has been extended to June 15.

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

Public Broadcasting Service Executive Producer Frank Blythe from Native American Public Telecommunications and veteran economic development and community consultant Syd Beane from the National American Indian Development Corporation. BannerCaswell Productions is Chuck Banner and Ben Caswell, television professionals who started working together more than ten years ago while at Bob Banner Associates. Bob Banner Associates produced shows including Star Search and Showtime at the Apollo.

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

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

go to Native American Cancer Research. The calendar is dedicated to Miss Indian America 1955, Rita Ann McLaughlin DeHass, mother of Rez Dog owner Keith DeHass, who died of breast cancer. Mary’s mother, Edna Boardman, is a breast cancer survivor.

Rez Dog has a reputation for excellence and commitment to sponsorship of many Native American activities and organizations. They sponsor the Rez Dog Rodeo Team, Iron Five, the Men’s All Indian Basketball Team; the All American Native American High School Football Championships and the Oklahomans for Indian Opportunities Spirit of Women; among other sponsorships.

In September 2004, Rez Dog won an international award given every four years to an American Indian business or person doing diverse and great work for their reservation and the Indian community.

The official announcement of all the models chosen from 12 different American Indian Tribes took place June 6. For a complete list of all the Native American women chose for the 2006 calendar, please see www.rezdog.com.

NAMMYs, Casino Offer Free Concert

Submitted by NAMMY Media

NIAGARA FALLS, NY — On July 2 the Native American Music Association (NAMMY) and the Seneca Niagara Casino are proud to present a special free outdoor concert featuring live performances by Nammy Award winners Martha Redbone, Derek Miller and Jana. Special guests include Native American flautist Keith Secola, who will emcee the event.

The concert will be held at Lackey Plaza, just outside Seneca Niagara Casino, 310 Fourth St., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14303. Showtime is 4 p.m.

Opening the show is 2002’s Debut Artist of the Year Nammy Award winner Martha Redbone, who was mentored by legendary musician, Walter “Junie” Morrison, an original member of the Ohio Players and later, Parliament Funkadelic.

Morrison, wow a kid sister to the funk, she even sang backup vocals on the Mothership reunion album with George Clinton. Her debut CD “Home of the Brave” is summed up by Billboard in one word... “Stunning.” Her music is a diagram of American dream; infused with folksy guitar strum, Hendrix-swagger and earthy, Stevie Wonder-esque funk. Martha has just released her second recording, “Skintalk,” featuring special guest performances by Dennis Banks, and Vernon Foster, music legends like Randy Brecker, Omar Faruk Tekbilek and more.

Winner of the prestigious Best Blues/Jazz Recording at the 2003 Native American Music Awards and a 2003 Juno Award winner, singer/songwriter and blues-rock guitar virtuoso Derek Miller has also been ranked in the top one-third of New York-based

Village Voice’s Critics Poll and in the top 10 of the year in Detroit, Mich.’s *Metro Times* critics poll, alongside the likes of Alice Cooper and the White Stripes.

Creem Magazine states, “Derek Miller’s new touring band rocks with the kind of aplomb usually reserved for seasoned veterans.” Derek has showcased at Canadian Music Week, JunoFest, at Grammy Week in New York, and at the New Orleans Jazz Festival. He also led the musical tribute to Robbie Robertson’s induction into Canada’s Walk of Fame, playing alongside Tom Cochrane and Sarah Harmer at Roy Thomson Hall last June.

Headliner Jana, brings a fresh outlook and exotic style to today’s music. Her striking looks and powerful voice, coupled with the sensibilities of pop, R&B, world and gospel music create a compelling new mix. Jana’s first single, “What I Am To You,” went Top Forty on the Radio & Records rhythmic chart. Her follow up, “Ooh, Baby, Baby,” was an immediate success on radio and in the charts and Billboard magazine named it pop single of the week.

Remixed by the legendary DJ Skribble and Anthony Acid, the next single “More Than Life” became one of the biggest dance records of the year. Jana’s next release was a controversial remake of Led Zeppelin’s “Stairway to Heaven” that was one of the year’s best selling dance records.

She has received three Nammy awards for Best Pop Performer, Song Of The Year and Female Artist Of The Year. Now Jana’s first album entitled, “Flash Of A Firefly,” has been released.

For further information call the Native American Music Awards at (212) 228-8300.



BC National Preserve Announces Temporary ORV Closure

Submitted by Bob DeGross, Chief of Interpretation, Big Cypress National Preserve

BIG CYPRESS — Superintendent Karen Gustin announced on May 26 that Big Cypress National Preserve will close to all recreational off-road vehicle (ORV) use for a 60 day period beginning June 20. The Recreational Off-Road Vehicle Management Plan calls for a 60 day seasonal closure to allow a period free from resource pressures related to ORV use.



The off-road vehicle closure within Big Cypress National Preserve was first instituted in 2002, and coincides with a portion of the wet season of the year. This year, the closure is scheduled for June 20–Aug. 18, with trails re-opening on Aug. 19. This closure does not apply to landowners that hold special use permits to access their private properties through the preserve.

“Due to weather, motorized travel in the preserve is minimal at this time of year,” stated Gustin. “Therefore the closure will inconvenience very few people and will benefit the resources.”

❖ Calendar

Continued from page 1

with her for over an hour at the Tribal Fair that she is special.”

Many of the former models have used the calendar as a stepping stone to further their modeling and acting careers. The 2004 cover model, Jamie Vondal Everett of the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe, took the calendar to agents in Los Angeles, Calif. She signed with the same agent that handles successful models like Brooke Burke and Nikki Ziering. Other models have been featured in hundreds of magazines have made appearances on TV shows and modeled in numerous commercials.

All of the models are financially compensated for their photo shoots. They receive an all-expense paid trip, stay in a beautiful resort, are given pictures for their portfolio, receive swimwear and Rez Dog clothing, and have a week to network with their peers.

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Felix DoBosz

3rd fishing tournament participants (L-R) Mario Posada, Mike Tiger, Frank Marrero, Sammy Nelson, Ernie Tiger, Chris Osceola, Happy Jumper, Tom Koenes.

Big Bass Fishing Finals Tournament

By Felix DoBosz

BIG CYPRESS — On a hot, sunny day with hardly a breeze or a passing cloud for relief, the last leg of the Triple Crown Series of Bass fishing tournaments took place on May 21. The Seminole Tribe of Florida sponsored this grand event along the L-28 canal, north and south of the water lock.

Only seven boats competed for the big grand

prize. Father and son team Mike and Ernie Tiger competed again. The duo also won the Sam Nelson Bass award trophy for the biggest catch of the day.

However, the overall Triple Crown Series Big Bass award for the most weight in total for all three fishing events went to Mario Posada and Frank Marrero with a total weight of 48.15 pounds; they won by a measly seven ounces—now that’s cutting it close.

Mike Tiger said, “We got by today as best we could, we had to fish above the lock which is a little bit tougher than below the lock.” Tiger continued, “Consistency...we go out and catch five fish, hopefully out weight everybody else’s five, we used 20 lb. test line and plastic worm baits.”

Following are the results from the Sam Nelson Fishing Tournament, compiled by Joe Collins of the Hollywood Recreation department: 1. Mike Tiger and Ernie Tiger, 16.1 pounds, 2. Chris Osceola and Sam Nelson, 12.3 pounds, 3. Happy Jumper and Greg Thomas, 6.1 pounds, 4. Mario Posada and Frank Marrero, 9.6 pounds, 5. Rusty Tiger and Clyde Tiger, 8.3 pounds.



