

The SEMINOLE TRIBUNE

"Voice of the Unconquered"

Tribal Election Results Are In

By Shelley Marmor

After poll workers counted more than 1,500 votes after the May 9 regular election, the new Tribal Council and Tribal Board representatives were determined. Tribal citizens on all reservations cast a total of 782 votes for the Board representatives and 801 votes for the Council representatives.

Hollywood Council incumbent Max B. Osceola Jr. narrowly defeated Elton Carl Baxley. Osceola received 126 votes, or 45.1 percent and Baxley received 123 votes, or 44.1 percent. Additional Hollywood Tribal Council candidates Michael Billie received 6.8 percent of the vote and candidate Richard Osceola received 3.9 percent.

Incumbent from the Hollywood Board David DeHass was defeated by Gloria Wilson. Wilson received 22.9 percent of the total votes while DeHass

Tribal Council Representatives



HOLLYWOOD
Max B. Osceola Jr.



BRIGHTON
Andrew Bowers Jr.



BIG CYPRESS
David Cypress

received 17.9 percent. Additional Hollywood Board candidates Marcellus Osceola Jr. received 18.2 percent, Virginia Osceola received 15.4 percent, Vincent Micco received 12.1 percent, , and Gordon O. Wareham and Mark Billie each received 6.8 percent.

Big Cypress Tribal Council incumbent David Cypress won in a landslide victory. Cypress received


Tribal Board Representatives



HOLLYWOOD
Gloria Wilson



BRIGHTON
Johnny Jones Sr.



BIG CYPRESS
Paul Bowers Sr.

155 of the total 299 votes cast for the Big Cypress Tribal Council representative, or 51.9 percent. Additional candidates received the following number of votes: Manuel "Mondo" Tiger, 77 votes, 25.8 percent; Cicero Osceola, 30 votes, 10 percent; Mary Jene Koenes, 27 votes, 9 percent; and Samuel Tommie, 10 votes, 3.3 percent.

Paul Bowers Sr. will also remain as the Big Cypress Board representative for another term. Bowers received 37.8 percent of the total 296 votes cast. Jeannette Cypress received 27 percent, Clifton L. Billie received 20.3 percent, Leslie Garcia Billie received 9.8 percent, Raleigh Osceola received 3.7 percent and Michael L. Onco Jr. received 1.4 percent.

The Brighton reservation will have a new Council representative this term. Andrew Bowers Jr. ousted incumbent Roger Smith by only five votes. Bowers received 88 votes, or 39.5 percent; Bowers received 83 votes, or 37.2 percent and candidate John Wayne Huff Sr. received 52 votes, or 23.3 percent.

Brighton Board incumbent Johnny Jones Sr. ran unopposed. Brighton residents cast a total of 206 votes for the Board representative.

McCall Represents Seminole Tribe at Miss Indian World Pageant

The Miss Indian World Pageant is held in conjunction with the annual Gathering of Nations Pow-Wow



Christine McCall (center) observes Indian Country's largest Pow-Wow.

By Adelsa Williams
ALBUQUERQUE, NM — Tribal citizen Christine McCall had the honor and pleasure of representing The Seminole Tribe of Florida at the Miss Indian World pageant this year. The Indian Country-wide pageant happens annually during the anticipated Gathering of Nations Pow-Wow.

This year's pageant took place from April 27 to crowning day on April 30 and drew a total of 28 contestants from Tribes nationwide.

During the competition, contestants display their public speaking skills, dance and traditional knowledge. The first three days before the actual Pow-Wow, contestants attended an orientation session where they were explained the rules by the pageant committee. They then moved on to the public speaking part of the competition.

Afterwards, there was more practice sessions and plenty of break times for the contestants to socialize and learn a little more about each other and the Tribe they represented. They also were treated to a banquet dinner at the Shark Reef Café.

Contestants also had to write an essay and sit in a personal interview. In her essay, McCall said she plans to attend Florida State University (FSU) to study social work after graduation this May from Sheridan Christian School in Hollywood, Fla. She will also be attending the summer program at FSU prior to starting as a freshman.

"I strive to be the first Seminole Family Services director," said McCall.

The jammed packed talent competition was held at the Convention Center's Shiva Auditorium in downtown Albuquerque. McCall was the seventeenth contestant to be called up to present her talent; she proudly did an admirable presentation of the step by step details in making Seminole patchwork. Tribal citizen Mary Jean Koenes accompanied McCall onstage during her talent presentation as she modeled a

❖ See GATHERING, page 4

Council Honors EMS Department

By Iretta Tiger
BIG CYPRESS — On April 20, the Seminole Tribal Council held its Council meeting at the Herman L. Osceola gym.

The consent agenda consisted of 23 items, which included home site leases and business permits. These items are of a routine administrative nature and all 23 items unanimously passed in one vote.

Only two items were on the regular agenda. Both items passed.

At the conclusion of the open meeting, Executive Administrator Ken Fields announced to the Tribal Council that the Seminole Emergency Management Services (EMS) in Big Cypress had their first life-save. Fields gave a few details about the incident and the Council requested to meet the EMS staff involved in the rescue.

EMS Director Armando Negrin spoke to Council, who collectively decided that the EMS staff involved would be present at the next Tribal Council meeting.

Read about the herioc work of the EMS department on Page 5

EID Spurs Superior Payday

By Susan Etxebarría
BIG CYPRESS — Pleased by the high bids for Seminole cattle during the April 29 Superior Livestock Auction, Tribal cattle owners had reason to celebrate the best payday ever.

Many owners assembled in Big Cypress at the Morgan Smith Building to watch the Fort Worth, Texas auction conduct the sale between numerous buyers and producers nationwide via closed circuit television on channel RFD-TV. After the sale, the Seminole cattle owners and managers beamed with satisfaction.

"We had a good sale," said Richard Osceola, BC Cattle Range Office Manager. "Probably the highest we ever had."

President Moses Osceola said the Seminole Tribe is heading in the right direction in the type its producing. He said the Tribe is "trying to raise what the beef industry wants."

"I want to congratulate all the cattle owners," said Osceola, who was interested in watching the live auction of

"I guess you know these prices broke the record," said Robertson. As an example, the price compar-



Tribal cattle owners watched the sale on TV.

Seminole Tribe Receives Two Awards at NIGA Banquet

By Shelley Marmor
SAN DIEGO, CA — During the 2005 National Indian Gaming Association

(NIGA) Chairman's Leadership Awards Luncheon on April 11, the Seminole Tribe of Florida received two awards. One of

which NIGA Chairman Ernest L. Stevens Jr. called "one of the best awards I've ever presented."

This distinguished award went to the Tribal Career Development Program. This program is an internship opportunity for Seminoles to learn the necessary tools to assume management positions within the Tribal Gaming department.

"These people are on the job working," Stevens said. "The Seminole have made it their priority to train their people."

Hollywood Tribal Council Representative Max B. Osceola Jr. accepted the award on behalf of the Tribe. Other Tribal representatives including Hollywood Board Representative David DeHass and Director of the Tribal Career Development Program Betty J. Goosens, as well as the program members themselves, joined Osceola on stage.

"We use to be in labor," Osceola said. "Now we're in ownership."

Osceola received the award from honorary guest speaker at the luncheon, California Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante. Bustamante handed out all



Hollywood Council Representative Max B. Osceola accepts the Tribal Career Development Program's award, which California Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante (right) is walking over to him.

❖ See NIGA, page 3



Do you know who these ladies are? Hint: One of them is standing on a box.

Mother's Day...The Most Important Day of the Year

Our Mothers have been our inspiration throughout our life. We should be celebrating our Moms everyday. They have looked after us, taught us our culture, have been there to wipe our tears when we were down and cheered for us when things were going right.

I am grateful that my Mother, Mary Frances Cypress, is there for me because she is my rock and my strength. Just knowing that my Mom is around gives me the extra courage to continue to strive for the best for my people.

Please give your Mom a kiss on the cheek and thank her for all she has sacrificed for you. Cherish the time you have with her and let her know that she is loved.

May you have a wonderful day this year and every year.
Happy Mother's Day!

Mitchell Cypress

**Mitchell Cypress, Chairman
Seminole Tribe of Florida**

The Chief Speaks

By Dean Chavers, Ph.D.
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[Editor's Note: Dean Chavers, Ph.D., is the Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement program for American Indians, located in Albuquerque. His address is CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com. CTD operates the Exemplary Institute each April to teach people how to develop exemplary programs in their schools.]

In 25 years of writing this column, I have had a guest columnist once before. In 1981 Dot Witter wrote a column as a guest when I was president of Bacone College. Recently Chief Leaford Bearskin of the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma sent me a copy of a paper he had written just to get some things off his chest. I asked him if I would use it in my column, and he said yes.

Here it is just as he wrote it:

"I have been Chief of the Wyandotte Nation for 23 years. These opinions are my own. They are not influenced by anyone or anything except my observations of the American Indian world.

"Our Indian world has never been a pleasant place to be. Our past, present, and future appear to a never changing picture. We cannot change the past and the present seems to be following along the same pathway. The future cannot be left alone to stumble along without direction." "The best way to handle our future is to take over the leadership of our world ourselves. Strong leaders are needed, planned objectives should be established, and down-to-earth good hard work needs to be the order of the day.

"One of my first observations is that the majority of Indian Tribes are small. Many of them do not possess the capability to compete with the rest of the world for contracts, small or large business ventures. Some chiefs operate their Tribes out of their homes. They do not have attorneys, grant writers, or secretaries to assist them. These facts should be made known to congressional representatives, the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Indian Health Service, state governments, and community governments. All policies and procedures developed for American Indians should take this into consideration.

"We all don't have casinos or huge contracts with the federal government. We barely exist with scarce assistance from the federal government. Our unemployment status is far above the norm. Our health statistics are deplorable. I was taught by the U. S. Air Force that one of the best incentives for success is proper planning.

"I believe that the Secretary of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs,

and the Indian Health Service should have a long-range plan for fixing the problems of our Indian world. To my knowledge there has never been any planning accomplished to even find out what our problems really are. I have always heard that our world has numerous problems, but I have never heard any of the above-named agencies define these problems. You cannot fix anything if you don't know what you are attempting to fix.

"I believe that a long-range plan should be developed that defines the source of our problems and to adopt a 25- or a 50-year plan for solving these problems. This should be accomplished by the Secretary of the Interior, BIA, IHS and Tribal leaders. In my opinion we still have the same problems we had some 200 years ago when our lands were taken from us and we were placed behind barbed wire. It is also my opinion that most of those in power don't care or give a damn!

"Are there solutions to our problems? I believe there are. I believe that our biggest problem is that we are our worst enemy. In 1983 when I was elected Chief, I heard other Tribal leaders complain about our worst problem was that we don't get together to fight for our people. I have heard this for 23 years. We are still saying the same thing. Unity is paramount to success.

"If there are 600 Tribes in the U.S., there should be 600 Tribal leaders speaking in unison. There should be a communication system developed to keep us all updated on our efforts. It should be directed upstairs and downstairs. Governors and Attorney Generals should be included. Many of our states have large numbers of Indians in their populations.

"In those states we have two powerful weapons at our disposal; the pen and the vote. The pen can be used to publicize our efforts and to advise the powers that be of our objectives as well as our wants and needs. The pen can tell our side of the story. The other power is the most potent weapon that now exists: the power of the vote. Every adult American Indian must not only be registered to vote—they must vote!

"In those areas where our votes count we should be electing our people to public offices. This includes local governments, state governments, and the Congress. It is my opinion that candidates get elected because most people don't vote. If people who do vote have a well-organized vote-getting effort, their candidate can be elected.

"Our own elected officials can represent us better than anyone else. We can have our own people helping run counties, states and Congress. Let's elect American Indians to these offices.

"This brings another important

thought to mind. We have several congressional representatives in Washington, D.C. that have been our friends over the years. These congressional representatives are reaching an age when they are likely looking to retirement in the not too distant future. When that happens, our friends in Congress will be practically nil. We need to start immediately to be prepared to replace them with people of our own choice.

"There are other things that should be looked at and corrected. We need to clean up our own act. There are some people among us that create situations that give us all a bad reputation—embezzlers, crooks, thieves, etc. We need to take care of these types ourselves. We cannot be successful with people of that nature on board.

"It is my opinion that every person in the U.S. that holds an elected position should be a role model for children—presidents, congressional representatives, state officials, county officials. Others who should be role models for the children are movie actors and actresses, professional football, baseball, and basketball players, Hollywood directors and writers—especially those folks; moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas, and all Tribal leaders. Myriads of others could and should be included.

"There are many Tribes that have become successful in gaming, contractual economic projects, etc. who set a fine example for all the rest of us. If those folks have any surplus money, it could be spent on upgrading our laws that govern our Indian world. It would be the greatest assistance they could provide to all Indians.

"Can all this be accomplished? I believe it can. Dedication, sacrifice, teamwork, proper planning, and hard work are essential. The time frame must start today. The handwriting is on the wall.

"All the above are the writings of an old man. I am proud of my ancestry. I am proud of my Wyandotte Nation. I am proud to be an American. You might say I am the proudest Chief in the Indian World. P.S. There really is a Great Spirit."

Leaford Bearskin
Chief
Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

I am proud to say I have known the Chief since shortly after he was elected to office. He had already retired twice—once from the Air Force, and again from a civilian job. He was an authentic war hero in World War II as a pilot. He has been fighting for his people for a long time, and with great success. I feel everything he said is true, and that Indian Country needs leadership with vision.

Thank you, Chief Bearskin for being a role model for so many of us.

Attention Tribal Citizens

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The Seminole Tribune

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

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Letters & E-mail

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

Dear Editor,
I am from the Onondaga Nation in New York State and I am planning on moving into your area. Currently, I use the Native Medical Centers here in New York which offers prescriptions and visits are free to Native Americans. Will I be allowed to use your facilities free of charge? If you cannot answer, could you direct me to whomever can help.

Marilynn Cook
Onondaga Native

Dear Ms. Cook,
Thank you for your recent inquiry. The Seminole Tribe of Florida operates health clinics at the Hollywood, Big Cypress, and Brighton reservations. You may register for health services by completing a registration form and providing the required eligibility documents. Upon registration, you would be eligible for Direct Care Services, which are medical and dental services performed at one of the Seminole Clinics. Prescription drugs are not covered for Direct Care patients.

Please telephone me for a registration application and additional information at (954) 962-2009, Ext. 142. I will be happy to assist you.

Kathy Wilson
Eligibility and Utilization Services Program Manager
Computer Site Manager

Dear Editor,
I have recently moved to Orlando, Fla. from Taos, N.M. where I was part of a community that studied and took part in ceremonies based on the wisdom of the Lakotas. I am in search of such a community here in Florida—hopefully someplace near Orlando. It doesn't need to be Lakota as I would be open to learn the ways and wisdom of the Seminoles. I am alone here and would greatly appreciate any help you might offer. I thank you for your time

Shaun

Dear Shaun,
The Seminole Tribe of Florida and its members do not offer any such program. Their ceremonies are very private and the non-Seminole public is not invited, much like the ceremonies that occur at the Taos Pueblo. There are individuals throughout the state that do invite folks to join their drum circles and sweats, however, I am unsure of how to get a hold of any of those individuals.

Your best bet would be to attend some of the local Powwows and get to know people that way. There is a large Powwow the first weekend in November at the Central Florida Fairgrounds. It is hosted by the American Indian Association and they are out of the Winter Park, Fla. area. Good luck and welcome to Florida.

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

Dear Editor,
I have recently become fascinated with the spiritual aspects of American Indian culture and heritage and I am in search of individuals who I can learn from because information seems to be very difficult to come by.

I currently live in Miami, and I am hoping that you might be able to give me some information about how I might get involved in learning some traditional teachings, heritage, and practices firsthand from the current spiritual leaders in south Florida.

Bradford N. Cross

Dear Mr. Cross,
Thank you for your expressed interest in the spiritual teachings of Native Americans. The Seminole Tribe of Florida does not sponsor any programs that address any of your specific needs or desires. However, in general, the best places to search for this type of education would be at your local health food stores, new age stores or small book stores. They usually have bulletin boards with information from folks who like to share their wisdom with others.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida is very private and holds its traditional practices and teachings for its members.

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

Dear Editor,
I hope that you can help point in a direction. To make a long story short, I am a Chair of our Diversity Council and am attempting to put together a celebration of Native American Indians.

We were hoping to find an active tribe that could come to our office in Lakeland, Fla. for the day and celebrate your culture with native dancing, food, storytelling etc., and while I am researching online, I am not finding the necessary information nor am I locating a resource close to Tampa which is 40 miles from Lakeland. Suggestions or thoughts?

Thank you so much

Ann Bauer
Paralegal, Marriott Vacation Club International

Dear Ms. Bauer,
Thank you for your interest in our culture and Tribe. Unfortunately, at this time we do not offer such a production. A production of this magnitude costs several thousand dollars and if we were to provide this service to one company we would be obligated to do the same for others

If you are interested in a guest speaker or something of the sort, you may contact the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum's Community Outreach Coordinator Brian Zepeda, at (863)902-1113. He may be able to coordinate a guest speaker for your event.

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

Photo Quiz Answer

Baby Ethel Gopher, Maud Johns Gopher and Daniel Gopher.



Adelsa Williams

Thousands from across Indian Country made it to the Gathering.

❖ Gathering

Continued from page 1

dress handmade by McCall.

All talent presentations were well applauded by the audience in attendance and even though McCall did not place in that category, her presentation earned one of the few “awws” from the crowd.

The night of the dance competition, McCall danced to the beat of the Indian drums arrayed in a beautiful Southern Cloth dress made by Salina Todome, a Kiwona/Comanche from Tulsa, Oklahoma. The beadwork on the detail of dress was made by her husband Junior Todome, who also provided all of McCall’s beaded accessories as well as her beaded moccasins.

Eighteen year old McCall showed much enthusiasm in her desire to represent the Tribe at the Miss Indian World pageant. In order to participate in the pageant, the prospective contestants had to sell raffle tickets and McCall sold almost 4,000 tickets. She was the contestant with the most raffle tickets sold overall and her efforts were rewarded with a Disney® cruise.

Throughout the week’s activities, not only did McCall participate in a once in a life time experience but also met a wonderful group of new people. She pointed out that the Miss Indian World pageant committee praised this year’s contestants for being one of the most wonderful groups they have worked with because each contestant treated each other without animosity. At times, McCall even shared some of her packed accessories with some of the other contestants.

“Everything was so calm,” said Wanda Bowers, McCall’s mother and chaperone.

“I felt honored to represent the Tribe,” said McCall, “What was more important for me was that I got a chance to show that all Natives have different physical features, whether it may be dark or light, tall

or short.” Besides a contestant from Canada, McCall was the tallest one on the group.

On the first night of the Pow-Wow during the grand entry ceremonies, the arena director called out the female jingle dancers for a jingle dance as way of “good blessing” for the weekend festivities.

The 2004-2005 Miss Indian World Delana Smith, a kindergarten teacher at her Tribe, also performed a farewell jingle dance. Surprising the crowd, Smith brought along her kindergarten class to dance with her. Smith explained that the dance with the children was also in memoriam to the youth killed in the past tragedy in her home and reservation in Red Lake, Minnesota. Pow-Wow goers gave Smith a standing ovation for her presentation after they silently witness the dance.

McCall shared that another emotional moment was right before the contestants came out from the dressing room to enter the arena for the announcement of the winner on the final night of the competition.

“I was very nervous and excited right until different contestants started singing songs in their Native language,” said McCall, “That’s when some of us started crying.” “One Navajo contestant said it meant more if she did it in her language.” She described the music as peaceful and soothing.

As always the tough competition had to be narrowed down to one lucky winner, she was Cassie Thomas from the Seneca Tribe from Lawtons, N.Y.

Thomas also won the best public speaking and best traditional presentation award.

McCall wants to give many thanks to all the Seminole Tribe of Florida officials of the council and the board who supported her and made possible for her to participate in this year’s pageant. She also wants to thank all of those who purchased raffle tickets and all who attended the Gathering of Nations and got a chance to witness her presentations and offered graceful compliments.

Tribe Makes an Impact at Broward Days

Submitted by Stephen D. Bowers, Liaison, Governor’s Council on Indian Affairs

TALLAHASSEE, FL — The Seminole Tribe of Florida participates in Broward Day in Tallahassee, Fla. during the annual legislative session. Broward Days is when various community-minded residents throughout Broward County converge in Tallahassee to lobby for various issues that matter. This year’s Broward Days took place April 4-6 with over 600 Broward County residents in attendance.

Committees are formed in Broward County to fight for more funding for various Broward County-wide issues including: health care, workforce development, education workshop and children’s issues/juvenile justice. They then bring these issues to lawmakers in Florida’s capital.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida joined forces with All Service Refuse, Citrix Systems, Comcast Cable Communications, Keiser College and Motorola to help sponsor most of the activities. A few of the activities during the three-



Michael Murphy

Broward Days Co-Chairs Belinda Kaiser (left) and John Pisula with Stephen Bowers, who is displaying the Tribe’s sponsorship award.

day event included an official welcome to Tallahassee by District 2 Broward County Mayor Kristin Jacobs and Senator Walter “Skip” Campbell (D-FL), also the Broward Legislative Delegation Chair. Campbell also introduced a legislative proclamation recognizing Broward Days to the state Senate.

The Broward Days luncheon featured speaker Tom Lee, Florida’s Senate President.

Liaison Stephen D. Bowers, LaWanna Niles from the Hollywood Clinic and Immokalee Tribal citizen Nancy Motlow, Immokalee Reservation represented the Seminole Tribe of Florida. While managing a booth during the Annual Sponsor Recognition Reception, current Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist stopped by to say hello to these Tribal representatives and pick up a few of the Seminole Tribe’s giveaway items.



Michael Murphy

(L-R) LaWanna Niles and Nancy Motlow at the Seminole Tribe’s booth.

Seminole Princess Pageant

July 30, 2005

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 to follow



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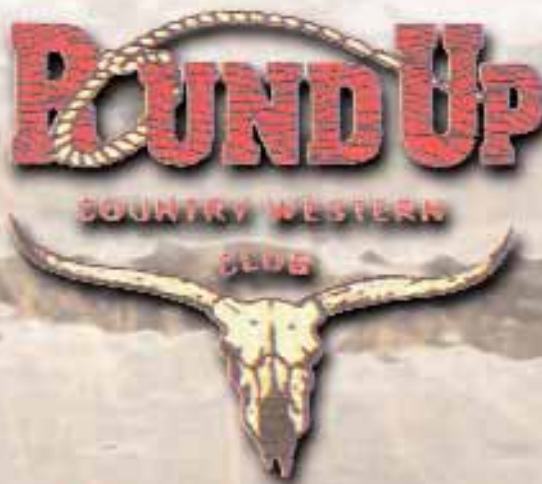


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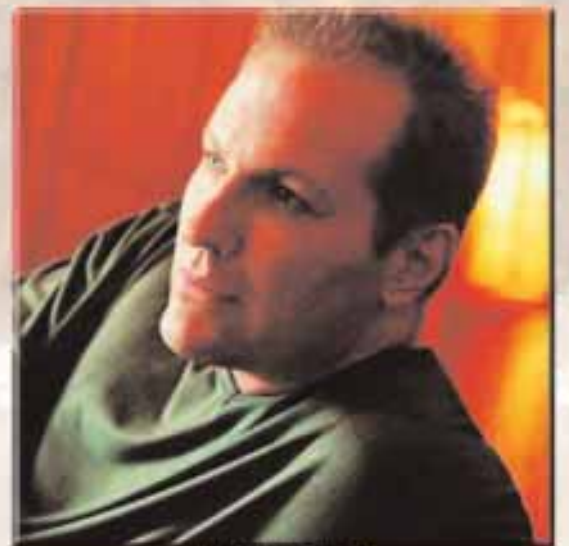
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Submitted by Eva Cain

Firefighter/Paramedics Robert McCarthy (right) and Irena Loleski (left) prepare to enter a smoke-filled corridor of a simulated burning building.

Fire Departments Participate In Joint Drill Training

Submitted by Eva Cain, PIO, Department of Emergency Services

OKEECHOBEE CITY, FL — On April 22, members of the Seminole Tribe Fire Rescue and Okeechobee County Fire Rescue utilized the Okeechobee modular fire training trailer to participate in a joint training session. Firefighters entered the building two at a time, along with an instructor, to perform a search and rescue in a fire and smoke environment with a flashover simulation.

A flashover is the simultaneous ignition of all flammable material in an enclosed area. Flashover occurs when the majority of surfaces in a space are heated to the point at which they give off flammable gases that are hot enough to ignite themselves—i.e. they do not need to be touched by flame to start burning. Prior to flashover, flammable gases may be given off but are not hot enough to ignite without contact with direct flame.

The phenomenon of flashover, in its generic

sense, is a significant killer of firefighters. In the US, for example, National Fire Prevention Association statistics recorded between 1985 and 1994 demonstrated a total of 47 firefighters lost their lives to flashover.

The classic example of flashover is where a piece of furniture is set alight in a domestic room. The fire on the furniture produces a layer of hot smoke across the ceiling in the room. The radiated heat from this layer heats the other surfaces in the room, causing them to give off combustible

gases. When the surface temperatures become high enough, these gases ignite and, in the space of a few seconds, every surface in the room may be on fire.

The training was very successful as it provided the fire fighters with many other different scenarios they must overcome when working an actual fire. Various such exercises are being planned for the future.



Submitted by Eva Cain

Seminole Tribe and Okeechobee Fire Rescue prepare their gear.



Iretta Tiger

The BC community team beat the Tribal SPD/EMS team in both games played on Appreciation Day.

SPD, EMS Show Their Appreciation

By Iretta Tiger

BIG CYPRESS — It was a very hot Saturday morning, but that didn't stop the Seminole Police Department (SPD) and Seminole Emergency Medical Services (EMS) department from holding the Big Cypress Community Appreciation Day.

April 30 was chosen as the day of appreciation and for the big showdown on the softball field. Though there were activities for the children, the real action was on the softball field where the



Iretta Tiger

EMS Director Armando Negrin takes a swing.



Iretta Tiger

SPD Sergeant Powell Morris gets his face painted before the big game.

Big Cypress community challenged SPD and Seminole EMS.

The first game of the day ended in a 20-11 score in favor of the BC community. At the beginning of the second game, the BC community soon took an early lead. SPD and EMS tried hard to catch up but by the end of the game the BC community was so far ahead no one bothered to keep score.

It's hard to say which was funnier; watching SPD and EMS trying to play or the constant prodding they gave each other. It was a great time by everyone.

Tribal Firefighters Save A Life

Submitted by Eva Cain, PIO, Department of Emergency Services

BIG CYPRESS — Just two months after assuming Emergency Medical Service, or EMS, responsibilities at the Big Cypress and Brighton communities, the Seminole Tribal firefighters' high level of skills and training were pressed into service.

On the morning of April 18 firefighters stationed at Big Cypress received a call for aid from Billie Swamp Safari. Six minutes after being dispatched, emergency units and personnel arrived at the Swamp Water Café kitchen rear entrance area to find a 70 year old, female, tribal employee lying on the ground unconscious.

According to co-workers, the victim had been working in the kitchen area when she stepped outside complaining of severe chest pain approximately seven minutes prior to medical personnel's arrival on scene. Initial assessments proved in fact that the patient had no pulse and the heart was in ventricular fibrillation, a cardiac rhythm in which the heart's lower chambers quiver erratically rather than pump blood throughout the body.

Firefighters/Paramedics immediately initiated vigorous resuscitation efforts including Advanced

Airway Management Techniques as well as Cardiac/Life Support procedures which enabled them to successfully obtain a pulse from the lifeless victim. After stabilizing the patient, she was transferred by Broward County Fire Rescue's helicopter to Cleveland Clinic in Weston, Fla. where she received continued extensive treatment at the hospital's intensive cardiac care unit.

Recently, the patient's daughter visited firefighters at STFR Big Cypress Station#2 and informed them that her mother had been released from the hospital and is expected to make a full recovery thanks greatly in part to the efforts of the individuals involved in her mother's care that fateful day. The Department of Emergency Services wishes her a continued speedy recovery.

In early January 2005, the department purchased AED units, or Automatic External Defibrillators, as part of the departments' commitment to place the units in all Tribal offices as to increase the probability of survival from cardiac arrest and/or heart attacks.

Any department requesting an AED unit or CPR/AED training should contact the department's administrative office at (863) 983-2150.

Nextel Holds 'Visionaries' Seminar

By Felix DoBosz

HOLLYWOOD — Telecommunications corporation Nextel held a seminar titled "Nextel Communications Visionaries" in the Hollywood auditorium lobby of headquarters for Seminole Tribal citizens and employees on April 22. This informative presentation was held from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. by Nextel representatives to demonstrate all the vast improvements in cell phone technology and the advantages the company offers.

Tribal citizens as well as employees gathered in an orderly line to fill out free raffle tickets for a chance to win a couple of popular BlackBerry 7250 handheld PDA, or personal assistant device. The BlackBerry is more than your average cell phone, it has so many new innovative features such as combining walkie-talkie, speakerphone and Bluetooth® technology. It's fully loaded, and features automatic email and wireless web access, personal organizer, direct connect®, Java™ applications, high resolution 65K color display, GPS-enabled, large alpha-numeric keypad.

Nextel presented Seminole Tribal citizens and employees the opportunity to receive a discounted service plan that will save users 10 percent monthly. Representatives also offered signing bonuses, a free i205 handset or a \$50 credit towards the purchase of any other handset also offered during the event.

Recreation Manager Steve Young was in line to try to win a free BlackBerry. He said he is currently a subscriber using the Nextel service on his cell phone and said the service was very good.

Data account executive with Nextel Communications Roger Soto said, "Various Nextel vendors are here to show their solutions that work with Nextel network. In addition to that, we are also making the general public aware of discounts and services available to them as employees and members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida. One of the main



Felix DoBosz

Communications' Melissa Sherman learns how to communicate with her new BlackBerry PDA.

things we wanted to accomplish here today was introduce the top brass [decision makers] of operations and IT [Information Technology] people...with a lot of the services, features and solutions that are available on the Nextel network."

After lunch, and all the presentations had been shown to those interested in the auditorium, it was time to pick the big raffle winners from the large glass jar. The names were picked out with great anticipation and delight from those attending the raffle. The lucky winners of the BlackBerry cell phones were Stephen Galla from Communications department and Oliver Wareham from the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum.

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The listing of a lawyer is an important decision that should be based solely upon advertisement. Guy A. Seligman worked as a Certified Legal Intern in both the State Attorney and Public Defender's offices in Broward and Dade Counties; he has been in private practice for 16 years. He graduated from Florida Southern University Law School in 1987 and was admitted to the Florida Bar in 1989.

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SPD Sergeant Powell Morris gets his face painted before the big game.

Big Cypress community challenged SPD and Seminole EMS.

The first game of the day ended in a 20-11 score in favor of the BC community. At the beginning of the second game, the BC community soon took an early lead. SPD and EMS tried hard to catch up but by the end of the game the BC community was so far ahead no one bothered to keep score.

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EMS Director Armando Negrin takes a swing.

Miss Seminole Nominated for Prestigious Award

By Iretta Tiger
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL — Even today in 2005 Seminole continue to break new ground; not only as a Tribe but as individuals. One such achievement was accomplished by Miss Seminole JoJo Osceola.

Osceola was nominated for *The Miami Herald* and *El Nuevo Herald* Silver Knight Awards 2005 in the foreign language category, along with 21 other students. The Silver Knight Awards recognizes high school students from Broward County who not only maintain outstanding grades but also contribute to their school and communities.

The awards ceremony took place on May 3 at the Broward Center of The Performing Arts.

Listening to the accomplishments of these teenagers is a wake up call to those who complain about never having enough time. As individuals, the student's deeds range from volunteering their time to various organizations to fundraising thousands of dollars; and that's only a general description.

Osceola is the first Seminole to be nominated for a Silver Knight Award. The nomination is an achievement in itself; thousands apply and only several are chosen for nomination.

"It's really great just to be nominated," said Osceola. "To be recognized is



(L-R) Mother, Virginia Osceola, JoJo Osceola, and Father, Joe Dan Osceola.

inspiring".