Felix DoBosz

Mike and Ernie Tiger hold up the winning bass after fishing all day.

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McCall Siblings Receive End-Of-Year Sports Awards

Sister Christine McCall Graduates High School

By Jaime M. Monaco

HOLLYWOOD — On May 13, just a few days prior to Christine McCall’s graduation, family and friends gathered to celebrate the former homecoming queen when she received a sports award. Throughout her four years at Sheridan Hills, McCall dominated the athletic department in ladies softball, basketball and track.

During the sports award ceremony, basketball Captain McCall, received the Captain’s Bar award and the Most Valuable Player for the 2005 season award. In addition, this four year Letterwoman was part of basketball’s 2005 1st Team All South Atlantic Coast Conference.

Also at the ceremony, Casey McCall’s track and field coach Chris Amos honored the junior. Amos expressed fondness for McCall as he spoke to the audience.

“[Casey has] a special place

Jaime Monaco

The whole family: (L-R) Casey, Wanda Bowers and Christine.

Bowers.

“When you raise a child by yourself, you need all the help you can get,” Bowers said. “I especially would like to thank Max Osceola Jr. for his support and for being so interested in Christine’s accomplishments at Sheridan Hills and help looking out for her future in whatever she wanted to do. Once she focused in on Florida State University, Max was there again.”

McCall will attend Florida State University in the summer to get an early start pursuing her degree in social work. McCall said she strives to be the first Seminole Family Services department director.

That’s right—one graduate down and one still to go for mother Wanda Bowers. By the looks of things brother Casey McCall is not leaving Sheridan Hills quietly. Like his sister, McCall, 16, is making his own lasting impression. Like his older sister, the latter of the McCall siblings said he hopes to attend Florida State University as well and major in business administration.

Both Christine and Casey McCall, of the Deer clan, share the same drive and determination for academic and athletic success. Combined with the support of their family and Tribal community, they are forces to be reckoned with.

Jaime Monaco

Casey McCall

in my heart,” Amos said. “I will miss all the kids, but when I talk to these kids, I look at them like ‘Man I wish I could clone you and take you with me.’”

He also mentioned that he could always count on Casey to help set up for the track meets. He presented Casey and another player, sophomore Victoria Spurduto, with the Coach’s Award. In addition, McCall also received a participation award for varsity football.

McCall was undeniably a fierce athletic competitor on the Sheridan Hills scene. However, according to her basketball and softball coach Eric Spee, she has more importantly been a role model amongst her peers.

“The only thing that seems to stop her is graduation,” Spee said. “The cool thing about Christine is not that she’s a basketball player—that she is—it’s the fact this young lady knows that what she is doing is for the betterment of other people and making their lives better. Even though she has basketball offers, and she could get a scholarship anywhere. That’s not her priority. Her priority is to grow up to be a great young lady. That’s exactly what she is.”

Not only do her coaches say they will miss her in the fall, but her biggest fan will be counting down the days to winter break; her mother Wanda

Jaime Monaco

Christine McCall

Osceola To Compete in WPBA Tourney

HOLLYWOOD — Phalyn Osceola won the women’s 9-Ball division of the Candy Osceola tournament. Her victory awarded her a spot in the June 23–27 Womens Professional Billiard tournament at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Osceola will compete against the top 64 women in the world, including Vivian “Texas Tornado” Villarreal, Jeanette “the Black Widow” Lee and Allison “Duchess of Doom” Fisher.

One of the top female shooters in the Tribe, Osceola claimed one of the sponsorship exemptions through Seminole Sports Management (SSM). Big Cypress Tribal Councilman David Cypress, with the assistance of Villarreal, offered to help Osceola prepare for the tournament, which has a strict dress code and rules of play.

All Tribal citizens are encouraged to watch Osceola play during the tournament week. Tribal citizens are entitled to receive one free ticket per session for the Thursday, Friday and Saturday sessions. The Sunday sessions are ESPN taping sessions.

To receive your ticket, contact Jennifer Keefe at (954) 966-6300, Ext. 1139 or come to the Will Call window before each session. Sessions usually begin at 11:00 a.m.
Good Luck, Phalyn!

Betty Osceola

Women’s 9 ball champion Phalyn Osceola (center) with SSM Manager Elrod Bowers (left) and BC Councilman David Cypress (left).

Results from the 9th Annual Candy Osceola Memorial Pool Tournament

BIG CYPRESS — Girls, 17 and younger: 1. Esmerelda Billie, 2. JoJo Osceola, 3. Clarissa Jumper, 4. Renna Robinson, 5. Shadow Billie, 6. Chassidy Harjochee; Boys: 1. Rob Osceola, 2. Roy Stewart, 3. Lee Stewart, 4. Anthony Hernandez, 5. Morgan Frank, 6. Neko Osceola.

Senior Scotch Doubles: 1. Moses Osceola and Betty Osceola, 2. Howard Osceola and Jenny Johns, 3. Joe Jr. Billie and Annie Jumper, 4. George Grasshopper and Louise Osceola, 5. Harley Jumper and Dale Grasshopper, 6. James Stewart and Alice Sweat.

Super Seniors, 60 and older, Women: 1. Louise Billie, 2. Annie Jumper, 3. Betty Osceola, 4. Mabel Doctor; Men: 1. Joe Jr. Billie, 2. Russell Osceola, 3. Alan Jumper, 4. Sam Nelson, 4. Harley Jumper, 5. Ronnie Doctor.

Seniors, 50–59, Women: 1. Juanita Osceola, 2. Alice Sweat, 3. Jenny Johns, 4. Dale

Men: 1. Ricky Doctor, 2. Howard Osceola, 3. David Jumper, 4. James Stewart, 5. David Bowers, 6. Keno King.

8 Ball, 18–49, Women: 1. Theresa Nunez, 2. Phalyn Osceola, 3. Virginia Billie, 4. Carlene DiCarlo, 5. Nina Frias, 6. Emma Jane Urbina; Men: 1. Lil Ray Yzaguirre, 2. Tony Billie, 3. David Cypress, 4. Jessie Billie, 5. Joey Micco, 6. Derrick Smith.

Scotch Doubles: 1. Tony Billie and Janel Billie, 2. Lil Ray Yzaguirre and Virginia Billie, 3. Joey Micco and Reina Micco, 4. Derrick Smith and Theresa Nunez, 5. Leon Wilcox and Patricia Wilcox, 6. David Jumper and Delores Jumper.

9 Ball, Women: 1. Phalyn Osceola, 2. Virginia Billie, 3. Theresa Nunez, 4. Juanita Osceola, 5. Latonya Jumper; Men: 1. Derrick Smith, 2. Tony Billie, 3. David Cypress, 4. Bronson Hill, 5. Daniel Gopher.

Hard Knocks At The Hard Rock VII

By Adelsa Williams
HOLLYWOOD

— On May 20, the seventh installment of the Hard Knocks at the Hard Rock series took place at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. The event, promoted by Warrior's Boxing Promotions, Inc and the Seminole Hard Rock, aired live on ESPN2's Friday Night Fights.

The main event featured a cruiserweight battle between Canadian "Cowboy" Dale Brown and Atlanta resident O'Neill "Give 'Em Hell" Bell, originally from Jamaica. Brown seemed to dominate the fight throughout most of the rounds, scoring high on extreme body shots against Bell, nearly dropping him in the third round.