For the past few years, the Seminole Tribe has witnessed the academic and athletic accomplishments of Osceola. It was only a matter of time before recognition outside the Tribe would come.

For her nomination, the Silver Knight Awards awarded Osceola with a certificate.

Charter School is on the Horizon

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — A school on the Brighton reservation has been a long-time vision of Director of Education Louise Gopher. Gopher is a resident of the Brighton reservation and served as the Education Advisor and Coordinator for the Brighton Education department for several years.

With much dedication to the Seminole Education program, she has earned her current position as the Director of Education. A school in Brighton has only been a dream—until very recently.

Okeechobee Superintendent of Schools Phoebe Raulerson directed the Brighton Education department to pursue a Charter School for the Brighton reservation. With some guidance from Raulerson, Gopher, Brighton Education Advisor Emma Brown and Brighton Intervention Specialist Tony Bullington took the necessary steps to get the project moving and turn the longtime dream into a reality.

The Education department has contracted with Charter Associates to come on board in an advisory position through this rigorous process. Planning, developing, and opening a school entails many hours of dedication to paperwork and detail.

Charter Associates has specialized in this area for more than a decade and were involved in the very first charter school opening. This company will remain

through the application process, development and construction of the school, and then will stay on for a while once the school is open to ensure proper management of the school.

The application for the Brighton Charter School must be submitted to the Glades County School Board by Sept. 1 for approval. The Education department has met with the Superintendent of Glades County Wayne Aldrich and feels very optimistic that the School Board will approve the application and work collectively with the Education department to have a successful school on the Brighton reservation.

The school will begin as an elementary school serving grades kindergarten–fifth; however, plans are to construct a building that has room for growth in case the school expands to higher grades. Another goal of the school is to incorporate Seminole language and culture into every school day.

Once the application has been approved by the Glades County School Board, the goal of the Education department is to open the school in August 2006, but there is still a great amount of work ahead before this can happen.

This dream is moving forward with high hopes of becoming a reality very soon, the Education department will keep you posted on its progress and invite you to call at (863) 763-3572 if you have any questions.

Education Department Employees Attend Retreat

Former Miami Dolphins Player Presents Tribe with Educational Scholarship

By Adelsa Williams
HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe of Florida's Education department held a retreat for its employees from April 12–14 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino. All who attended enjoyed a few days of meet and greet with the different employees that compose the department throughout the Seminole reservations.

During a welcoming reception, Education Director Louise Gopher recognized and honored members of her staff who have served the department

for a decade or longer. A total of seven employees were called up to be honored. Chairman Mitchell Cypress and Trail Liaison William Osceola were in attendance and made their way up to the podium to shake hands with each honoree.

Honorees were: Claudia Doctor, 13 years; Deborah Johns, 13 years; Jenny Shore, 24 years; Louise Gopher, 23 years; Lorene Gopher, 10 years; Shirley Sampson, 25 years and Nancy Shore, 22 years.

Gopher also introduced some of the new employees who have recently joined the education department. Everyone else in attendance also stood up to introduce themselves and explain what role they played in the program and on which reservation they are located.

A special guest of honor, Nat Moore, former



(L-R) Chairman Mitchell Cypress, Cornelia Osceola, former Miami Dolphins wide receiver Nat Moore, and Trail Liaison William Osceola.

Miami Dolphins wide receiver, addressed the crowd and ended his speech with a special unexpected surprise. Moore presented The Seminole Tribe with a scholarship of \$10,000 dollars, proceeds from the Nat Moore foundation. The foundation aims to meet the needs of disadvantaged youth, and was founded in 1998.

As a former player, Moore is known for breaking almost every team record of the Miami Dolphins, the only team he played for during his 13 years in the NFL. In 1984, the league voted him "Man of the Year," an honor given to the player who gives outstanding service to his community. Moore also received the Byron 'Whizzer' White Humanitarian Award in 1986.

"Kids are just looking for a little attention and they do it by either being bad or being smart; the key of educators is to find out what makes that kid tick and that's the reason why the Nat Moore foundation is committed to youth because I grew up here in

the city in South Florida and it was because of educators that refused to let me fail that I'm standing here before you, so I know how important you are to the future of the Tribe," said Moore, "Accept this check in scholarship effort for Seminole kids. It's very important that we continue to help out kids further their education."

The next two day's agenda included five different workshops from various departments of the Tribe for the enrichment of the education employees.

The first one was given by Denise Alley on team building. Second was an overview of the Miccosukee school system. The third, an update on the use of street drugs, was given by Eric Bricker of the Family Services department. Heather Tanksley from the Human Resources department gave the fourth workshop on exploring personal work styles. The fifth and final workshop was given by the Culture department about working in a cultural environment.



Education department honorees for 10 or more years of service (L-R): Lorene Gopher, Claudia Doctor, Shirley Sampson, Nancy Shore, Jenny Shore, and Louise Gopher.

Students Plant Traditional Seminole Garden

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — Students of the Brighton Pull-Out Program planted a traditional oval garden during arts and crafts class on March 11. For the first time, the garden is in a hammock, which was designated by Councilman Roger Smith to be the new

location for the Pull-Out's traditional garden.

There was a great deal of preparation that went in to the construction of the garden. Lewis Gopher prepared the ground by tilling and fertilizing the soil, he also built a fence around the property to protect the garden. Since the property is located across the road from the school, safety measures had



These busy students planted corn, peas, beans, onions, cassava, sweet potato, squash and pumpkin.

to be taken to ensure student safety going to and from the garden.

Larry Osceola spent one weekend constructing bridges on both sides of the road that allows the students to cross the ditches safely. Sergeant Gator Sapp with SPD worked with the Glades County Road Department to put pedestrian cross walks and school crossing road signs into place.

Sergeant Sapp also provides the Pull-Out Program with an officer each Friday to assist each class in crossing the street safely.

Tribal 4-H Extension Agent Michael Bond supplied the seeds, stakes and markers used in planting the garden. Once everything was in place and the garden was prepared for planting, it was time for a little pre-planting 101 for the students.

Teachers Martha Jones, Shirley Sampson, Agnes Bert and Mable Haught taught the students about the history of the Seminole Indian traditional garden. Then they worked with each class teaching the students how

to planet and tend to the garden.

The students planted three types of corn, peas, beans, onions, cassava, sweet potatoes, squash and pumpkin. Each week, the culture class ventures across the street to tend to the garden and monitor the progress. The students should have vegetables ready for harvesting very soon.

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.

If you are interested, pick up your application DSO on 2nd floor, room 222 or 220 Boys & Girls Club Bldg. (954) 964-5947 SPD / Diane Buster (955) 967-8900 Information call: 954-989-6840 ext 1308

Degrees Help Sisters Give Back to Their Community

Submitted by Christine Lambrakis, ASU MESA, AZ — Arizona State University (ASU) will confer bachelor's and master's degrees on approximately 5,800 students in May, which is not unusual, but three of the estimated 150 Native American students graduating happen to be sisters. Dorthea, Benita and Elvira Litson plan to graduate from various programs offered on the Tempe and East campuses.

Michael Begaye, program coordinator senior for the Native American Achievement Program (NAAP) at the Tempe campus, is proud that one Native American family has multiple members graduating simultaneously.

"I have been here nine years, and I have never witnessed anything like it," said Begaye. "It's quite fitting as Peterson Zah is being recognized with an honorary doctorate degree."

Begaye adds that Benita and Elvira are participants of the NAAP and Dorthea served as an advisor/mentor for NAAP participants at ASU's East campus.

Dorthea, the oldest of the three, is graduating with her master of education degree in education, curriculum and instruction from the College of Education in Tempe. Benita, the middle sister, is graduating with a master of science degree in environmental resource management from the Department of Applied Biological Sciences in East College at the East campus. And Elvira, the youngest of the three, is graduating with a bachelor of science degree in agribusiness from the Morrison School of Agribusiness and Resource Management at the East campus.

Education is important to all of them because they see it as a way to give back to the people on the Navajo Reservation in Tsaile, Ariz., where they grew up. For their family and for others on the reservation, agriculture is very much a part of their culture and life.

"My father made a business off of raising, trading and selling livestock," said Benita. "Livestock gave us the ability to enjoy our lives, and I guess I grew to love and respect animals."

As an undergraduate, Benita focused on pre-

veterinary medicine, but took a few environmental resource management courses to fulfill some of her upper-division requirements.

"Taking the environmental resource management courses made me see that in order to help my family's business in ranching, we had to make optimal use of the land without further degradation, so I switched my focus and pursued my master's degree in it," said Benita.

For Elvira, getting her degree aids in her interest to improve the way of life for her people who depend heavily on their livestock and crops for survival.

"Growing up on a reservation is indescribable, especially when you come to the city and realize our people on the reservation are being left behind," said Elvira. "It gives you a sense of wanting to go back to help change so many things. Getting an education is the biggest step to being able to do just that; it was my motivation for finishing my degree."

Dorthea, the first of five children to receive a college degree, sees her education helping the youth and teachers on the reservation.

"Based on my own education and experience, I concluded that Indian students continue to perform at a very low continuum in terms of education performance," said Dorthea. "This huge learning gap for my Indian youth is what motivated me to pursue my master of education degree."

Dorthea has worked for ASU's East campus for six years in areas of American Indian student retention and recruitment and more recently on a National Science Foundation grant that works with rural schools—schools on Indian reservations and schools serving Hispanic and Indian students—on sustaining and improving mathematics and science learning for all students.

"I would like to help teachers examine their instructions in the area of mathematics and science so they can improve student learning," said Dorthea.

The sisters' family and friends plan to celebrate their accomplishments following the various graduation ceremonies, including their respective university commencement ceremonies on May 12–14.

'Building Native Communities' Financial Seminar

By Shelley Marmor HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Tribe's Treasurer's Office sponsored a two-day financial workshop at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino on April 27–28. Vickie K. Oldman, a Navajo Tribal citizen and principal with Kitseallyboy Consulting, gave the seminar.

According to the website, www.Kitseallyboy.com, "Kitseallyboy Consulting [is] a 100 percent native-owned business that provides strategic planning, technical assistance and training services for Native American tribal organizations, community action groups, and nonprofit organizations."

Oldman brought with her the "Building Native Communities" curriculum, which the South Dakota-based First Nations Oweesta Corporation developed. She said she began teaching this curriculum in 1999, though it has only recently caught on as a way to train Native Americans on how to better manage their finances.

According to Oldman,

The objective of the seminar was to train the various Tribal representatives in attendance from various departments, including the Treasurer's Office, Accounting, and Loan departments, on how to better assist Tribal citizens with financial questions. Tribal Treasurer Mike Tiger said Oldman's job "is the training of the trainers" who would pass this vital information on.

Tiger thanked Oldman for coming and said he had high hopes that Building Native Communities would help the Seminole Tribe's citizens.

"We need to get to there people aren't taking loans out and can better manage their money," he said.

Building Native Communities is a six-part curriculum; these facets include: Building a healthy economy, Developing a spending plan, Working with a checking and savings account, Understanding credit and your credit report, Accessing credit, Part I and Accessing credit, Part II.

Oldman stressed the two essential components to teaching this curriculum: an interactive approach and a focus on traditional native elements specific to each Tribe. With every section of the curriculum came at least one activity that helped people

to better understand that specific section.

For example, in section two, developing a spending plan, attendees wrote down a short term and long term spending goal and their corresponding monetary mounts. After that Oldman instructed everyone to make a list of what they spent during the week and circle every unnecessary purchase.

Next, they totaled the amount spent on unnecessary purchases, multiplied that number by four to get how much they spend on these items monthly. Oldman then had attendees multiply that number by six to see how much is unnecessarily spent in half a year.

To the shock of many the number they calculated came close to the amount many needed to purchase the item they listed as their short term spending goal. Oldman said keeping track of spending via writing it down is the only way to see what each person spends.

Oldman also stressed the importance of conforming these financial seminars to the customs and beliefs of each individual Tribe. She said before bringing the seminar to the Seminole Tribe, she first consulted the Tribe's website to get a better understanding of cultural elements she would have otherwise not known.

"Tailor everything to your community," she said.

She said beginning every session with a traditional element will help a native audience focus better. At this seminar, Diane Frank from the Treasurer's Office gave an invocation in Miccosukee.

According to Oldman, "Non-native efforts have failed to some degree."

Oldman suggested looking to elders because "these people were master savers." She gave the example of Canadian Band Nit Nat and Sooke Indians which would save for one full year after the news of an impending wedding so that everyone in attendance could enjoy the food, drink, etc. at the wedding.

She said this shows that even though traditionally many Tribes did not have a conventional monetary system, they did have set saving practices.

Oldman said these training manuals are available free of charge thanks to a grant from the Fannie Mae Foundation. For more information on receiving the Building Native Communities manuals, call (800) 659-7557 or visit www.fanniemaef.com.



Shelley Marmor Consultant Vickie K. Oldman from Kitseallyboy led the seminar.

American Indian Students Can Learn

By Dean Chavers, Ph.D.
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[Editor's Note: Dean Chavers, Ph.D., is the Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement program for American Indians, located in Albuquerque. His address is CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com. CTD operates the Exemplary Institute each April to teach people how to develop exemplary programs in their schools.]

The school systems established for American Indians by the federal government after the Civil War were intended to do one thing: assimilate Indians into the "mainstream" of U.S. society. But like a fly trapped in amber, these schools have not changed in 125 years. U.S. society changed, but Indian schools did not.

In 1900, fewer than 20 percent of students in the U.S. finished high school. That number has changed radically; more than 80 percent of students in the U.S. now finish high school. Most of the ones that do not finish are minorities. Fewer than five students out of a hundred went on to college in 1900. Now, 70 percent of high school graduates go to college. In 1900, almost none of the Indian students went to college. Today some 17 percent go to college, but 82 percent of them drop out without a degree.

The curriculum in American Indian schools is very weak by design. Teachers assume that Indian students cannot learn higher concepts. In 1975, when I surveyed teachers at four Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) boarding high schools for my dissertation at Stanford, the highest math course the four schools offered was general math. Students were leaving school with no exposure to algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and calculus. Almost none went to college, and the few who went dropped out.

My doctoral dissertation was about social change at Indian schools. The schools were very slow to change, and in fact resisted change. For instance, one of the math teachers in Gallup, New Mexico whom I first met in 1986 expressed his true feelings at an orientation meeting the next year.

"Any math we teach these Indian kids is more than they would have otherwise," he said. "After all, all they are going to do is pump gas and do beadwork."

To their credit, the other teachers subjected him to verbal abuse on the spot. He left the next year. His paternalistic attitude, unfortunately, is the prevailing one in Indian schools. Reservation schools have always assumed Indian students cannot learn complicated concepts. Starting in 1878 at the first federal school for Indians, Carlisle Institute, Indians have been trained to be barbers, welders, secretaries, motel maids, and cashiers. This racist attitude still prevails.

Today, only 17 percent of Indian high school graduates go on to college, compared to 70 percent for the U.S. as a whole. The gap between Indians and the general population is enormous, and is growing every year. More than 80 percent of the few Indian students who go to college never graduate, mainly because of their weak preparation in high school. In a study I did five years ago, fewer than 10 percent of Indian high school seniors had taken four years of math in high school.

Half of all Indian students drop out of high school or middle school before graduation. Their daily attendance is the lowest in the nation, as low as 60 percent in some schools. Thirty percent were not enrolled in a science class. Over half the Indian schools did not even have a science lab! Students are isolated within the schools; fewer than one in five belongs to any clubs.

Even the Indian Club fails to attract most Indian students; only 6.8 percent of seniors belonged to the Indian Club! Indian students leave school without the ability to write, to study, to learn on their own, and with weak or no preparation for college. The reality of life in the U. S., with 70 percent of high school graduates going on to college, has not yet penetrated Indian Country.

My organization, Catching the Dream, start-

ed trying to change these facts about Indian schools in 1988. Indian Country needs doctors, nurses, engineers, teachers, computer programmers, and math teachers more than anywhere else. We want to produce a whole new generation of Indian college graduates to serve Indian people. But the making the attempts to get Indian schools to upgrade their programs to produce a generation of Indian college students is a very difficult one, even for Catching the Dream.