It was Bell's sharp overhands that managed to cut the cowboy above the left eye and above and between both eyes during the first few rounds. The lacerations made no effect on Brown's fierce and skillful performance.

Bell dominated Brown in rounds six and seven, impressively landing stiff shots, but Brown came back at the end of those rounds, forcing Bell up against the ropes. The spectators cheered Brown on as they witnessed the rip-roaring brawl.

As the bout reached its end, Bell began showing signs of exhaustion but still managed to survive the whole 12 rounds with steady body work on Brown but still recklessly. At the end, Brown seemed confident to have ringed the "Bell" for another victory, only to be dismayed by an upsetting decision for his eminent opponent.

Bell won unanimously as the judges' score cards read, 115-113, 116-112, 117-111 all in his favor. The decision was greeted by loud boos from the pro-Brown crowd. With this win, Bell captures the IBF's Cruiserweight belt.

The controversial decision in the boxing world has Brown's corner already officially requesting a rematch to the International Boxing federation (IBF).

"No question, I won that fight," said Brown in additional interviews following the fight.



Bell captured the IBF Cruiserweight Belt.

Adelsa Williams



Felix DoBosz

Brown is dismayed by an upsetting decision.

The co-feature bout was between Warrior's hot middleweight Edison Miranda and Sam Reese. Miranda dominated the second round landing repeatedly fierce body shots. Reese took advantage of Miranda's weak defense during round six, once again working on his body with another fierce attack. Miranda was deducted a point in that round for holding and hitting but regardless of the deduction Miranda went home a winner by unanimous decision.

Following his U.S. debut victory over Reese, Miranda is scheduled to take on Nicaraguan Jose Varela who will be making his U.S. debut. The expected and exciting challenge for the incomers will take place on June 16 at the Seminole Coconut Creek Casino in Coconut Creek, Fla.

In other bouts, Warriors' Super Welterweight Ed Paredes effortlessly beat Jean Michel by technical knockout (TKO) two minutes and thirty one seconds into the second round.

Hawaiian-native Welterweight Kili Madrid scored a split decision over John Trigg in an evenly-matched six rounder. Madrid continues on with his back to back winning streak, maintaining his undefeated record.

During the opening bout, Miami, Fla. resident Randall Bailey (28-5-0) won by unanimous decision against Colombian southpaw Roberto Ortega in a 10 round scuffle. Bailey remains undefeated.



Felix DoBosz

Brown maintains a strong defense against the hard hitting Bell.



Felix DoBosz

Brown stuns Bell with his strong left jab.



Felix DoBosz

Brown lands a hard right to the chin.

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❖ Immokalee

Continued from page 1

the community with information from a comprehensive study of the Brunswick proposal.

Bolton, who has a master's degrees in business and 24 years of experience, has spent the past two years working for the Tribal Board on business development projects. Her most recent endeavors involved getting Brighton's fuel station up and running and the Big Cypress Convenience Store open to the public. Both businesses are proving to be successful beyond their expectations and turning a gross profit.

Bolton began her presentation by giving her endorsement to Brunswick.

She said, "They are at the top of their field and are considered number one in the bowling industry in the United States for the past 100 years. While an entertainment center can include many things, the present research recommends a bowling alley, movie theater, video arcade, restaurants and possibly electronic bingo."

Norita Yzaguirre of the land use department then operated a slide show presentation of the Brunswick plan as Bolton narrated. She asked rhetorically why a bowling alley should be the "anchor business in the complex."

"It is low maintenance," she said; answering her own question. "Any age group can participate. It is a year round activity and very cost effective. There are over 70,000,000 bowlers participating in this sport per year, making bowling the most popular recreational sport in the U.S."

Rufus Tiger added, "The new Ave Maria Catholic College Campus has begun construction a short distance from Immokalee and includes the building of a small town to surround the college. We are on the cutting edge with no current competition. We could have our business operating with an established clientele long before any competition could enter the field."

Tony Sanchez of the Immokalee Seminole Casino said he was very receptive to the proposal. He said it would complement the current casino or enhance any casino expansion program. Sanchez hopes for an up-graded casino and hotel that might entice the more affluent spender.

If a Family Entertainment Center could be built adjacent to it, they could work off each other with something for everyone, he added.

Bolton continued her presentation with slides of completed Brunswick projects across the country including Las Vegas, Nev. and several large urban hubs. It was very impressive.

She said, "It is a cash business—no receivables. The center would create a balance between gaming and non-gaming revenue streams, while providing employment opportunities as well as a family entertainment experience for tribal members."

"Brunswick offers a turn-key program. They would build the center, finance it, make operational suggestions and you could own it in five years. The project holds many opportunities for expansion with restaurant franchises, skating rinks and small shops."

Tiger and Sanchez invited everyone to come up and look at the aerial survey of the reservation with possible locations for such a complex, relocation of the pre-school, a church and casino expansion.

The general atmosphere in the room was favorable to the project and tended to lean toward a location near the casino on SR 846. This area comprises approximately 14 acres, allows for traffic flow, visibility and would keep the commercial venture out of the actual community.

Bolton and Tiger expressed the feeling that Brunswick would be the best bet because they do the whole project—only one vendor to hold accountable. They pointed that Brunswick could have it up and running within six months.

Various Tribal citizens made some very good observations, including questioning if the revenue go to the community or the Board. Monies will go to the Board with a dividend to the community. The audience also asked how this will affect the Tribal Council and the casino.

Several people said the Board should take their proposal to Council before any further discussion. They suggested letting Council announce any future plans they may have for the casino before considering a location for this project.

Immokalee citizens also wanted to know how much money the Family Entertainment Center would generate in a year. Immokalee Council Liaison Elaine Aguilar was asked to check on the numbers and talk with the Council, review the issues and then share with the community. Before this is done, any further discussion would be premature.

Other questions included how many lanes the bowling alley would have. The group felt that 24 lanes would be a good beginning because it would allow for tournament use on a regular basis.

Next on the agenda was a presentation on bingo—Electronic verses Paper. Bolton explained how it worked, costs of set-up and possible revenues for consideration.

Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers was present for the community meeting and not only listened intently but gathered copies of the written data for further examination.

When asked how he felt about the Family Entertainment Center he said, "After I have reviewed everything, I will naturally form an opinion of my own. However, if this requires a vote, I will have to check with the community members and vote their wishes. That is what representative means. The community should be well informed and have an opportunity to have their feelings expressed."

At the conclusion of the evening tickets were drawn and a wide variety of door prizes distributed by Lois Alvarez and her helpers.