Luckily, we are succeeding. Twenty years ago, not one of the 740 Indian high schools offered a college preparatory track. Now, ten of them do, and others are starting to change. I got a call today from a New York tribe that is reprogramming its scholarship funds to send students to the top college prep schools in the U.S. They wanted a list of the top prep schools in the U.S. Other tribes ought to look at this option.

Reid Riedlinger became Superintendent of the Wellpinit School District on the Spokane Reservation in Washington in 1990. He inherited a fractured system. Daily attendance was 65 percent. The dropout rate was 60 percent. Tests were in the bottom quartile. Almost no students went to college. Reid asked me to visit his district early in his first year as superintendent. He asked me to review all programs and make recommendations for improvement. To my amazement, he and his staff implemented almost all my recommendations! I recommended that they make sure students were in school every day, that they read a lot of books, and that teachers be required to live in the community instead of commuting to the reservation.

Reid is still superintendent 15 years later, and the district is still improving. Wellpinit is sending all its graduates to college, and the dropout rate is near zero. Daily attendance is 95 percent and has been for ten years. Test scores range from the 40th to the 70th percentile. The tribe now has its own attorney, who is a tribal member and a graduate of Wellpinit High School.

The Chugach School District in Alaska was probably worse than Wellpinit when it started its school improvement process in 1994. All the test scores were in the bottom quartile. The district had sent only one student to college in the previous 30 years! The dropout rate was over 60 percent.

They threw out the old curriculum and designed ten new curriculum units. Students, parents, teachers, local business people, school board members, and administrators were all actively involved in the process.

Instead of letting time be a constant and learning be the variable, they have made learning the constant and time the variable. The results have been amazing. By 2001 all test scores were in the top quartile, dropouts were nil, and staff turnover was low. Most students now go on to college.

The Superintendent, Richard DeLorenzo, was the new high school principal when they started the school improvement process. He is still there. Two years ago, Chugach won the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the U.S. equivalent to the Nobel Peace Prize. It was the first school district to win this prestigious prize, which was awarded at the White House by the president.

Catching the Dream has identified 27 exemplary programs such as these two in the past 15 years. These bold new programs are leading the way to the future of Indian education. But Indian Country needs thousands of doctors, teachers, nurses, and engineers.

Catching the Dream has produced 26 doctors, 28 engineers, 100 scientists, 60 business graduates, and 70 teachers from these improved schools. But there is a long way to go yet. The Indian Health Service perennially reports that it needs hundreds of doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, and other health professionals. The failure to have them means that Indian people have to wait for hours to be seen at a clinic. Unfortunately it means that some of them die without treatment.

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DART Network Seeks Social Justice Workers

Submitted by Ben MacConnell, Recruitment Director, DART Network

The Direct Action and Research Training (DART) Center is now accepting applications for the 2005 DART Organizers Institute. This program is designed to give people the skills in grassroots organizing to launch a permanent career in the field within the DART Network. The Organizers Institute is a combined classroom and field training covering such topics as: entering a community, identifying and training local leaders, strategic planning and issue cutting, relationship and community building, direct action on community issues and fundraising.

The DART Network is a nonprofit network of affiliates, founded in 1982 to assist in the development of strong, congregation-based, grassroots community organizations committed to democratic principles and values of justice and fairness. The DART Network currently consists of 21 affiliates spread throughout Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Virginia, Indiana, and Kentucky, each with their own leaders, staff, funding base, and accomplishments toward justice at the local level.

The seven day classroom training will take place in Richmond, Ind. starting June 20. During their four month infield training, organizer trainees (OTs) could potentially be placed with any of the local DART affiliates including organizations in the aforementioned states. OTs will be informed of their training placement at the culmination of our national search, approximately six weeks prior to the start of the training.

We will certainly take into account the OTs interests in terms of location. But placements will be determined based on our interest in providing the best training experience possible, and may require sacrificing one's desire for a specific location. Permanent placement will be negotiated for successful graduates to continue with the DART network.

OTs will be equipped in mid-June with an intensive classroom workshop, but most of the training will take place while working to build the power of one of the local DART affiliates. OTs will be expected to create a work plan based on the goals set by the local leadership, execute the techniques and strategies they learn during the classroom training, be accountable to DART and local organizing staff through written weekly reports and check-ins, and should continuously evaluate, their own progress toward becoming a skilled professional community organizer.

Qualifications: Although it may be helpful, no direct experience is necessary. OTs hired to participate in the DART Organizers Institute must demonstrate a desire to pursue community organizing as a long-term professional career. A master's degree or similar life experience is preferred though unnecessary. Candidates must have a college degree or be graduating prior to June 20.

Also, candidates must display a workmanlike diligence, be driven to produce sustained results, have proven capacity to build relationships of trust, create and execute a plan, act professionally, feel comfortable working with congregations, be accountable and willing to hold others accountable, demonstrate disciplined thought and action, and work in a team setting. OTs must also have access to a car during their training and be flexible regarding relocation. Fluency in Spanish/English is a plus and people of color are encouraged to apply.

This is a paid training program. OTs will be given a living stipend of \$6,500 during the four-month training. DART will also pay all transportation costs to the classroom orientation and host city, and mileage reimbursements during the field portion of the training. Room, board, and tuition will also be paid by DART during the seven day classroom orientation. After successful completion of the program, DART will work to place graduates into fulltime positions making initial salaries up to \$35,000 per year, plus benefits.

We encourage anyone to send your resume to: Ben MacConnell, DART Network, 820 New York Street, Lawrence, KS 66044 or by e-mail at institute@thedartcenter.org. Those with questions should call: (785) 841-2680. Also, you can download applications or view profiles from previous OTs at the DART website: www.thedartcenter.org.

DART has fought and won across the country on a broad set of issues like joblessness, access to health care, living wage and job source agreements, police misconduct, improved public education, quality affordable housing, fair immigration practices, and dozens of others. We are broadening our power into new communities throughout the country by training a new generation of community organizers.

Seminole Tribe of Florida members,

I am writing to encourage anyone interested in social and economic justice in the Everglades area to apply now for the DART Organizers Institute, a paid four month, summer field school in grassroots community organization.

The DART Center has enabled more than 50 people to gain the experience to begin a career in community organizing around social and economic justice issues affecting low-moderate income communities, and we are accepting applications now to train another 20 community organizers! Please see below for details and forward this announcement to anyone that may be interested.

Sincerely,

Ben MacConnell

Recruitment Director, DART Network

Phone: (785) 841-2680

E-mail: ben@thedartcenter.org

Website: www.thedartcenter.org



Iretta Tiger

(L-R) Charlotte Tommie, Naomi Pacheco, Paul Bowers Sr., Paul Bowers Jr., and Brenda Henry.

Seminole Earns Business Degree

By Iretta Tiger

PUEBLO, CO — The date is May 7 and this is the moment Naomi Pacheco has worked hard for. Pacheco received her baccalaureate's degree in business from the Malik and Seeme Hasan School of Business at Colorado State University-Pueblo.

"The toughest part is being a mother and a wife while going to school," said Pacheco. "My advice is to go to college before you start a family."

Pacheco is also a new grandmother; her beautiful granddaughter is only eight months old. Several relatives from Florida flew in for the occasion, including Pacheco's mother Sally Agnes Tommie and Big Cypress Board Representative Paul Bowers Sr.

Pacheco said she hopes to bring her degree back to the Seminole Tribe or assist local Colorado Tribes in her area of expertise, business management.

To say the Pacheco now belongs to an exclusive group would be an understatement. In his opening speech, Colorado State University-Pueblo President Dr. Ronald Applbaum said that only one percent of the U.S. population has a bachelor's degree or higher.



Iretta Tiger

(L-R) Sally Tommie and Naomi Pacheco.

Students Encouraged to Apply for Beef Industry Scholarships

DENVER, CO — Applications are now being accepted for the 2006 Beef Industry Scholarship program, sponsored by the National Cattlemen's Foundation (NCF) and the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME). All entries must be postmarked by Sept 30.

Twenty scholarships of \$1,500 will be awarded to youths pursuing careers in the beef industry. The program identifies and encourages talented and thoughtful students that have demonstrated a commitment to a career in the beef industry, either through classes, internships or life experience.

Graduating high school seniors or full-time undergraduate students enrolled at a two-year or four-year college for the 2006–2007 school year are encouraged to apply.

Applications must include a 750-word essay that identifies a key issue confronting the beef industry and suggests a solution. Applicants must also submit a letter of intent and two letters of recommendation. A full description of the scholarship program and submission requirements can be found at the National Cattlemen's Foundation website: www.nationalcattle-

mensfoundation.org, or by calling (303) 850-3347.

In addition to a scholarship, the first place winner will receive airfare and lodging to attend the Annual Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show in Denver, Colo., Feb. 1–4, 2006.

The Beef Industry Scholarship program is a cooperative effort of the CME and NCF that was launched in 1989 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Live Cattle Futures Contract on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. The Chicago Mercantile Exchange has been a leader in the live cattle market since 1964, and the Beef Industry Scholarship Program exemplifies CME's commitment to the beef industry.

The National Cattlemen's Foundation serves the beef industry as a charitable institution whose mission is to promote the future of the industry through research and education that will help provide the public with a wholesome and economical beef supply.

CME is a diversified marketplace offering futures and options contracts on livestock, lumber, stock indexes, interest rates and currencies.

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.

To prevent this from happening, when you see your doctor, always show them your Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Plan identification card. This will indicate to your doctor that you have medical insurance and your doctor will bill the Health Plan directly rather than you, for the services provided.

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

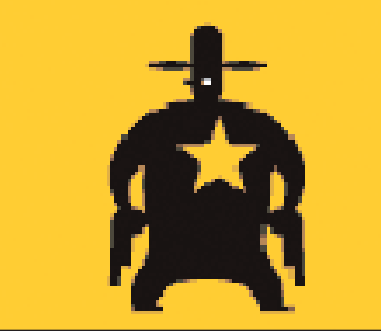
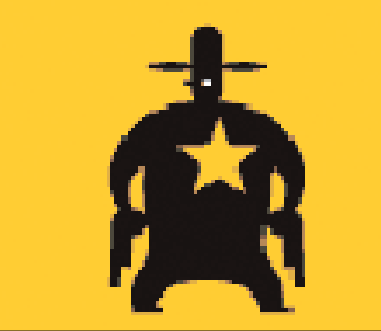
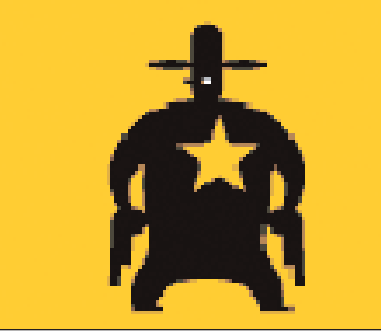
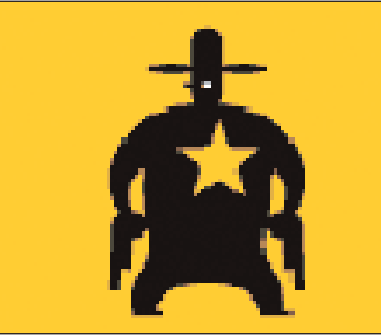
to your Health Plan office so that your bill can be processed. Following is the address of your Health Plan and the telephone number should you want to contact the staff directly:

Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Plan
5201 Ravenswood Road,
Suite 107
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312
(866) 505-6789 or (954) 981-7410

If you receive a collection notice in the mail or a telephone call from a collection agency, don't wait! Please contact Debi DeHass directly at (954) 965-1300, Ext. 123 for assistance. She will need a copy of the collection notice, or if you received a call you will need to obtain the following information from the caller: * Name of the person calling * Telephone number * Name of the medical provider or collection agency * 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.

Please remember the staff at the health clinics as well as the staff at the Health Plan is there to assist you. Working together, we can assure that you obtain all of the health care benefits due to you.



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Dear counselor,

I really enjoy reading your articles. I like the way you are able to provide solutions to difficult problems.

I am 26-years-old; I am married with a very supportive wife. My wife and I have five children and we try to be good role models for them.

I am new in the recovery program. I attend meetings and take it one day at a time. My problem is my confusion with the spiritual part of the recovery process. I am a Seminole, my culture and belief is the Great Spirit is my higher power.

People in the program talk about spirituality and then they are those in the program that talk about religion. I have seen people in recovery and at meetings argue about their faith being the right one as if one belief is superior to any other.

Signed,
Seeking

Dear Seeking,

The purpose of your letter is to engage in a journey of understanding the spiritual principles and spiritual awakening of the Twelve Steps in the recovery process. Sharing with fellow addicts is a basic tool in the recovery program. You will recognize your spiritual growth when you are able to reach out and help others. You will keep your recovery only with vigilance and freedom from your addiction through the Twelve Steps.

The person within you is what the Twelve Steps are all about. These spiritual concept make up step two—we came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity—and step three—we made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understand him.

These two steps address the spiritual part of overcoming addiction, the part you recognize only by a feeling of emptiness or loneliness, when you first come into the program. As you start to look at the effect of your disease you are sure to see that your life has become unmanageable.

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

Seeking spirituality is important for you because of the many disappointments and hard aches that many people in recovery experience. The concept is not an easy one for individuals who have been disappointed time after time.

To believe in a power greater than ourselves begins with hope. Your hope will turn to faith as your life begins to improve. While many people question others about their spiritual beliefs, we must remember that our understanding of a power greater than ourselves is a personal one.

The difference between religion and spirituality is based on the concept that religious people are afraid of going to hell, but spiritual people have been to hell and back. Whether

the comparison is fair or not, the fellowship of Alcoholic Anonymous presents itself as a spiritual rather than a religious program. Therapy offers explanation spirituality offers forgiveness.

Native Americans elders say that the Twelve Steps originally compiled by Alcoholic Anonymous have much in common with traditional native ways especially if they are viewed in a circle. As taught by the elders, the time has come for you to awaken from your long sleep and search again for the teaching of the creator through which you will find healing.

As a Seminole you are part of the Seminoles in recovery and other Native Americans who are seeking healing, because they want to stop inflicting pain on themselves and their love ones—to quiet the tears of their children and fill the spiritual emptiness of addiction

What religion labels as sin; what therapy calls our sickness, what philosophy calls our errors; what judges call a crime, we know as an addiction. Our addictive behavior brings us closer to the reality that no matter how hard we try to deny it, we are not the ones in control. This realization brings us closer to a higher power through spirituality.

Signed,
Counselor

Coming Back Beside Lake Okeechobee

Celebrating the end of the “Lake Walk”

We would like to share this milestone with you

You are cordially invited to join us in walking the last 2.3 miles from Taylor Creek to Okeechobee Pier on May 26, 2005

Then please join us for breakfast at the Okeechobee Clock Restaurant for the Recognition Ceremony and Remarks by Tribal Leaders

Please call Edna McDuffie at (863) 983-5798 to RSVP

The walk will start at 8:00 a.m.

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Anthony "Tony" Scalese
Tribal Member Pueblo of Isleta

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Winter Weight Loss Contest

By Kenny Bayon, C.F.T.

The New Year weight loss contest was a success as everyone is a winner for trying to lead a healthier lifestyle. The contest began on January 31 and ran though April 11.

It's not just about weight loss but it's about wanting to better oneself. Taking the time to make sure you're eating the right foods. Staying committed to your dedication and not swaying towards those bad habits. It's taking 25 minutes for some weight training before work or during your lunch break. It's taking a nice stroll though your neighborhood before the sun rises or a walk through the park before the sun sets to walk off those extra calories.

The key to making this contest successful is that everyone not only takes the weight off but keeps it off as well. Many of these people I personally, I see them everyday training very hard to better themselves. It is very satisfying as the trainer to the Hollywood community to see so many people interested in there self improvement. Let's keep on the

right track and keep the good work.

The weight loss contest is contest is calculated by using the weight that a person weighed in at and subtracting what they weighed out at. Take that number, divide it by the number a person weighed out at, and there it is. Example: Austin Billie weighed in at 191.8 and weighed out at 177.9. That comes out to a loss of 13.9 pounds. Now divide 13.9 pounds into his weigh in weight of 191.8 and the total percentage of weight loss throughout the ten weeks was 7.2.