Important Notice

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Happy Birthday

I would like to say **happy 23rd birthday to Susan!** You are doing so much better and you're very blessed to have three beautiful children. I hope you have the best time on your day. I love you so much and can't believe it's already been 23 years; but it's true. Be good and safe you'll be home soon.
Love always,
Your family and friends and the Big Town Clan



Happy birthday to Darrin Osceola on July 4. Hey Cuz, Thank you for always being there for me. I hope your day is filled with joy even though you're up there now (smile) just kidding, I love you. Darrin, take it easy see you around.
Love,
Your cousin, Carolee J. Nelson

In Memoriam

In memory of Covie Ryan Billie

April 13, 2005

*I promised myself I wouldn't cry today, I lied
While I was trying to find a way to say hello,
It was time to say goodbye for the space of a few
Minutes that I was allowed to hold your little body
Next to mine was the saddest day for me
To look down into the sweetest, most precious little face,
When I finally spoke your name it only made you more validated
Although you have never walked this earth,
I felt I had known you for eternity
Someone said to me "It was Gods will"
All I felt was anger
Anger as to why he would pick our little angel*

*When he has so many up there in the streets of heaven
I just don't understand why
But I know that one day we will meet again and I will recognize your face
For it is burned in my memory forever.*

*Till we meet again,
Hannah*

*I love him so much I wish he was alive
I would play sports with him
But I will always remember him
He is in my heart
And I hope you do to I hope we meet again*

*From,
Earuza Billie*

In Loving Memory of Kristy LeeAnn Motlow

Damn girl, its already been a year since God took you from us. Me and DarRick and i'm sure everyone else missed you. I check in on your mom every chance I get; its the way I can still feel close to you. I miss your laugh and your big loving heart. You are never forgotten. You're still DarRick's Godmom. I still have all our pictures so remember we love you and always will. See ya later Kris.
Love ya,
Carole and DarRick

Happy Father's Day

Happy Father's Day to Ricky Ray Baxley

Daddy,

Another year gone by without you and my memories are still strong, ever since I was your little girl. I remember all the places we went together even the race track we sure had fun. No matter what you were always happy around me and showed me so much love. I miss your hugs the most only you and God keep me strong.

Our relationship is everlasting. I pray everyday that I make you happy. I am not perfect but I am able to better myself. Thank you for being the best dad ever to me, I miss you and love you
Love,
Your number one daughter, Carolee J. Nelson



Congratulations



Congratulations to **Akira Dorian Billie**. It only seems like yesterday you were a baby now you're graduating to first grade. We are so proud of you.
Love,
Your whole family

Smith Elected to Class VP Position



By **Emma Brown BRIGHTON** —
Congratulations to **Brittany Smith** who was recently elected vice president of the Okeechobee High School sophomore class. Brittany is an excellent student who will make a fine vice president.
Good luck Brittany, we know you will do a great job.

Congratulations to Christine McCall

By **Proud Mother Wanda F. Bowers**
I am the proud parent of Christine Elizabeth McCall. She was a senior at Sheridan Hills Christian School, a private school located in Hollywood, Fla.; she graduated on May 27.
One down...One to go...
Christine has always been involved in sports, just like her mom. I expected much of her in the beginning, as all mother's do. I wanted her to strive and excel in whatever she wanted to do, but as they say, it takes time. It was worth it though and she was also chosen as homecoming queen.
Her first year at Sheridan Hills, history teacher and basketball and track Coach Eric Spee was dying to get her on his varsity basketball team, even though she was rather new to the game. She didn't play much at home. She was going to start with the junior varsity team and work her way up. However, Coach Spee had other plans.



and First Team All-SACC 2005. Senior stats: Basketball, 13.5 points, 14 rebounds per game, Team captain, Team 61-34 in her four years at starting center and District Runner-Up, 2004.
Varsity Softball 2002-2005: Four year letterwoman, Second Team All-SACC 2004 and 2005, Lifetime batting average .260, Member of the 2004 Regional Champion, Final Four Team, Team 46-24 in her four years.
Varsity Track: Years: 2003, 2005, Shot put
Coach Spee stated that "Christine has been a valuable member of our Sheridan Hills Christian School and its athletic programs. Christine has excelled in several sports most notably in basketball. She demonstrated outstanding leadership to our young 2005 basketball team. I am proud of her not only for her athletic success but for the strong character she brought to our school."
I know Christine will miss the staff and all the friends that she made at Sheridan Hills but, most of all Spee. He taught her all he could in both on the court, on the field, in the classroom and in the word of God, I thank him. When you raise a child by yourself, you need all the help you can get.
I especially would like to thank Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. for his support and for being so interested in Christine's accomplishments at Sheridan Hills. He helped with looking out for her future in whatever she wanted to do. Once she focused in on Florida State University Max was there again. Now she continues her education at Florida State University.

He put her straight on the varsity basketball team and started her on the right track of teamwork, self-confidence and becoming a roll model. After basketball season finished, she went straight to softball then along with softball she went into track throwing the discus.
I guess you could say that went right along with her involvement in school, she was determined to do good in sports and in school and go on to college.
Christine's athletic accomplishments in her three years at Sheridan Hills: Varsity Basketball 2002-2005: Four year letterwoman, Honorable Mention, All County *Sun-Sentinel* 2004-2005, Second Team All-SACC-2004

Poems

A Poem for My People

The other side, he is able to live his traditional life proudly
As an Indian we are very spiritual people, and to be a Seminole Indian like my uncle, my cousin, and my self it's very important that we Carry our tradition and spirituality forward to those who come after us
In closing, some people might say that change is a brave thing to do
But I say it's the right thing to do, especially when you were brought up to believe or act a certain way
One thing that's for sure about change is it starts with you
Who you want to be; what matters to you; what are you going to stand for?

—**Norman A. Bowers**
"Skeeter"
Snake Clan

Correction

In the May 20 issue of *The Seminole Tribune* Richard Bowers was misidentified as Richard Osceola in the story "EID Spurs Superior Payday." Richard Osceola is the head of the Brighton Recreation department and Richard Bowers is the Big Cypress Cattle Range Office Manager.

New Kid



Billie Lauren Cypress was born on March 23 at 11:21 a.m. She weighed: seven pounds, five ounces and measured 19-and-a-half inches. Billie's mother is Carla Lena Cypress. "I got my little girl!"

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❖ Gathering

Continued from page 1

Seminole Tribal citizen Christine McCall represented the Seminole Tribe in the Miss Indian World Pageant. McCall, from the Hollywood reservation, was one of 28 contestants.

Delana Smith, an Ojibwe from Red Lake, Minn., was the reigning Miss Indian World. As a preschool teacher where a disturbed student killed nine people and then himself this past year, she did a special dance in memory of the lost ones. As a part of her final act, she and her Tribal council brought 40 of her preschool students to perform the jingle dance with her at the Pow-Wow.

Immokalee seniors Nancy and Louise Motlow, Delores Jumper and Elizabeth Oleo with her daughter, Linda Beletso attended the event accompanied by Jennie Martinez, Anna Puente and Angie Arreguin. In addition to attending the Pow-Wow, they visited a museum in Santa Fe and went sight seeing in the area surrounding Albuquerque.



Angie Arreguin

(L-R, front row) Louise Motlow, Elizabeth Oleo, (L-R, back row) Jennie Martinez, Anna Puente and Linda Beletso at the Santa Fe museum, a side trip they took while attending the Gathering of Nations.

This happy group lost themselves for a whole day at the Indian Trader's Market, where over 800 vendors display and sell their crafts and jewelry. Mingling with the crowd, they soaked up the culture of many nations.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Big Cypress Council Representative David Cypress joined the ladies during a tour of Old Town.

"It is great to spend time with the elders," Cypress said. "It gives me an opportunity to relax and unwind from my hectic daily routine."

Joking and teasing, David Cypress displayed his wonderful sense of humor as he kept the group laughing and bantering with each other.

Joining Esther Buster, Janice and Louise Osceola from Big Cypress, the group from Immokalee enjoyed the Landry's Restaurant. The establishment had posted a "Welcome Seminoles" sign on their marquee.