Here are the results: Tribal woman: 1. Yvette Jumper, 8.5%, 2. Monica Cypress, 7.1%, 3. Francine Osceola, 4.7%; Tribal men: 1. Austin Billie, 7.2%, 2. Vince Micco, 5.5%, 3. Chris Osceola, 4.6%; Tribal senior woman: 1. Josephine North, 3.3%, 2. Yvonne Courtney, 2.9%, 3. Elsie Bowers, 2.2%; Tribal senior men: 1. Henry Nelson, 7.2%, 2. Truman Bowers, 6%; Tribal employee men: 1. Thomas Doud, 10.4%, 2. Tony Heard, 7.7%, 3. Diego Orozco, 6%; Tribal employee women: 1. Kareen Blanchard, 8.3%, 2. Amber Giehtbrock, 6.5%, 3. Mary Olitzky, 5.7%.

Here are some tips that will help reach your fitness goals:

1. Speed it up

If you're short on workout time, the most expedient approach calls for training your upper and lower body using two exercises considered the kings of resistance training: squats and bench presses. Doing both during the same workout will engage more major and ancillary muscle fibers than any other two exercises you can do.

After a five to eight minute warm-up to raise core temperature, do six sets of eight to 10 reps of each exercise—do the benches first—then get out of the gym. This workout will heighten your body's anabolic drive, which translates to more muscle.

2. Priority Training

If you notice that one body part, or portion of a body part, begins to lag in development compared to the other muscle groups, try a priority-training approach. Always train the weak or slow-growing muscle first in your workout. For example, if your quadriceps is kicking but your hamstrings are lacking, and then begin the workout with ham exercises. Then you can blast your quads.

3. Essential Protein

Protein is the building block of muscle, so if you're lifting you'd better be eating a good amount of protein, if you're interested in putting on muscle. Between one-and-a-half and two grams of protein per kilogram of body weight a day is recommended. This translates into 0.68 to 0.90 grams per pound of body weight.

Remember, the low number is for people who just want to lose weight or maintain what they have. The latter number is to gain muscle mass.

4. A Cycling Approach

Try creating a simple four-week training cycle in which you alternate between heavy, medium and light training sessions for each body part. Each heavy day, push your limits in order to build strength and muscle, leaving your medium and light days for developing tendon and ligament strength as well as cardio endurance.

A cyclic approach such as this one will allow you to gain muscle mass and strength, while keeping your metabolism churning so you continue to get leaner. And you'll be a lot less likely to over-train in the process.

5. Moderate Fat Intake

If you eliminate all fat from your diet, you may lose that gut, but only temporarily, and at the expense of muscle gain. The great fat-acceptance cycle has been spinning for generations, from zero tolerance to occasional monstrous greasy binges. The best plan focuses on moderation.

This means eating a reasonable amount of daily fat, but choosing unsaturated sources, known as omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids, such as salmon, mackerel, natural peanut butter, olive oil and avocados, and avoiding saturated artery cloggers such as red meat, salad dressings, mayonnaise and butter. You need healthy fats to regulate hormone production, reduce muscle inflammation (especially after training), protect your joints, and provide the satisfaction you get from eating a big, well-deserved meal.

6. Power Up

If you can't get in five or six small meals per day, eat between-meal protein shakes. This will keep your energy levels up, your amino-acid pool steady and your muscles growing.

7. Get Fibered Up!

Fruits and vegetables are great for you. This is not a myth, it's a fact. Vegetables are also loaded with fiber, and recent research shows that people who eat plenty of fiber—including legumes such as beans and peas—stay thin, even if they don't pay attention to the rest of their diet. This might be because fiber-loaded foods digest slowly and help satisfy hunger, and satisfaction is one of the keys to maintaining a weight loss program.

8. Recover Faster

Eating immediately after a workout and then again two hours later is one of the best habits you can adopt to spur muscle growth. The first two hours after a workout offers a window of opportunity in which your muscles replenish and store glycogen at almost twice the rate they otherwise do. A study at the University of Texas showed that a combination of protein and carbs will expedite energy uptake faster than if you ate them separately.

9. May the Beach be with You

By walking or running barefoot on soft sand, you'll expend nearly twice as much energy as you would on a hard surface, so it's a real calorie burner. Remember, we are from Florida so take advantage of it.

Limited traction and poor stability make the aerobic demands enormous. But don't try sand running until you've done some conventional running first. Even guys accustomed to long runs should curtail their usual distances and pace the first time they hit the beach. If the going is too tough, zigzag between soft and hard sand.

10. Just Say No!

Almost every food, whether it's steak, chocolate or red wine, has some nutrients to contribute. However, one thing is absolute: Fried foods are garbage! Potato chips, French fries and onion rings are pregnant with saturated fat and calories, yet they contain zero healthy or muscle-promoting nutrients.

But fret not, potato lovers: sweet and baked potatoes, minus the sour cream, cheese and/or bacon bits, of course, offer great, low-fat and highly nutritious alternatives. The potato skin, by the way, is the most nutritious part.

11. Intensity Fix

If your muscle growth is starting to lag, the easiest way to change your intensity level is to shorten the rest interval between sets.

12. Kick-Start Your Metabolism

If you want to maximize your muscle-growing or fat-loss efforts, never, ever, skip breakfast. Additionally, make sure that breakfast consists of complete proteins and complex carbohydrates, the best sources for stoking your metabolism at the beginning of the day, following a long night's inactivity. By the way, a Pop-Tart, even the low-sugar type, or a bagel with cream cheese, is not a good muscle-promoting breakfast.

13. Limbering Up

To keep from tightening up, spend 10 minutes after every run doing long, gentle stretches that work your calves, hamstrings, lower back and shoulders. After the age of 30, it's especially important to include upper-body stretches.

14. Listen Up Before You Sit Up!

Stick to crunches, knee ups, leg raises, bicycles and any of the dozens more of safer, more effective abdominal-isolating exercises

MDA Seeks Volunteers for 2005 Summer Camp

Submitted by the Muscular Dystrophy Association

CORAL SPRINGS, FL — Volunteers looking for an exceptionally rewarding summer experience should consider Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) summer camps. Volunteer counselors are needed to help young people with neuromuscular diseases enjoy the sun and fun at the upcoming MDA summer camp July 1–22 at the Rotary's Camp Florida in Brandon, Fla. MDA provides free transportation to and from the campsite.

Volunteer counselors must be currently a high school senior or older and able to lift with assistance a young person between the ages of 6 and 21. Each counselor becomes a companion to a camper with a neuromuscular disease. Counselors help their campers with daily activities such as eating, bathing and dressing, and in recreational activities such as arts and crafts, swimming, fishing and canoeing.

“MDA summer camp is the premier event of the year for so many of our kids,” said MDA District Director Jessica Roof. “They get to let down their hair in an environment especially tailored to their

needs. For one week a year, having a muscle-wasting disease is the norm, not the exception. The confidence and friendships kids gain in this week are precious gifts.”

Roof noted that volunteer counselors often say they get as much out of the week as the campers do, if not more.

“A real bonding occurs,” she said. “It's kind of a magical time for everyone.”

At no charge to families, MDA's summer camp program serves more than 4,300 campers nationwide in some 90 weeklong sessions. We are also in need of volunteer medical staff such as a RN or LPN. Last year, more than 4,500 volunteers helped make this all possible.

To obtain a volunteer application or learn about other ways to support MDA's summer camp program, call the local MDA office in Coral Springs at (954) 757-4357 or call MDA national headquarters at (800) 572-1717. More information about MDA summer camp volunteers can be found at MDA's website, www.mdausa.org.

Seminole Wellness Conference Around the Corner

Mark the dates for the Twelfth Annual Seminole Wellness Conference

July 17–July 22, 2005

at the Marco Island Hilton
560 South Collier Boulevard
Marco Island, FL, 34145

This year's party theme is

“Oscar Night: Everyone is a Winner”

Applications can be picked up at all rez Family Services offices, the Brighton Chairman's Office, Hollywood Clinic, Big Cypress Clinic or Wellness Trailer

Applications are due Friday June 17 at 5 p.m.

Rodeo

‘Fest-A-Bull’ Draws a Crowd

By Susan Etxebarría
BRIGHTON — The highlight of the Fest-A-Bull, a bull riding-themed festival held on April 23, was the sanctioned bull riding event presented by the Southeastern Bull Riding Series (SBRs), a new association founded in 2004. Large crowds packed the Fred Smith Rodeo Arena to watch the most extreme cowboy sport found anywhere.

The circuit offers the opportunity for bull riders to compete in approximately 80 events held in the five southeastern states of Florida, Missouri, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. Many of the riders are up and coming rodeo stars who are trying to earn an income in the sport as well as qualify for the SBRs finals where a purse of \$25,000 is possible.

As a means of honing their skills, it can be a step up to the Professional Bull Riders (PBR), or, it is another opportunity to earn additional income for seasoned bull riders who work this and many other circuits full-time.

“Some of these cowboys on the road to the professional bull riders status. It doesn’t mean that these bull riders are not excellent riders,” said Reese Thomas of Sebring, Fla., who promoted the event organized by the Big Lake Sportsman and Brighton Seminole reservation. “They are trying to get points to qualify.”

Thomas works with Tribal citizen Marty Johns, one of the stock contractors providing the bulls for this event. Johns’ company is Marki Rodeo and his reputation for good stock is undisputed.

“Marki Rodeo is famous nationwide for its bulls,” said Thomas. “Of the top 10 cowboys in the Professional Bull Riders, his bulls have bucked off eight of them. That shows the quality of his stock.”

Riders are challenged to ride the bull for a full eight seconds in order to receive a score. The rider has a rope in one hand and can’t touch the bull. No knots or hitches, to prevent the rope from coming off of the bull when the rider leaves the bull, are permitted.

The bull must also be spurred with a nub, which is not an easy feat, given the thickness of cowhide. The bull is not injured by the spurring, but in this dangerous sport the rider could be gored, suffer a broken arm or a leg or even get stomped to death. In most SBRs events, the total purse is around \$2,000-\$4,000 per event.

At the Fest-a-Bull the top four riders were: 1. Buckshot Morrison of Vero Beach, Fla., 174 points—a two header, 2. Leroy Seaborn of Sarasota, Fla., 83 points, 3. Matt Clemmons of Okeechobee City, Fla., 80 points and 4. Tim Plunkett of Alva, Fla., 76 points.

The Fest-a-Bull was a day-long event starting earlier in the day with the Redneck Trade Show & Expo, where local businesses, such as The Gift Shed and Fantasy Lights of Okeechobee, showed their wares. Vendors selling food to the public included Tribal citizens Jennie Snow, Jodi and Ray King and Reese Bert.

Advertised as the “Redneck Olympics” there were numerous contests throughout the day including such events as duct tape construction, Redneck barrel racing and a casting contest. Then there was the Redneck girl contest in which any female of any age could enter a series of challenges that tested her determination, ingenuity and resourcefulness.

There were eight challenges including the pig round up that required the contestant to round up a pig after being turned loose and get it into a pen. Jessica Siefker of Okeechobee City won the Redneck Girl Contest and was crowned Ms. Fest-A-Bull 2005.



Aleah Turtle takes a ride on a bull.

Susan Etxebarría



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Tentative 2005 EIRA Rodeo Schedule

Memorial Weekend Rodeo
Big Cypress, Fla., May 21
Kids rodeo at 6 p.m – Sanctioned rodeo at 8 p.m.
Call in Monday May 16 and Tuesday May 17

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.

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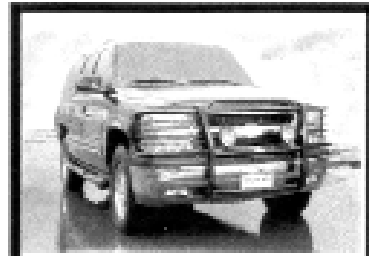
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The collection includes Carl Perkins' guitar (left) and original concert art.

Happy First Anniversary Hard Rock Café

Celebration to Feature Legendary Memorabilia Display and Live Performances

Submitted by Greg Healy
HOLLYWOOD — The Hard Rock Café Hollywood is celebrating its first anniversary, along with the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, in true rock-star style.

In conjunction with the anniversary, the Hard Rock Café will host Hard Rock's traveling memorabilia exhibition, which features some of the most famous pieces of rock memorabilia in the company's unparalleled collection. On display throughout the month, the exhibition includes John Lennon's collarless suit worn in

the film "A Hard Day's Night," as well as authentic guitars, sheet music and more from rock 'n' roll pioneers such as Bob Dylan, Carl Perkins, Roy Orbison, Bill Haley and Elvis Presley. To further commemorate the anniversary, the Hollywood Hard Rock Café will be adding a limited-edition one-year anniversary pin to its collection. Hard Rock fans will have the chance to acquire Hard Rock Café Hollywood's first anniversary pins, which will be available for a limited time, at the cafe's merchandise store.



The Beatles' memorabilia is always the most popular.

Seminole Paradise Holds Memorial Block Party Weekend

Submitted by Julie Katz, Seminole Paradise
HOLLYWOOD — Seminole Paradise will hold a Memorial Block Party Weekend—May 28–30. A variety of free special events and fun-filled activities will take place from 1–4 p.m. each day. Festivities will include live musical entertainment throughout the day, a sidewalk sale featuring all retail tenants, strolling models and street performers and family fun activities including a bounce house, face painting, cotton candy and much more. Additionally, several of Seminole Paradise's restaurants will be hosting outdoor barbecues throughout the

afternoon. Seminole Paradise offers 12 themed food and dining options such as Tequila Ranch, authentic Mexican cuisine complete with strolling mariachis and a mechanical bull in a vibrant hacienda setting, Renegade Barbeque, savory Florida and Southwest favorites set amidst authentic American Indian artifacts, Tatu, a two-level Asian fusion and sushi restaurant and The Park Sports Club, a 15,000-square foot stadium setting with 100 large-screen TVs and sky-boxes. For more information, please call (954) 583-3250.

'King of Twist' Appearing at the Seminole Hard Rock

Submitted by Julianne Carelli, Seminole Hard Rock Casino
HOLLYWOOD — Chubby Checker, "The King of Twist," who has been entertaining audiences for the past 35 years, joins the Wildcats as they bring their rock-and-roll act to the Seminole Hard Rock for two shows May 23 and 24 at 8 p.m. in the Club. Nicknamed by a high school boss while working at the Produce Market, Chubby was discovered while singing to customers through a loud speaker. Chubby's boss arranged for him to do a private recording for Dick Clark of "Jingle Bells" which Dick Clark sent out as a Christmas greetings to his friends and music industry associates. Cameo-Parkway liked it and "The Class" became Chubby's first hit in 1959. Later in the year, Chubby recorded "The Twist" which became a hit in the summer of 1960. "The Twist" topped Billboard charts as number two on the list of Top 5,000 Songs of the Rock Era. Tickets are \$45 and available at the casino

box office, all Ticketmaster outlets, ticketmaster.com or charge by phone: 954-523-3309 Broward, 305-358-5885 Dade, 561-966-3309 Palm Beach. Doors open at 7 p.m.



Tickets to see Mentalist on Sale



Submitted by Chris Jaramillo, Special Events Coordinator
TAMPA — Mentalist Jon Stetson will be at the Tampa Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino's Ballroom on June 7 at 2:30 p.m. The Ballroom has general admission theater-style seating. Doors open at 1:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Retail Store and all TicketMaster outlets. Purchase by phone at (813) 287-8844 or (727) 898-2100 and online at www.ticketmaster.com. For more information, call (813) 627-ROCK (7625).