Mem'ries of My Dad

By Paul "Cowbone" Buster

My dad was born in 1926. It may have been the Roaring 20s for America, but for most of the Seminoles and all the Native Americans, it was a struggle to survive in the hard times.

Grandpa John was Dad's father—he was the only grandfather I physically knew in my life as the other three grandparents had already passed on when I was born. I never knew my dad's mother's name; I only knew her as Grandma that I never knew.

My dad's childhood was mostly near a place called "Deep Lake" the Jerome and Copeland area on Highway 29. A logging train used to come through there, parallel to the highway. Many times my dad would catch that train into Immokalee or Everglades City, whichever way the train was going.

I guess maybe that's why he loved those old Jimmy Rodgers train songs and he used to sing a lot of those old time blues about the trains. I surmise that that's where I got my interest in music; I was hearing my dad playing his guitar and singing those old country songs. I do not regret it at all, whatsoever!

I do not exactly know when my dad came to the Big Cypress reservation. I only can guess that he came when he was a young man. It was probably when America was in World War II and times were lean.

James Billie's song "Hal pate chobe-Big Alligator" depicts the times when the Seminoles liter-

ally had to survive by consuming alligator meat and by selling the hide to make ends meet. This young generation may not understand what I am saying!

My dad and mom met in Big Cypress and married and made their home in a little place where there were some oak trees, palmetto patches and of course, cypress trees in the surrounding areas. This is where I was born "wild and free". It was on a cold January morning with a little bit of frost on the pumpkins and on the alligators, too.

We never had any fancy possessions: no big house, no big car, no fancy clothes—but what we had was a home. Our home was a chickee made from cypress wood and palmetto fronds, but it was a home. It may be hard to live like that compared to today's lifestyle, but it seems like life was more simple and more enjoyable in those times than it is today.

My dad made provisions by hunting and fishing and both my mom and dad did the traditional gardening. What I mean by "traditional gardening" is that my mom would find a place way out in the swamp, where there is high ground. That is where they would clear the brush and debris and burn it and plant their pumpkin, corn, seeds, etc.

My dad made sure that my needs were met and he made sure that I listened and learned. He was a caring, loving father and he was wise and strong. I thank God for my dad and I will always be grateful that my dad fulfilled the role of a father, and most certainly, the role of being a wonderful daddy.

Happy Father's Day to everyone.



Submitted by Cowbone

The Busters: (L-R) Mom Mary Annie, Baby Paul and Father Junior.

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The Land Far Away

Your day is over
While I am trying to start mine
My mind wonders and ponders
As I close my eyes and go back in time

Rollin' green hills
A Lil' bit of heaven as I recall
Auburn hair and green eyes
Makes beautiful spring as well as in the fall

Cool crisp mornings
The sun rises slowly o'er the green hills
Eyes sparkle to a new day
Ready to embark on fun and frills

Cool refreshin' breeze
Bringin' wonderful feelin' of a new day

Easter-Bells are beautiful
A Lil' bit of heaven and paradise is all I can say

When the night falls
The sound of silence between midnight and dawn
It is so hard to ignore
One has to wake up and listen before it is gone

Birds in the mornin'
Lookin' for a wayward worm from the earth
Greenish butterfly's are flutterin'
Seems to thank GOD for the day of his birth

Smiles on one's faces
Shows happiness, sunshine, brightness to the day
Little bit of heaven
A Lil' bit of paradise "in the land far away"

—Cowbone

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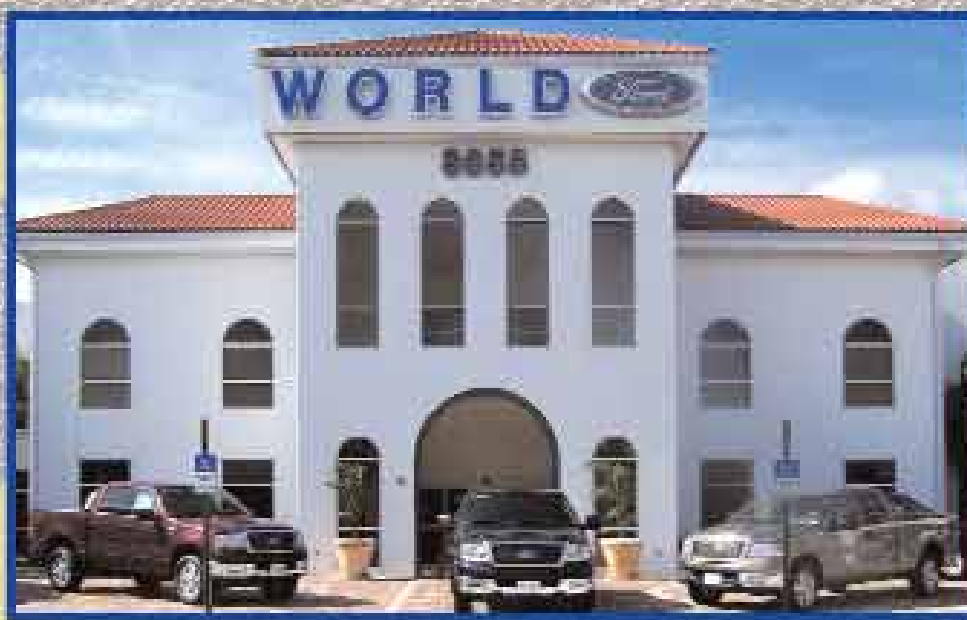
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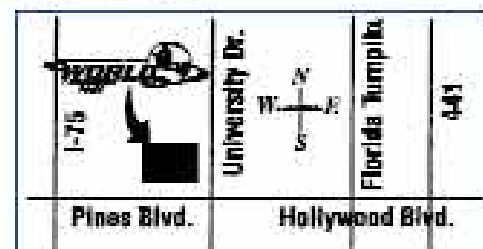
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Proper watermelon eating etiquette is not required to win.



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Moms at home wish they had this babysitting device.



Felix DoBosz

Proper watermelon spit'n technique shown here.



Felix DoBosz

Watermelon eating contest rule number one: do not use your hands!

Watermelon Festival and Car Show

By Felix DoBosz

BIG CYPRESS — On a beautiful warm spring day, the Seminole Tribe of Florida hosted a Watermelon Festival and Car Show in conjunction with Big Cypress Recreation department.

There were many colorful air balloon bounce houses for the children to play in and around. There was even a car wash-themed bounce house with suds of soap to splash around in and stay cool while chewing on some juicy fresh watermelons. They also had a simulated surfing ride where kids would stand on a rocking surfboard trying to balance themselves without falling off.

A water balloon giant slingshot contraption was on each side of the baseball field as kids took turns slinging water balloons 100 yards through the air, bombarding the other side of the field. Kids also enjoyed climbing up a 30-foot virtual mountain with safety harnesses on. Harnesses were also used for the bungee type jumping swings that many kids were thrilled to try jumping up and down on.

There were a few live bands playing all kinds of pop music in between the watermelon competitions and the traditional picnic treats. The Watermelon contests that people enjoyed participating in consisted of seed spitting, melon eating, tossing greased melons and group melon underpass.

People gathered to enjoy lots of picnic foods to munch out on under the shades of the big white tents for this fun filled event. Assistant Director of BC Recreation Stan Frischman and his skilled Recreation department staff worked tirelessly to organize this celebration. With long sharp machetes, Frischman and his crew carefully sliced up the melons with great precision.

Little youngling's hands were behind their backs, girls and boys sitting on each side of long picnic folding tables as they sank their teeth into the chilled and juicy red ripe watermelon, trying to devour as much melon as possible in the shortest amount of time. They had different categories for all age groups so everyone had a chance to win valuable cash prizes. A few participants felt like their bellies were about to explode while gulping down huge chunks of melon and then running quickly away from the table to let it all back out. A big truck load of watermelons for this event was donated from the local Seminole farms, estimated at about 200.

The Ronnie Billie car show consisted of a dozen custom trucks and SUV's competing for valuable cash prizes and trophies. There were also a few unique custom motorcycles.

Roger and Maria Luz Villarreal, his wife, a Seminole citizen, Wendy Jimmie, from Panther clan, had their SUV in the competition, they took second place. Villarreal brought his five daughters, Monique, Jasmine, Ramona, Michelle, and Maria Luz to enjoy this fun family event.

He displayed an ultra-shiny 2004 Chevy Suburban customized with 27-inch chrome wheels by Lexani, chrome fender trims, chrome door handles, chrome bug shield, chrome mirrors, zero lights that change to seven different colors and plush leather seats. The entertainment package had the best tech toys; a 5.1 Dolby surround sound with speakers all around and LCD display screens behind the head rests that played DVD's or video games to keep the youngsters from saying "are we there yet?"

Chris T. Osceola had his shiny black gloss truck 2003 Chevy SS on display too, with brand new gulf wing truck doors in the front, and suicide doors in the back. In the rear center console, Osceola had a doll of the Pinhead character from the "Hellraiser" movies, which went up and down like a jack in the box. He said he came up with the idea because he really enjoyed the movies a lot. He said he collects little movie figures like that, and thought it would add a unique touch to top the three JBL amps lined up under his pin-head box.

Osceola's audio system pushes nearly 1,500 watts of raw power to blow away any competitors. Incidentally, his Chevy was rewarded and took best overall custom truck in the show.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress walked around the Car show looking at all the custom rigs and bikes. He even participated and enjoyed competing in the seed spitting contest for his age group, spitting one seed 21 feet to claim first prize in the contest to the great delight of the crowd. Everyone enjoyed watching all the festivities and eating lots of watermelon in this fun filled family event.

Results are as follows, as compiled by emcee Stan Frischman of BC Recreation:

Seed Spitting: 3-5 years old: 1. Elizabeth Rodriguez, six feet-seven inches, 2. Marly Herrera, one foot-five inches; 6-8 years old: 1. Candy Landin, nine feet-five inches, 2. Rene Rodriguez, four foot-nine inches; 9-12 years old: 1. Aaron Cypress, 19 feet, 2. DJ Kingsley, 16 feet-eight inches, 3. Jason Melton, 13 feet-10 inches, 4. Johnney Morton, eleven feet; 13-17 years old: 1. Michael Skolnick, 15 feet; 18-54 years old: 1. Barbara Young, 28 feet, 2. Jadrien Antuna, 22 feet, 3. Todd Willis, 19 feet-five inches, 4. Michael Calandra, 19 feet; 55 and older: 1. Mitchell Cypress, 21, 2. Dan Bowers, 17 feet-two inches, 3. Rafael Sanchez, 12 feet-six inches, 4. Carol Cypress, nine feet-eight inches.

Watermelon Eating: 3-5 year old: No entries; 6-8 years old: 1. Candy Landin, 2. Rene Rodriguez, 3. Cameron Osceola, 4. Corbin Billie; 9-12 years old: 1. DJ Kingsley, 2. Aaron Cypress, 3. Johnney Mortin, 5. Levi Billie; 13-17 years old: 1. Joel Cavazos, 2. Melissa Carter, 3. Michael Skolnick, 4. Grant



Felix DoBosz

BEST IN SHOW: Chris T. Osceola and his 2003 Chevy SS equipped with Gulf Wing doors.



Felix DoBosz

There was more to do than hang around at the festival.

Clements; 18-54 years old: 1. Victor Becerra, 2. Curtis Rawls, 3. Danielle Garcia, 4. Blake Bettis; 55 and older: No entries.

Greased Watermelon Toss: 3-5 years old: 1. Michael Amat and Jennifer Harrison, 2. Hanna Harrison and Jasmin Torrez; 6-8 years old: 1. Adrian Garcia and Corbin Billie, 2. Shane Dodson and David Harrison; 9-12 years old: 1. Crystal Garcia and Brian Amat, 2. Johnney Mortin and Eric Harrison, Aaron Cypress and Michael Skolnick; 13-17 years old: 1. Junita Matos and Daniel Cavazos, 2. Antonio Matos and Sante Fe May, 3. Kaylee Jumper, Beth McElroy; 18-54 years old: 1. Jadrien Antuna and Victor Becerra, 2. Troy Venters and Antjuan Holmes, 3. Jackie Amat and Nelson Amat, 4. Megan Otero and Jesalyn Bettelyoun; 55 and older: 1. Theresa Jumper and Steve Dodson, 2. Lupe Osceola and Nora Amat. Group Over-Under Melon Toss: 1. Adam Venters Family and Friends, 2. Victor Becerra Family and Friends, 3. Amat Family, 4. Gator Baits Family. Ronnie Billie Car and Bike Show

Bikes: 1. Brad Eckman, 2. Ronnie Billie, 2004 Harley Davidson Road King, 3. Ronnie Billie, 2003 Harley Davidson Iron Horse Chopper; Best Overall: Ronnie Billie, 2003 Iron Horse Chopper.

Custom Car/SUV: 1. Issiah Billie, 2004 Cadillac CTS, 2. Roger Villarreal, 2004 Chevy Suburban, 3. Almira Billie, 2004 Chevy Avalanche; Best Overall: Chris Osceola, 2003 Chevy SS.

Custom Truck: 1. Ronnie Billie, 2004 HD Truck, 2. Caddy Seville, 1969 Chevy K-10, 3. Jose Rodriguez, 2003 Ford F-250; Best Overall: Allan White, 2005 Chevy 2500 HD.

Antique Car and Truck: 1. Virginia Tommie, 1986 Ford F-150, 2. Rene Rodriguez, 1971 Ford F-100; Best Overall: Virginia Tommie, 1986 Ford F-150.



Felix DoBosz

Ronnie Billie with championship bikes.

Seminoles Graduate from American Heritage

By Adelsa Williams
PLANTATION, FL — On May 25, four Seminole Tribal citizens cheerfully walked down the aisle as they graduated from kindergarten at the American Heritage School. Seminole graduates included Akira Billie, Raini Cypress, Nia Cypress and Brent Frank.

Tribal citizen Akira Billie, Bird clan, will be returning to attend the acclaimed school next year along with her two siblings, a kindergarten new-comer and a sixth grader. Their mother, Doreen Cypress commented that the children have enjoyed their educational experience at the school.

“It’s great,” said Cypress. “It’s one of the top private schools.”

Proud parents of the graduates



Adelsa Williams
Brent Frank and Principal Lutchkus.

gathered at American Heritage’s Arts Theater to witness their young beloved participate in the lively ceremonies that brought to stage the singing and performing talents of 92 kindergarten students from the five separate classes.

The students delighted the audience with a musical presentation titled “The World is a Rainbow” as they sang and performed various acts during a medley of six rainbow songs. The piano player kept up the musical pace as the teachers coached and prepared the students for their following act, one after the other. Cheers, whistles and applause filled the theater after the performance.