Upcoming Tampa Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Events

Submitted by Chris Jaramillo, Special Events Coordinator
May 20
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.
Celebrity DJ Series, 10 p.m.–6 a.m., Floyd's. 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 Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, no cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
May 21
Bacardi Boys, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, no cover.
Blue Star Highway, 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.
May 22
Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, no cover.
Biker Bash: 12 p.m.–6 p.m., Ballroom/Pool/Back Parking Lot, Show bikes must be registered by 2pm; Bike Show facilitated by Radical Randy from Born to Ride. For vendor information, please call (813) 627-7709.
May 23
Tribute to Broadway: 2:30 p.m., Ballroom. General admission ticketed event with doors opening at 1:30 p.m., tickets on sale online at www.ticketmaster.com and by phone at (813) 287-8844 or (727) 898-2100. Ticket cost: \$20 group discounts of \$15 per person for groups of 30 or more are available by calling (877) 529-7653.
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
May 24
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
May 25
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
May 26
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Chubby Checker Live, doors open at 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m., Ballroom. Tickets on sale at: the Hard Rock Retail Store, online at www.ticketmaster.com and by phone at (813) 287-8844 or (727) 898-2100. Ticket cost: \$25for general admission.
May 27
Morgan Stone, 3 p.m.–7 p.m., Lobby Bar, No cover.
Sunset Nights: Poolside Happy Hour, \$4 Bacardi and Bacardi flavor drinks, \$4 Level vodka, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, musical entertainment, 4 p.m.–10 p.m., at the pool, no cover. Entertainment starts at 3 p.m., drink specials start at 4 p.m.
Floyd's seafood dinner buffet entertainment with Theo Valentin, 6 p.m.–9 p.m., Floyd's, \$19.99 for Player's Club and \$24.99 for non-members.
Basic Rock Outfit, 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Lobby Bar, no cover.
Celebrity DJ Series, 10 p.m.–6 a.m., Floyd's. 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 Joey Jam, 1 a.m.–6 a.m., Lobby Bar, no cover before 3 a.m., \$20 after.
May 28
Sophomore Jynx, 3 p.m.–7 p.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.
May 29
Green Room Brunch with Theo Valentin, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., The Green Room, no cover.

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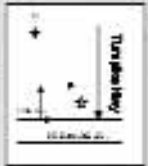
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Aviation Expands Tribal Mosquito Program

By Shelley Marmor
BIG CYPRESS — In previous years the Tribal Aviation department has used adulticide, or killing adult mosquitoes, for the Mosquito Abatement Program. Adulticide keeps the insects at bay on the Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee reservations.

This year, however, they will “use an additional technique,” according to Pilot Aaron Wainman. This additional step is called larvacing. Unlike adulticide, larvicide kills mosquitoes in the larva life-stage and essentially stops the mosquito problem before it begins.

To accommodate the larvicide process, the department will utilize a new piece of equipment called a Spreader Bucket. Wainman described it as large and “satellite-like.” He said it will be attached to the helicopters; helicopters are also used to spray during adulticiding.

Another difference between larvicide and adulticide is that larvicide takes places during the day, whereas adulticide takes place at night. Wainman said doing it any other way is ineffective.

“We’re targeting a particular mosquito, the disease-carrying mosquito, which only comes out at night,” Wainman said.

The Aviation department estimates they will begin spraying Big Cypress, Brighton and Immokalee on June 17; “unless it becomes absolutely necessary before that,” said Wainman.

To check for necessity, the Aviation department utilizes the services of Clarke Mosquito Control. Biologists at Clarke set up two data-collecting methods, light traps and sentinel chickens, for tracking mosquitoes on the reservations.

The light traps physically catch mosquitoes in an effort to check for the insects’ volume in a given area.

In order to put the necessity of Tribal mosquito programs in perspective, Wainman said that light traps in a city that does not have a mosquito-prevention program only three miles north of Big Cypress collected 90,000 mosquitoes in 2004. In contrast, Big Cypress, which has a mosquito-prevention program, light traps collected only 3,000 mosquitoes in 2004.

Clarke Mosquito Control strategically places sentinel chickens in high-volume mosquito areas. After the mosquitoes bite these chickens they are tested for different strains of encephalitis, specifically the West Nile virus. Wainman said no cases of West Nile have been reported so far this year.



Aaron Wainman

The spreader bucket is used for the larvicide.



Aaron Wainman

The helicopter and spreader bucket are critical parts of the Tribe’s mosquito prevention program.

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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.



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Seniors Compete in Annual Pool Tournament

By Susan Etxebarrria
BIG CYPRESS — With cue sticks in sleek cases slung over their shoulders, enthusiastic pool players ages 55 and older entered the large dining room at the Big Cypress Senior Center on April 21. Players immediately made their way to the sign-up table to enter the 8-ball double elimination tournament.

Then there were hugs and handshakes among



Susan Etxebarrria
Louise Osceola (left) and Juanita Osceola finished first and second, respectively.

pool-playing friends from all the reservations who came to compete, or those who came to watch, the 4th Annual Senior Pool Tournament. Camaraderie was displayed throughout the long day with the tournament beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. with a final friendly round of scotch doubles.

During the day there were 15 cash door prizes given away so almost everyone had a chance to win something despite their skill level. It seemed a pretty stress-free day for most players and ripples of laughter rolled across the dining room tables throughout the day while balls rolled continuously across the pool tables.

Four pool tables were kept in action for six and half hours as the Men's Divisions and Women's Divisions peeled away the losing players a little at a time until there was the final two Grand Champions.

"It's just a friendly game," said Andy Cypress, 41, who was helping Big Cypress Recreation Coordinator Steve Frost tally the scores. "The seniors get to see people they haven't seen in awhile and no one is going to make enemies over it. This brings our elders out of the house."

Getting to the win was a strain on only the final players in each division, two of whom have very different levels of experience. Top performer Juanita Osceola was expected to win in the Women's Division, ages 55-59. But there was an upset with a first place win by a relative newcomer to the sport, Louise Osceola, who took the trophy in a tight win against Juanita, who finished in second.

"I used to be scared getting up in front of people and when it gets down to the last game I will

be nervous. People say don't worry about others watching you play," said Louise.

Louise said she learned to play pool from her dad, George Billie. She said she practices techniques at home on her pool table.

Juanita, who has played pool for 25 years, said she learned to play pool watching her father and brother play and watching pool tournaments on TV. Juanita said she used to play in bars when she used to drink but she has been in successful recovery for nine years and the Senior Center is the place she likes to play now.

"We didn't have a nice building like this then," she said. "Now we can mingle, talk to old friends, and meet new ones."

In the Women's Division 60 and older, Mabel Doctor was a strong player going up against another highly-skilled player for first place, Rosie Billie, who won the Cindy & Keith Osceola Memorial Tournament in May 2004. Rosie said her daughter urged her two years ago to get out of the house and play pool again after she had quit playing for a long time.

It was a close win and Doctor came in first, putting Rosie in second place.

In the Women's Division, Mabel Doctor went on to beat Louise Osceola for the title of Grand Champion.

Playing a hard to beat smooth, consistent winning player, Joe Billie Jr., was Ronnie Doctor in the Men's Division ages 60 and older. Doctor analyzed his shots and played hard but took second place and Billie Jr. took first.

In the Men's Division 55-59, Sammie Gopher showed his skills in defeating tough competition put up by David Bowers for first place. Joe Billie Jr. went on the beat Sammie Gopher for the title of grand champion.

Participating in the tournament was



Susan Etxebarrria
Joe Billie Jr. finished first in the Men's 60 and Older division.

Chairman Mitchell Cypress who seemed to enjoy talking and laughing with Tribal citizens just as much as playing pool.

"Seniors like to show their skills, get together and exchange stories," Cypress said. "You never know who's going to be here."

Recreation Sponsors Youngsters in T-Ball



Emma Brown
These proud youngsters will represent Brighton in the OCRA T-ball league.

By Emma Brown
BRIGHTON — The future baseball and softball stars of Brighton are hard at again with T-ball season well underway. This year, the Brighton Recreation department sponsored a team of little ones to represent the Brighton reservation in the Okeechobee County OCRA T-ball league.

Each member of the team is showing great potential and I feel confident that we are witnessing the beginning of some great sports careers from our youth. Good luck to the Brighton Recreation T-Ball team, we wish you well this season.

Pool Tournament Commemorates Cindy, Keith Osceola

By Felix DoBosz
HOLLYWOOD — The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino played host to the Annual Cindy Osceola & Keith Osceola Memorial All Indian 8-Ball and 9-ball Pool Tournament on April 22-23. Family, friends and Tribal citizens gathered in the large ballroom formerly known as "The Club", while participating in the opening ceremonies to honor the memories of the late Cindy and Keith Osceola.

There were a dozen bar tables stretched out over thick plush carpeting. The Hard Rock also furnished lunch and dinner for the participants and spectators during the long tournament days. The pool players competed for top cash prizes, winners also took home valuable traditional patchwork jackets.

During the pool matches, you could hear the constant hum of electronic bells emanating from video bingo machines on the casino floor drifting through the ballroom area. Besides the free T-shirts, there were free raffle give-a-ways of valuable merchandise that some were able to win as they heard their lucky numbers selected. Vivian Delgado who emceed the event with Donna Turtle was constantly at the mike between games giving away the prizes. After the long 8-ball tournament concluded, the 9-ball tournament got started.

Here is the official result list of all the winners in this year's Annual Cindy Osceola & Keith Osceola Memorial All Indian 8-Ball and 9-ball Pool Tournament as compiled and submitted by Big Cypress Recreation Coordinator Steve Frost, who also announced matches during the pool competitions:

8-Ball
Super Senior Men 60 and older: 1. Russell

Osceola, 2. Eugene Bowers, 3. Joe Billie Jr., 4. Ronnie Doctor, 5. Sam Nelson.
Senior Men 55-59: 1. James Bert, 2. James Sweat, 3. Keno King, 4. David Jumper, 5. Sammie Gopher.
Super Senior Women 60 and older: 1. Louise Billie, 2. Betty Osceola, 3. Mabel Doctor, 4. Rosie Billie, 5. Annie Jumper.
Senior Women 55-59: 1. Juanita Osceola, 2. Alice Sweat, 3. Louise Osceola, 4. Esther Buster.
Singles Men: 1. Jack Billie, 2. Randy Clay, 3. David Cypress, 4. Charles Osceola, 5. George Grasshopper.
Singles Women: 1. Theresa Nunez, 2. Laura Clay, 3. Nina Garcia, 4. Jane Doctor, 5. Nettie Stewart.

Juniors 7-10: 1. Marshall Tommie, 2. Chief Billie, 3. Clarissa Jumper, 4. Kaylan Osceola, 5. Dakota Tiger.
Juniors 11-17: 1. Lee Stewart, 2. Huston Osceola, 3. Morgan Frank, 4. Rob Osceola, 5. Ralph Sanchez Jr.
Senior Scotch Doubles: 1. James Sweat-Alice Sweat, 2. Ronnie Doctor-Mabel Doctor, 3. Keno King-Louise Billie, 4. Joe Billie Jr.-Annie Jumper, 5. Alan Jumper-Louise Osceola.
Scotch Doubles: 1. David Cypress-Laura Clay, 2. Charles Osceola-Phalyn Osceola, 3. Randy Clay-Brenda Cypress, 4. James Farmer-Linda Jones, 5. Ryan Osceola-Miranda Tommie.
9-Ball
Men: 1. Randy Clay, 2. Charles Osceola, 3. Ira Buster, 4. Joey Micco, 5. Russell Osceola.
Women: 1. Phalyn Osceola, 2. Juanita Osceola, 3. Linda Jones, 4. Nina Garcia, 5. Theresa Nunez.



Felix DoBosz
Eugene Bowers finished second in Super Senior Division.

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Adelsa Williams

Juan “Iron Twins” Urango defended his WBC title against “Pancho Azul” Campos.

Hard Knocks at the Hard Rock VI

By Adelsa Williams

HOLLYWOOD — On April 22, The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, in association with Warriors Boxing Promotions, Inc., hosted the sixth “Hard Knocks at the Hard Rock” series in the Hard Rock’s Grand Ballroom.

This latest installment of the “Hard Knocks at the Hard Rock” was a definite crowd pleaser as fans crowded the premises to witness not one, or two, but three quality bouts.

The slugfest began in the early evening hours; a number of boxing spectators lined up at the registration tables to win tickets to the next event scheduled for May 20 in the ballroom. Winners of the passes were announced by the ring announcer right before the main event.

The night’s feature was Warrior’s Colombian Junior Welterweight Juan “Iron Twins” Urango defending his WBC Latin American title against Francisco “Pancho Azul” Campos from Costa Rica.

Rising star Urango was simply blessed with more experience and skills. In the first few rounds Campos dared Urango to defeat him as easily as he has defeated his last few opponents. Campos clearly put up a fight that excited the crowd once they realized that the fight was longer than any of Urango’s usual ones. Campos fought a good fight with his hard and clever punches but still did not manage to win. In the fifth round, Campos was knocked out by Urango’s solid punches.

With this win, Urango also won the vacant International Boxing Federation’s Latin American junior welterweight division title and retains his undefeated record.

The co-main event was a spectacular showdown of heavyweights, Syd “The Jewel” Vanderpool up against another Colombia Native, Alejandro Berrio. Arrayed in camouflage gear, Berrio danced

around the ring as his name was announced. The crowd seemed amused by his confidence and costume. Vanderpool had not stepped into the ring since his last match, an October 2004 loss to Jeff Lacy in Las Vegas, Nev. He did manage to upset Berrio with his consistent solid hits.

Berrio complained several times to the referee about Vanderpool hitting below the belt. It was an even and competitive match in every round until the fifth round when Berrio took charge, dominating the fight at the end of that round. By the seventh round, it was obvious that Vanderpool was out of it, he was knocked down by one of Campos’ fierce punches, a hit that drew a stream of blood from the Jewel’s nostrils.

In the ninth round, Berrio ended the 10-round scheduled bout early with an impressive left cheek jab that put out Vanderpool for the knockout win.

The third much anticipated bout was the event’s opener between Miami resident and Cuba Native from Warriors, Elieser Castillo and Journeyman Otis Tisdale. Castillo floored Tisdale at least three times before the actual knockout, two minutes and forty three seconds into the first round. With this win, the versatile heavyweight Castillo improved his boxing record, having lost his previous two matches.

Another bout was a six round battle between Warriors’ Hawaiian-native Kili Scott Madrid and Joseph “Spiderman” Benjamin. This was the only match of the evening that lasted the scheduled number of rounds. Madrid turned in a dominant performance over the agile Benjamin. Benjamin clearly fought smart and did not allow Madrid to add another knockout win to his record. Nevertheless, Madrid won the match by unanimous decision and remains undefeated.

All Indian Tour Championship VII

By Adelsa Williams

LAS VEGAS, NV — Annually, the First Nations Golf Association (FNGA) coordinates a National Golf championship tournament for the enjoyment of all Native Americans. For the second consecutive year, the most talked about gathering of Native golfers was held at the Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort from April 16–17.

Over a dozen Seminole citizens from all the reservations participated in this year’s competitive tournament. The entry fees are a little steeper than the usual tournaments but so were the prize payouts.

The early arrivals were allowed expanded practice tee times at the same golf course on the day before the tournament.

The tournament included 36-hole Stroke play total aggregate. Daily side bets included best ball, gross and net, and blind draw best ball, also gross and net, gross skins, net skins, deuces, closest to the pins and long drives plays in the men’s, women and senior categories.

The Sun and Snow Mountain golf courses were two of the three resort’s courses taken over by the immense number of Native golfers on both days of the tournaments. They both offered plenty of bail out area, split fairways, reachable pars for the long hitters and many more challenges for golfers of any skill level.

An errant shot sent many golf balls off track into the course’s pail of rocks, making it difficult for some of the players to retrieve them, fear of an encounter with rattle snakes did not help the situation either.



Adelsa Williams

Joe Grasshopper takes a swing.

Tribal citizens in the senior division were not as lucky placing against the other fierce Native competitors. However, there were some that played well in the competition and managed placement.

Tribal citizen Marcy Osceola Jr., placed second in the overall blind draw best ball gross side bet, while Max B. Osceola Jr., tied with three other Native golfers in the overall blind draw best ball net side bet, for first and second place. He also beat another opponent in the men’s long drive on the second day of the tournament.

Brighton resident Maxie Tommie captured the closest to the pin win on hole number eight on the first day of the tournament. Hollywood resident Curtis “Kahane” Osceola placed fourth net in the tournament’s second flight division.

The goal of the FNGA is to introduce and promote the game of golf to Indians or natives, especially youth, throughout the U.S. and Canada. FNGA is committed to

making social and economic contributions to Indian and native communities by exemplifying the rewards, honor, and integrity of golf.



Adelsa Williams

Team Seminole participants in the 2005 Mercedes Corporate Run.