American Heritage School President William Laurie addressed the crowd with inspirational remarks following the musical presentation. During his speech Laurie shared with the crowd some interesting facts.

“To date there has been over 6.2 billion dollars in scholarships and more



Adelsa Williams
(L-R) Akira Billie, mom Doreen Cypress and little sister Asiana Billie.

than 80 percent of our graduates have enrolled into college,” Laurie said.

The well-acclaimed school was founded in 1969 and since then has always strived to offer a challenging college preparatory curriculum in the arts and athletics, he added.

After Laurie’s speech, the graduation program then moved on to the presentation of diplomas.

Congratulations to the Seminole students for their accomplishment.



Adelsa Williams
Raini Cypress and Principal Lutchkus.

Hollywood Seminole Preschoolers Graduate

By Iretta Tiger
HOLLYWOOD — The ballroom at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino was overflowing with children. All seats were taken so several families had to eat their dinner in nearby conference rooms. Everyone, including parents, were dressed in their finest Seminole clothing.

It’s May 31, and the occasion is the graduation ceremony for the Hollywood, Immokalee, Big Cypress and Brighton Seminole preschoolers.

The children started the ceremony with the Pledge of Allegiance in English, Creek and Miccosukee.

Next were the skits with Big



Iretta Tiger

Flower for mom

Cypress going first; their skit was the nursery rhyme Tiny Tim. They used little plastic turtles for Tim.

The Brighton preschoolers chose the Brown Bear nursery rhyme for their skit. Each child came up individually and they carried a cut-out of the animal they were. Purple rabbit carried a purple rabbit.

Hollywood preschool did a rhyme time skit and they also did spelling and addition. The Immokalee graduates recited a poem. They did an excellent job in remembering the poem.

Many of the children were not shy about grabbing the microphone and performing. They did it often.

Singing in Creek, the Brighton graduates performed “The Wheels on the Bus,” “London Bridges” and the Creek alphabet.

The Big Cypress, Hollywood

and Immokalee graduates sung “The Wheels on the Bus” and “London Bridges” in Miccosukee. Instead of the alphabet they sung “The Traveling Song.”

In a very special moment, each graduate gave their mother a bouquet of flowers.

Each child took special pride in giving the flowers and each mother was truly touched when they received them. The flowers were given with a lot of love.

Spencer Baker beautifully sung a special song which captured the emotion of the special moment.

Special guest Litefoot summed up the evening with a teaching from his grandfather.

“What you accomplish is not for you but for your people,” said Litefoot. “And that’s especially true when it comes to our children. What we do is for them.”

Litefoot treated the Seminole to a rap. Strong lyrics about how the past and the future can be seen in our children.

Next was the big moment, the presentation of diplomas. The graduates were individually brought onstage where they introduced themselves and their parents in Miccosukee. As they received their diplomas they shook hands with tribal officials. Some were so shy they couldn’t



Iretta Tiger

The grads entertained the crowd with the Tiny Tim Skit.

speak.

The staff of the preschools presented the officials with a bouquet of flowers as a token of their gratitude.

Hollywood Councilman Max Osceola Jr. closed the evening by speaking directly to the parents.

“I want to challenge every parent to make sure your child completes high school,” Osceola said. “In 15 years, I want to come back to this stage and congratulate your children on graduating high school.”



Iretta Tiger

The Brighton preschoolers’ rendition of the Brown Bear skit.

Christine McCall’s Graduation Ceremony and Hard Rock’n Party

By Christine McCall
HOLLYWOOD — On the night of May 27, Christine McCall and her fellow senior peers graduated from Sheridan Hills Christian School.

During the ceremony, seniors received the awards they were given earlier for academics and athletics. Along with her diploma, Christine also received an award for having an extreme interest in her computer class.

Part of the ceremony was the traditional giving of a rose to honor their parents and family members along with a traditional white sash worn by the graduates. Christine chose her mother Wanda Bowers, her brothers Casey and David, and her Uncle



Jaime Monaco

Christine (center) on her well-deserved night.

Steven Bowers to receive a white rose as a token of thanks for their unconditional love and support.

To celebrate McCall and her graduating class’ accomplishments, Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. and mother Wanda Bowers hosted a masquerade-themed party at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

The May 27 party was complete with a magician and caricature artist, amongst other events. Students also competed in a dance contest in which Marge Osceola donated \$100 to the best dancer. In the end, there were three finalists. They danced until the judges decided the best dancer was Casey McCall.



Jaime Monaco

Graduate Christine McCall.

Osceola Sisters Celebrate Graduation

By Iretta Tiger
HOLLYWOOD — On May 22, Tasha and JoJo Osceola graduated from University School’s high school. To mark this momentous occasion, their parents Joe Dan and Virginia Osceola threw them a huge party at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.

Local band Unwanted Super

Heroes rocked the party with original songs.

Party goers were treated to a colored-sand station. The station had numerous objects such as batons, pens and triangular jars and you could fill the object with different color sands. There was also a chocolate fountain with assorted fruits, marshmallows and pretzels you could dip into the chocolate.

The funniest part of the evening had to be watching Joe Dan Osceola and James Tiger Sr. going to town at the sand station. Osceola took his creation seriously and made quite a masterpiece.

The girls were showered with gifts and well wishes as everyone signed the mat of framed photos.

JoJo and Tasha will start college in June. JoJo will go to the University of Miami and Tasha will go to Florida State University.



Iretta Tiger

Graduates and sisters (L-R) Tasha and JoJo Osceola.

Miccosukee Indian School Graduates

By Adelsa Williams
MIAMI, FL — On May 25, the Miccosukee Indian School held its graduation ceremonies at the main Tribal office auditorium. Three Seminole, Ozzie Holdiness, Randelle Osceola and Rylee Osceola, graduated from kindergarten this year.

Three other Seminole students, Brooke Osceola, Noel Jim and John Kyle Osceola, also completed their respective grades. Tribal citizen Catlin Jim, Panther clan, was the fourth graduate to receive his high school diploma.

Miccosukee Indian School Principal Tom Albano opened the ceremonies with welcoming remarks followed

by Tribal chairman Billy Cypress. The audience had the pleasure of meeting and greeting Florida Marlins wide receiver Jeff Conine, the ceremony’s guest speaker.

Immediately after the speeches, teachers from every grade presented awards, followed by a musical interlude, a special award presentation and finally the presentation of diplomas.

Tribal citizen Rylee Osceola, Panther clan, received a 1st Honors Academic Excellence Award from kindergarten; her sister Brooke Osceola received the same award from the second grade. Proud parents of both students are Trisha and Marcy Osceola Jr.

John Kyle Osceola received the Most Improved Award from the first grade; Noel Jim received the Miccosukee Language Arts and Culture Overall Academic Excellence Award and Catlin Jim received the physical education Overall Academic Excellence Award.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, there was a special end of the year slide show in as well as a senior graduate tribute to Catlin Jim.



Adelsa Williams

(L-R) Rylee and Brooke Osceola.



Adelsa Williams

Kindergarten grad Randelle Osceola with Chairman Billy Cypress.



Adelsa Williams

Miccosukee Chairman Billy Cypress with senior graduate Catlin Jim.



Adelsa Williams

Catlin Jim (third from left) with his family and grad Noel Jim (front, left).



Adelsa Williams

Trail Liaison William Osceola and the Most Improved Kindergartener John Kyle Osceola.



The red team uses all their might to beat the opposing team in tug of war.

Danielle Jumper-Frye

Students Enjoy Annual Ahfachkee Field Days

By Susan Etzebarria
BIG CYPRESS — Did you hear the enthusiastic rooting and cheering from the BC softball field on May 13? It was the annual Field Days for the students at Ahfachkee School. Approximately 130 students competed

in relay races, gunny sack races, a tug of war, the donkey game and other challenges. This is a day that rewards the students for their yearlong efforts at their studies. Normal school days are days of homework and tests. But, this was a day of just pure fun.

For a change, the classroom teachers sat on the sidelines just being entertained as they watched the hilarious antics of the kids and their energetic competitions. Instead, it was the physical education teacher Johnny Boone, with the help of the scorekeeper, Cicero Osceola, who worked out on the field the entire day with the kids. But, Boone and Osceola really seemed to be having just as much fun at the games as the kids. It was a day when grownups could act like kids again, too. Boone was the organizer of the games and he began preparations for the field days a

month earlier with assigning students to teams and assigning the team colors. The team members were picked so the kids would be a mix from every class. The high school students were asked to be the team coach. That way the high school students would get to know some of the kids in the younger grades and the kids themselves would get to know other kids in different grades. One exceptional thing about these children was their sportsmanship. Despite their obvious excitability, despite the mass of confusion with so many jumpy, squirrely, rambunctious kids out on the field, they should be given an A-plus for their overall considerate and caring behavior towards each other. In the gunnysack race in which the kids stepped into a gunnysack and held it up as high as they could as they tried to hop across the field to the finish line, it was cute to see the big sack almost swallowing the kindergarteners. It was hard for them not to trip on the sack and fall but even so they had exuberant smiles. Watching the students run, trip, fall and bounce back into action reminds us of just how flexible a child is. A game that was sloppy wet was the donkey game. The children had to put their nose down on the end of a bat and spin around five times which is a little dizzying. Then they had to put a small bucket of water on top of their head and while holding it carefully as not to spill the water they had to walk or run about 30 yards to a big barrel and empty the contents. The team that filled the barrel the fastest with water to the mark inside the barrel won the contest. But, walking or running with a full bucket of water splashing around your head caused more than a few to slow down their pace. The scores changed quickly throughout the day. At noon, the red team was in the lead with the gray team and green team not far behind. By 1:45 p.m., the garnet/gold team was tied for first place with the green/orange team. By day's end, first place went to the gray team with 170 points, second place went to the pink team with 137 points and the royal blue team came in third with 105 points. The teams will get their trophies at the school's annual awards banquet at the end of the year.



Scorekeeper Renee Morales.

Danielle Jumper-Frye



Danielle Jumper-Frye

(L-R) Catlen Tommie, Mazzy Robbins, Doug Zepeda and Chynna Villareal.



Danielle Jumper-Frye

The students get ready for the gunnysack races.



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(L-R) Daniel Littel, sailor; Joe Thames, pilot; David Salazar, Marine; Richard Pingol, fire inspector; Spencer Kia, mechanic; Charlie Caggiano, firefighter.

Auction Benefits Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital



Firefighter Al Pulvirenti with Julie Guy, co-host of 97.3 FM The Coast’s “Those Two Girls in the Morning.”

Submitted by Julie Katz, Seminole Paradise HOLLYWOOD — More than 250 spectators and potential bidders checked out some of South Florida’s most eligible uniformed bachelors April 20 at Seminole Paradise’s first Men-in-Uniform Charity Auction. The special event, hosted by 97.3 FM The Coast’s personality Julie Guy of “Those Two Girls in the Morning” netted \$630 for Joe DiMaggio Children’s Hospital.

The nine men-in-uniform and their winning bidders/dates were treated to a gift certificate to one of Seminole Paradise’s many restaurants and clubs to enjoy their special evening. They also received free tickets to an upcoming Alanis Morissette unplugged concert.

The Men-in-Uniform Charity auction also helped launch Wednesdays as Ladies’ Nights at Seminole Paradise.



Men-in-Uniform Auction winner Mary Londrico with her date, Dominick Marzigliano, a waiter at Seminole Paradise.

Ashford and Simpson Perform at Hard Rock

Submitted by Alina Viera, Bitner Goodman PR HOLLYWOOD — Tickets went on sale May 26 at for Ashford and Simpson at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. They are slated to perform June 16 and 17 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$45 for the all-ages show in The Club Showroom.

Nickolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson met in 1964 and scored a hit with Ray Charles’ recording of their song “Let’s Go Get Stoned” in 1966. Known as songwriters and performers, they wrote hits for Motown artists Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell including “Ain’t Nothing Like the Real Thing” and “You’re All I Need to Get By.” Ashford and Simpson launched their own



career and landed a Top Ten R&B hit “Don’t Cost You Nothing” in 1973. Both worked with legendary artists like Diana Ross, Chaka Khan and Gladys Knight. Doors open one hour before each show. All seats are reserved and may be purchased at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Box Office, open daily from 12 p.m.–7 p.m. 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.

Upcoming Tampa Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Events

Submitted by Chris Jaramillo, Special Events Coordinator

June 10

Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Ted Wray, 8 p.m.–1 a.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.
Posh 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.

June 11

Sophomore Jynx, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, no cover.
Acquiesce, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Floyd’s Late Night: 10 p.m.–6 a.m., Ages 21 and up only, \$4 U-Call-It drinks for the ladies, \$2 Heinekens for everyone. For more information call (813) 627-7625.
DJ Lucid, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, no cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.

June 12

Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, no cover.
Tampa Bay Bucs Reunion Bash. Celebrate the ‘79 Buccaneers team by meeting former NFL players and competing against them in fun and interactive contests such as: Last Man Standing Football Toss with Doug Williams, Hot Wing Eating Contest with Jimmie Giles, Horse Shoe Throwing Contest with Mark Cotney and Boat Racing Contest with Kevin House, also pictures and autograph session with the ‘79 team and authentic Buccaneer merchandise for sale. 12 p.m.–4 p.m., Pool, no cover, open to the public.

June 13

Monday Morning Market, an open-air market will feature handmade arts and crafts, imported items, plants and produce, 8 a.m.–1 p.m., Front parking lot. For vendor information, please contact (813) 627-7764.
Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.

June 14 - 16

Morgan Stone, 6 p.m.–11 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.

June 17

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 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.
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❖ Museum

Continued from page 1

Tribal President Moses Osceola laughed along with William Osceola and Cornelia Osceola as they reminisced over photographs from the 1950s.

The second celebration took place at 6 p.m. in the evening and was for the general public and invited guests. Hollywood Mayor Mara Giuliani joined Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Hollywood Council Representative Max Osceola Jr. for the cutting of the ribbon. They also used the golden machetes for this ceremony.

Many who remember the original museum will see a familiar site, the Fred Beaver mural. The mural is the centerpiece in the main hall. The museum also features photographs by William Boehmer of Beaver working on the mural.

A special part of the museum is the "Treasures Room," which will exhibit one item for a period of time. For the opening, a men's big shirt from 1923 was on display. The shirt was worn by either Jack or Charlie Tigertail.

There is much to learn about Seminole culture and many Seminole treasures to be seen so come and explore the museum. The hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. For more information call (954) 797-5570 or e-mail hollywoodmuseum@semtribe.com.