Team Seminole Participates In Corporate Run

By Adelsa Williams

MIAMI, FL — Over 600 corporations participated in the 2005 Mercedes Benz corporate run on May 5 at Bayfront Park. Team Seminole was one of the corporations that shined in this year’s grand event.

This marked a 20 year anniversary for the acclaimed event. The last two title sponsor runs were held in the month of April of this year. The first annual run held in West Palm Beach and the eighth annual run took place in Fort Lauderdale.

The event drew an estimated 22,000 participants that either ran or walked the 3.1 mile course (5K). The streets of downtown Miami were blocked off during the early hours of the afternoon to accommodate the scheduled early evening start. The blockage caused minor chaos in the busy business district, especially being during the rush hour.

The starting point was in front of the popular Bayfront Park near the Bayside Marketplace on Biscayne Boulevard and ran through the Miami River, and about eight more turns throughout the city passing the Miami Arena and back to the starting point for the finish.

16 Tribal citizens and employees participated in the fun filled event. Each one proudly displayed a Seminole Tribe of Florida t-shirt provided by the recreation department that was noticed by the announcer at the starting point as he loudly announced the Tribe’s name as a participant of the road race.

Tribal citizen Aaron Billie was the first one of the runners to breeze through the finish line with a finish time of 26 minutes and 16 seconds. Employee Shane Ruiz was the second runner from the team with a finish time of 27 minutes and 21 seconds. Both individuals are full-time employees of the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Housing department.

For most participants who don’t follow a daily physical training regimen with a professional or on their own, the competition may seem lengthy and weary. Just when the thought of quitting the race

enters anyone’s thought, it is defeated by different strategies.

“I listened to songs while I ran, I kept saying to myself two more songs, two more songs,” said Ruiz.

Tribal citizen Tiger Morales, a one-and-a-half year old toddler also participated in the race. He also wore a corporate T-shirt and cruised the few miles as he was being pushed in his stroller by his father John Morales, one of the walkers in the team.

“We really enjoyed ourselves,” said Morales, “It was pure comedy; once we went up the bridge everyone started passing us. It took us forty three minutes and forty seconds.”

Gina Allardyce, a Recreation department employee, took time to group the team prior to the start of the race on the premises of park, near the Tribe’s tent for a quick warm up session that included various stretch activities. The team also enjoyed some aerobic presentations that were going on onstage near the starting line.

To participate in the annual corporate runs participants must enroll through the corporation’s coordinator and must be a full-time employee to capture the industry category award. Friends, spouses and less-than-full-time employees of the corporation may also enter the race but only for awards of recognition.

The Mercedes Benz dealers raffled a \$31,000 car to one lucky winner.

All proceeds of the corporate run were donated to the South Florida chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The goal of event coordinators was to promote a healthy outing for corporations and their employees. They said that encouraging employees to run or walk as a group or company team naturally bonds everyone together and brings conviviality. The positive chain reaction is brought back into the workplace, increasing morale and teamwork.

For more information on future events, contact Gina Allardyce at (954) 989-9457.

AMERIND Golf Tournament Benefits Indian Country

Submitted by Patrick Murphy, AMERIND

ALBUQUERQUE, NM — On April 28, the AMERIND Risk Management Corporation and the National Native American Fire Chiefs Association co-hosted the first ever Protecting Tribal Families Golf Tournament.

The successful event was sponsored by great organizations that are committed to Native American communities including the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Bank of Albuquerque and the Bank of the West - Coronado Branch to mention a few. The sponsors provided direct access to their products for more than 200 attendees of AMERIND’s Spring Institute on April 27-28, 2005.

Net proceeds from the tournament will be utilized to improve home safety, provide a flexible financial resource to help increase the number of homes protected and used by the NNAFCA to further establish the association.

“The NNAFCA is just getting started and needs support to help solidify their position as fire service professionals on the national level and in organizations like the International Association of Fire Chiefs,” said Derek Valdo, AMERIND’s Safety

Services Supervisor.

Notable memories from tournament day included 72 players, with more than 60 percent Native American, from nine states, 18 tribes and 31 organizations. Surprise guests included: National Indian Gaming Association Chairman Ernie Stevens Jr., actor Rodney Grant from “Dances with Wolves” and First Nations comedian from Canada Don Burnstick.

The first place team score of 62 was posted by the team of Dale Martinez, Governor, San Ildefonso, Billy Komacheet, Executive Director, Comanche Nation Housing Authority, Dyron Murphy, Architect, Dyron Murphy Architects, PC and Johnny Apodaca, Staff, Valliant Enterprises.

“It was great to see corporate America, famous and not so famous Native Americans play in support of this important endeavor,” stated Valdo.

Overall, the event was successful and will provide valuable resources in AMERIND’s effort to “Protect Tribal Families”. To learn more about how “Tribes protecting Tribes and their Families, their Employees,” works please visit www.amerind-corp.org.

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Meet the Utilities Department



Adelsa Williams

The Utilities department is divided into six areas: Construction, Roads, Water and Waste Water, Solid Waste, Facilities Maintenance, Geographic Information Systems and Buildings and Grounds.

Submitted by the Utilities Department
HOLLYWOOD — The Utilities department consists of nearly 60 staff members and performs many different functions for the Tribe. The Utilities department is subdivided into six main areas which are as follows: Construction, Roads, Water and Waste Water, Solid Waste, Facilities Maintenance, Geographic Information Systems and Buildings and Grounds.

The Construction sub-department is responsible for managing the Seminole Tribe's non-housing capital improvement projects, with the exception of the Fort Pierce community. This includes infrastructure planning and design for all Seminole reservations, creating master plans of all our communities, and facilities planning including Tribal government buildings. In addition, this area covers the construction of underground infrastructure, Tribal government facilities, and residential housing at the Fort Pierce community.

The scope of work for the Roads sub-department includes repair, design permits and construction of new roads with funding from a variety of different sources including Tribal capital funds, state of Florida funds, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) funding.

This sub-department has been certified by the State of Florida Department of Transportation to act as an agency on their behalf. Milestones for this department include the widening of US 441/SR 7 project and the recently-launched widening and improvement of Snake Road on the Big Cypress reservation.

The water services this department provides include managing the treatment of groundwater, distribution of safe and dependable supply of quality drinking water and the collection and treatment of sewage. This year we launched a new water and wastewater treatment at Immokalee reservation, a new water plant at Big Cypress and a new wastewater plant at Brighton. These will accommodate the ever expanding needs of our communities. We also have managed agreements with county and city water systems providing water to Fort Pierce, Tampa and portions of the Hollywood Reservation.

The Solid Waste sub-department is a Tribal-wide service that collects and disposes of all waste

including regularly scheduled trash collection, bulk and wet disposals, composting and weekly recycling. This year, the Utilities department celebrated the grand opening of new state-of-the-art transfer station facilities at Big Cypress and Immokalee reservations.

The open Dump program is a federally-funded contract service to collect, clean and dispose of non-hazardous waste at Big Cypress and Brighton reservations. Tampa and Tamiami services are limited to dumpster hired services.

With the support of a grant from the BIA, the Facilities Maintenance Program will provide coordination of repairs and preventive maintenance to existing BIA governmental buildings and Ahfachkee School.

Our newest sub-department has thoroughly modernized departmental work. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies are widely applied to the planning and management of construction and maintenance. Organizations dealing with infrastructure, capital improvement and planning find GIS a powerful tool in handling aspects such as planning, decision support, customer service, regular requests, standardization of methods, and graphics display. GIS also helps to manage the flow of water and wastewater to service homes and businesses.

This department uses this technology to track the location and condition of water mains, systems valves, fire hydrants, pump stations, manholes, roads, swales, wetlands and boundary surveys. The same technology makes meeting agency compliance much easier. GIS enables the integration of information and applications into one manageable system. This one system then allows this department to organize and manage the infrastructure and development while maintaining data integrity and departmental focus.

Cities of all sizes are implementing GIS Facilities Management Programs in order to take advantage of their many benefits. GIS can support applications such as asset inventory, facilities management, system modeling and customized maintenance programs. Consisting of graphical databases such as maps, drawings, and plans linked to attribute-databases containing detailed information on those graphic

❖ See UTILITIES, page 22

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Happy Birthday

To April Maryann Billie,

A Daughter

A daughter is a wonderful blessing
A treasure from above,
She's laughter, warmth, and special charm
She's thoughtfulness and love
A daughter brings a special joy
That comes from deep inside
And as she grows to adult hood
She fills your heart with pride
With every year that passes



She's more special than before
Through many stages
Through every age
You love her even more
No words can describe the warm memories
The pride and gratitude that comes from

Having a daughter
But years seem to pass rapidly
For it seems as if only yesterday
Your little frame was in my arm
Yet see how you've grown today
Today you may well have grown up
But in my heart you will always be
My special tiny little baby girl
The one that God above gave to me
As you celebrate this birthday
We wish the very best for you
Sending endless loving wishes to become true

We all love and miss you very much.
Happy birthday April.
From,
Stevie, Tyrus, Mom, Dad, Issiah, Merideth, Moses, Adriana, Juelz, Baby Moses

To Amos Billie,
Thank you dad; for being our rock and for being strong. When things get tough you are always there for us. We would like to wish you a very happy belated birthday on May 5 and more wishes and happiness for you today and in the coming years. We will always cherish and love you forever.



From,
Tyrus, April, Stevie, Mom, Moses and Issiah

Happy belated birthday to my daughter **Victoria** on April 30; she turned 4-years-old. Happy birthday to you Victoria and we love you. God bless you.
From,
Mom (Jahna Smith), Dad, Candy, Maya, Corrina and Johnny

Happy belated birthday to my girls: **Michelle Ann Jimmie** on April 1, **Jazmine Essence Billie** on March 27 and **Abegale Jimmie** on March 30 from the family. We love u all!
Love,
Your Mom and Dad

Betty Mae Jumper, born April 27, 1922, celebrated her **83rd birthday** at home with her children Moses "Bigg Shot" Jumper Jr., Scarlett Jumper, little brother Boettner "Ruggy" Jumper and other family members and friends.

I just wanted to say a big happy birthday to Betty again, and thank Mike

Tiger, Betty's nephew and his wife for including me in on this special lady's birthday. I hope to be invited to her 84th birthday.



Sincerely,
Wanda Bowers

Happy birthday Dakota Tiger!!

To our little punk who makes life interesting!

We love you so much,
Mom, Jason, Jaimie, Yey Yah and Michael



Happy birthday Julia Christina Smith. To my beautiful precious little girl; it's another year gone by three years gone by since mommy and I brought you home on May 23, 2002.

You were born and still I thank God today for bringing you into our lives so I can be your daddy. You are so smart, determined, strong, and funny you crack me up when you get in trouble and I say I will spank your butt and you say I'll spank your butt and you always get out of trouble.

You have made mommy and me so very proud. Lord help us in our next 30 years. I will be home soon. Look for notices of your birthday party Love you babe.

Love you always,
Your Dad and Mom, Mike and Rachael Smith

Happy birthday Sherry Maraj of the Communications department. May all of your kids behave and the phones not ring on this special day! Enjoy!

To Precious **Louise Jimmie**,
I would like to wish you a **happy 4th birthday**, and would like to let you know I'm sorry I can't be there with you on this special day. I want you to know I love you and miss you very much and that I will be coming home soon.
Love,
Daddy

Happy birthday Jason Dodd!! Best wishes to a very special and handsome young man. We love you more than you'll ever know--always try to remember that.
Love,
Mom, Jaimie, Dakota, Yey Yah and Michael



Marvin and Theresa Bowers of the Brighton reservation would like to announce the engagement and wedding of their daughter **Trina M. Bowers** to **Michael Collins** on July 16 at the Maple Grove Baptist church in Lakeport, Fla.

Trina is the granddaughter of Reverend Wonder Johns and Mary Johns of the Brighton reservation and the granddaughter of Elsie Bowers of the Hollywood reservation. Michael Collins' parents are Daryl and Tonya Collins of Zider, Texas

Trina attends the Heritage Institute of Massage Therapy in Ft. Myers, Fla. and will graduate in August 2005. Michael is employed with Raymond's Lumber supply in Ft. Myers, Fla.

Congratulations, Trina and Michael



Newly Weds Mr. & Mrs. Guerue

Congratulations to **Ciara Desiree Billie** and **Joseph Guerue** who married on April 15 at 7 p.m. in the LaCapella Chapel in Las Vegas, Nev.

Ciara Billie is a Seminole Tribal citizen and a member of the Panther clan and Joseph Guerue is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota. Ciara and Joseph reside in Hollywood, Fla. on the Hollywood reservation.

Ciara works for



the Seminole Tribal Career Development Training Program as a management intern, at the Hollywood Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Joseph works at the Seminole Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum in Hollywood.

Ciara's parents are: mother Barbara Butera and step-father Roy Butera, of Cooper City, Fla. and father Colley Billie. Joseph is the son of Lucille and the late James Guerue of Parmalee, South Dakota.

In attendance for the wedding were family and friends. Ciara's wed-

ding dress, groom's shirt and maid of honor's dress made by bride's grandmother, Mary Osceola Moore.

Bridal party: Samantha Osceola Hisler, Maid of Honor and bride's sister; Karie Osceola, bride's cousin; Tina Marie Osceola, bride's cousin; Douglas Guerue, groom's bother; Craig Molstad, groom's friend; and Paul Guerue, groom's brother.

Ciara was walked down the aisle and "given away" by her clan uncles, David Bruce Osceola and Frank Moore Jr.

Poem

To Precious and Barbra Jimmie,
To my Daughters with Love

I'm missing you both now that I'm gone
But don't think I don't love you because I did wrong
When the sun goes down and the night time arrives
I think about you both every day I am alive
I've asked God to protect you from danger and harm
So that one wonderful day I can return to your little arms
When you get lonely because Dad is not there
Look to a star in the sky
And you will know that the good Lord is keeping an eye
He's taking my place to make sure you are safe
Because he wants you to always have a smile on your face
You both make me proud knowing that your mine
You both are special and pretty and one of a kind
I love you all so much from the depth of my heart
If I had it my way we would never be apart
I get down on my knees and I pray and cry
But God helped me dry the tears from my lonely eyes
He gives me the Guidance and strength I seek
Even though I'm strong at times I get weak
As I close this letter I'll simply just state
Please be there for me when I walk out these gates

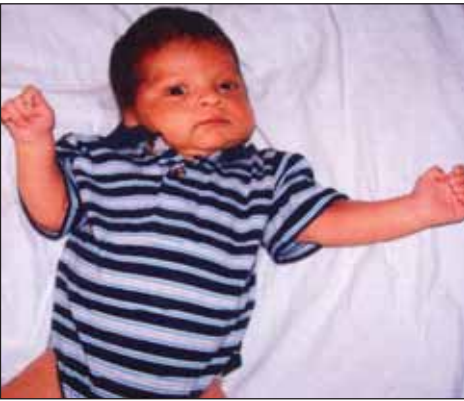
Love,
Daddy

New Kid



I would like to congratulate my sister **Danielle** on the birth of her son **Chanon Frye**; born March 10, weighing 9 pounds and measuring 10-and-a-half inches. I love you and thank you for giving me such beautiful nieces and a nephew to have in my life

Love,
Desiree Jumper, your sister





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

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 - Iced Lattes
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 Svs & 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

The History of the Water Resources Department

Submitted by the Water Resources Department HOLLYWOOD — The Water Rights Compact (Compact) is an agreement between the Seminole Tribe of Florida (Tribe), the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the state of Florida that is part of the Federal Public Law 100-228 Land Settlement Act signed by Congress in 1987. The Compact allows the Tribe to regulate itself, dealing with issues related to surface water management, or drainage, water use from canals and wells and environmentally sensitive waters, such as wetlands and their water quality. The Compact established a procedure and process where the Tribe would orderly develop, with notice being made to the SFWMD through an annual work plan and its amendments.

All Florida laws related to these matters must follow the procedures in the Compact. All other Federal laws administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) are still enforced by these agencies on Tribal lands.

A criteria manual was attached to the original Compact that set out the standards by which development and design of facilities would follow. The manual established specifics by which engineers, biologists, planners and other professionals would build their projects to accomplish the economic and social plans of the Tribe. The manual has changed very little in the last 16 years, except for the wetland regulations.

In order to fulfill the commitments under the Compact, in November 1989 the Tribal Council, through a water code ordinance, established a Seminole Water Commission (SWC) to review and recommend to the Council the building of the various projects presented to them by the Water Resource Management Department (WRMD) of the Tribe.

The Commission is comprised of two Tribal representatives each from Hollywood, Big Cypress, and the Brighton reservations, and one from the Immokalee reservation. The Commission, together with technical assistance from the WRMD has developed rules to protect the quality of surface waters within the boundaries of the Tribe's reservations.

The Tribal Council enacted the water code to establish a legal framework for protecting and restoring the waters of the Tribe's reservations. Pursuant to Tribal Council direction in implementing tribal sovereignty, the WRMD developed a program to protect water quality.

The code has sections related to the manual, plus water quality powers and regulations regarding the transportation of wastewater residual across reservation lands. All new work plans approved by the SWC are presented to the Tribal Council for their approval. The SFWMD is then noticed through the work plan and then, through certain set time lines, the Governing Board of the SFWMD must concur, concur with conditions or object to a project or work plan. The final resolution of a disputed work plan can only be made in a federal court.

The Tribe applied to the federal government to obtain powers of a state to set water quality in surface waters on its reservations and was approved in 1996 by the USEPA. The WRMD functions as the lead agency of the Tribe setting and reviewing these standards to be in compliance with the federal Clean Water Act.

In 1996, the Tribal Council adopted water quality standards for the Big Cypress reservation. Standards for the Brighton reservation were adopted

in 1998. The WRMD performs data collection and water quality monitoring for all Tribal reservations, trust lands and properties. This includes: sampling, analysis, data management and reporting to federal and regional agencies.

The WRMD also works cooperatively with the U.S. Geological Survey and the SFWMD to monitor the quality and quantity of water entering and leaving the reservations and at the common borders.

The WRMD has developed a water conservation plan for Big Cypress. The purpose of the conservation plan is to improve water quality, increase storage capacity, increase flood protection, and enhance wetland hydro periods. On Jan. 7, 2000, the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the USACOE signed the Project Cooperation Agreement enabling implementation of a portion of the plan referred to as the Critical Restoration Project.

The WRMD serves as the Tribe's liaison to federal and state agencies managing water resources. Additionally, the WRMD assists other Tribal departments, such as Housing and Real Estate. The WRMD also works with Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. in its development and management of Tribal natural resources.

The WRMD assists applicants and the Tribal projects to file with the USACOE for wetland dredge & fill permits and the various EPA permits such as NPDES, SPCC plans for fuel facilities, and hazardous site remediation environmental assessments.

To protect surface and ground water from potential contamination as a result of industrial and agricultural land uses; the WRMD continually investigates, assesses and coordinates the remediation of hazardous and non-hazardous materials on all Tribal lands.


While some of this work entails testing, monitoring and removal of contaminated water and soil, other work is aimed toward the prevention of such pollution. These efforts include: scheduling of used oil, household and industrial waste pickups, designing emergency response and spill control plans, installation of monitoring wells, water and soil testing and educating Tribal and community members on proper disposal and reduction of harmful chemicals.

To better understand the ecology of the natural systems with changes in water quality and quantity, the WRMD has worked with researchers from Florida Atlantic University under a national park service grant. The long term reduction in the level of nutrients in runoff water will promote healthy native plant communities, reduce the spread of invasive plant species on land and in the waterways and contribute to the overall goal of ecosystem of restoration in South Florida.

Experience around the world has shown that people respect and value what they know and understand. Native Americans have historically known intimate details about the living world around them because their lives depended on that knowledge. An education program focused on Seminole Tribal natural resources and their cultural significance is planned to ensure that the next generation of land use and economic planners has a thorough understanding of the physical and cultural resource base.

The WRMD has offices in the Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton reservations. The main administrative office is located in the third floor of the Hollywood Headquarters building. You may contact them at (954) 966-6300, direct at (954) 967-3402 or by fax at (954) 967-3501.

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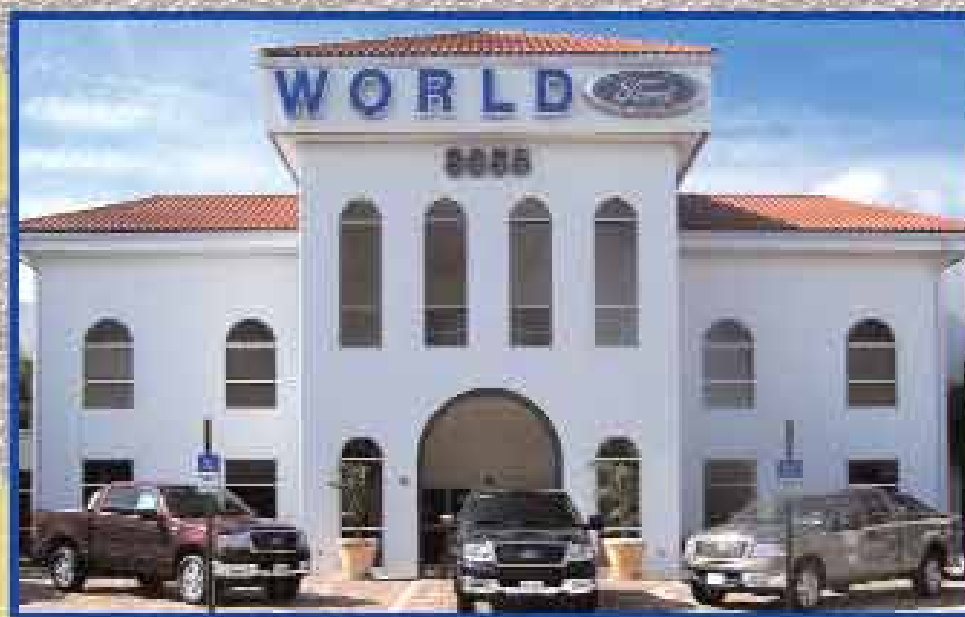
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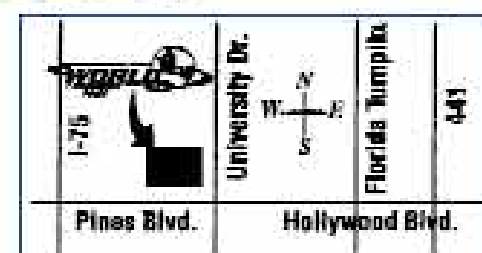
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❖ Utilities

Continued from page 18

features, to help manage all phases of operations. The direct advantages provided by a GIS are: improved access to available information, accurate, up-to-date spatial data, increased productivity, better cross-function, or interdepartmental coordination and the ability to provide additional services to all Tribal citizens.

Finally, the Building and Grounds division manages the day-to-day preventive maintenance to all

governmental facilities including Tribal office buildings at all reservations, preschools, Hot Meals and other buildings. Interior maintenance work includes such activities as painting, electrical and plumbing repairs, re-modeling, and flooring. Lawn maintenance and parking facility maintenance are within the scope of their exterior work.

The main Utilities department office is located in the first floor of the Hollywood Tribal Headquarters. Should you need the offered services, you may contact the cordial and serviceable administrative staff at (954) 966-6300, direct at (954) 967-3401 or by fax at (954) 967-3475.

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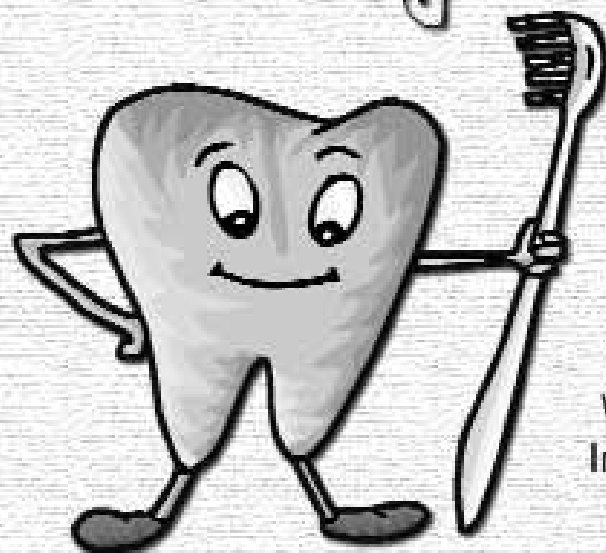
For additional information contact:
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Vacation Without Worry By Securing Your Home

Submitted by Sergeant Al Signore, SPD

Vacation is a time for relaxation and enjoyment. It can be the time for crime victimization if appropriate crime prevention measures are not followed. The following crime prevention tips or recommendations are designed to allow the vacationer to enjoy a safe trip and to return to a secure residence.

Before leaving secure your residence, and follow these steps:

Have good locks on all doors and windows and use them.

Make sure your residence looks lived in not empty.

Leave shades and blinds in a normal position.

Ask a neighbor to watch your residence while you are away. Leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.

Test your smoke and burglar alarms. Stop all deliveries, arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail, Newspaper and packages.

Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, rake leaves and maintain the yard to give the home a lived-in look.

Have a neighbor place garbage cans at the curb on your normal pickup days and return them after the garbage pickup has been made.

Plug in timers to turn lights and a radio or television on and off at appropriate times.

Turn the bell or ringer on your telephone down low. If a burglar is around, he won't be alerted to your absence by a ringing telephone.

If you have call forward on your telephone, forward your calls to a trusted friend or relative.

Don't announce your absence on an answering machine messages; leave your normal message on the machine.

Engrave your valuables with your driver's license number and post operation identification decals on entry doors and windows.

Close and lock garage doors and windows. Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway. If you leave your car at home, park it as you normally would. Vehicles parked outside should be moved occasionally to appear that they are being used.

Consider taking valuables to a bank safety deposit box. Ask your police department to place your home on their vacation check list.

Cash

Do not carry large amounts of cash. If you must carry cash, never display large amounts.

When possible, carry cash substitutes such as traveler's checks or credit cards. Keep a written record of your traveler's checks and credit card numbers, and keep them in a safe place. Have a telephone number you can call in case your checks or credit cards are stolen or lost.

Luggage

Remove old flight tags from your luggage. Old flight tags can cause confusion and misdirect your luggage.

Provide adequate identification on the outside and inside of your luggage.

Never leave your luggage unattended, even for a short period of time. Never store cash, jewelry, medicine, or other valuables in your luggage.

On the road

Be aware of your surroundings and never advertise your plans to strangers; this includes travel routes and the amount of cash you are carrying.

Do not stop to offer help to a standard motorist. Go to the nearest telephone or use your cell phone and call for assistance.

If you suspect someone is following you, drive to the nearest service station, restaurant or business and call the police or sheriff's department. If you believe it is unsafe for you to get out of your car, sound the horn and flash your lights to draw attention.

If your car breaks down, raise the hood and attach a white flag to the antenna or door handle. If someone stops to help it is advisable that you stay in your locked car and ask them to call the police or the garage. If you must abandon your car, keep all passengers together.

Do not carry airline tickets or passport in open view.

Be very careful with bus, train or airplane tickets. They are as good as cash.

Males are advised to carry their wallets in an inside pocket or front trouser pocket.

Females are advised to carry their purse under their arm.

Take a picture of your suitcase and keep the pictures with you. The pictures may be helpful in identifying your luggage if it is lost or stolen by an airline.

While traveling, be sure your luggage is locked. However new Federal regulation require your luggage to be unlocked while checking to board a plane in at an airport.

Label each piece of luggage with your name and business address.

Car Security

Always lock your car after entering or leaving it. Park in a well lighted area.

Check the back seat before entering your vehicle.

Mark your car radio or removable car equipment with your driver's license number.

Always lock valuables out of sight, preferably in the trunk. Always carry wallet, checkbooks and purses with you.

Do not advertise that you are a tourist. Place maps and travel brochures in your vehicle's glove compartment.

Hotel and Motel Security

If you are staying in a hotel or motel, take all of your luggage and valuables to your room. Never leave money, checks, credit cards, car keys, or valuables in the room. Take them with you.

Determine the most direct route to and from your room, to the fire escapes, elevators, and nearest telephone.

When occupying or leaving your room, use all auxiliary locking devices on doors and windows. (You may want to purchase a portable door lock for traveling.)

Keep a daily check on your belongings.

Place extra cash, expensive jewelry or other valuables in the hotel or motel safe.

Use the door viewer to identify anyone requesting entry. Open the door if you certain the person has a legitimate reason to enter your room. If in doubt, call the hotel/ motel office.

Unpack and place belongings in closet and dresser. Arrange your things so you will know if anything is missing.

Consider locking any electrical appliances (Blow dryers, electric shavers, etc...) in your luggage. Suitcases should always be locked so they cannot be used to carry your property out of your room.

Report any lost or stolen items to the hotel/motel management and to the police. Report to the management any suspicious movements in the corridors or rooms.

Sightseeing

Make note of your passport number. If it becomes lost or stolen, knowing your passport number will facilitate getting a new passport.

Ask for directions at a hotel/motel on how to get to those attractions you want to visit.

If you are going out in an unfamiliar area, ask the hotel clerk if there is any areas you should avoid. Select tour guides carefully.

Don't advertise you are a tourist. Don't look lost or vulnerable. Walk with a purpose and stay alert to what's happening around you. If you get lost, find an open business and ask for directions.

Only carry with you the cash you will need, and only in small denominations. If older children go off separate, be sure they understand the importance of keeping track of time and returning promptly at appointed time.

Camping Trips

Avoid camping alone in isolated areas.

Park your vehicle so it cannot be blocked by another vehicle in case of an emergency.

Mark all your belongings and camping

equipment with your drivers license number and keep a record of equipment.

Mark your tent, sleeping bags, and clothing with indelible ink.

Engrave your foot locker, thermos, coolers, lamps and flashlights, fishing gear, backpacks, barbecue grills, etc...

Familiarize yourself with local emergency locations and phone numbers in case of accidents or crimes.

Avoid leaving your camping gear (cook stove, ice chest, chairs, etc.) out in the open unattended.

Get to know your neighbors and help protect each others belonging.

Avoid walking alone at night.

Use a spare lock so you can use storage containers at many parks.

Use a chain and lock secure propane tanks, portable generators, spare tires, bicycles, etc..

Always lock your camping trailer when you leave the vicinity.

Install a lock device on the trailer towing hitch, so your trailer cannot be towed away.

Report any suspicious activities and all crimes to the proper authorities.

For more information of Vacation Crime Prevention Tips call Sergeant Al Signore with the Seminole Police Department crime prevention unit at (813) 623-5748.



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American Indian Journalism Institute

Accepting Applications

Submitted by the American Indian Journalism Institute

VERMILLION, SD — The American Indian Journalism Institute (AIJI), a training program for Native American college students that has produced several professional journalists now working at daily newspapers, is accepting applications for its new class in June. The application deadline is March 31 and it can be found online at www.freedomforum.org/diversity.

The Freedom Forum, a nonpartisan foundation promoting employment diversity in America's newsrooms, will fully fund and run the annual academic journalism program for about 25 Native American college students. It will take place June 5–24, at the Al Neuharth Media Center at the University of South Dakota.

Graduates of the program will receive four hours of college credit awarded by the university and a \$500 stipend/scholarship from the Freedom Forum, paid when the students return to college full time in the fall.

Top graduates of the program will receive paid internships as reporters and photographers at daily newspapers for the remainder of the summer. Graduates also will have the opportunity to join the staff of reznethnews.org, the online Native American college newspaper, as paid reporters or photographers when they return to school. With only a few exceptions, all reznethnews.org staff members are graduates of AIJI, as the institute is called.

Now in its fifth year, *American Indian Review* (AIR) magazine has produced professional reporters recently hired by the Argus Leader newspaper in Sioux Falls, S.D., the *Muskogee* (Okla.) *Daily Phoenix* and the *Arizona Daily Star* in Tucson. AIR graduates also have received paid internships for this summer at *The Washington Post*, The Associated Press and several other newspapers around the country.

Past AIR students have reflected the diversity that the Freedom Forum is trying to encourage in newsrooms. They have belonged to dozens of tribes in states all over the country. They have come from small tribal colleges such as Haskell Indian Nations University in Kansas, Oglala Lakota College in South Dakota and Salish Kootenai College in Montana, as well as from large universities with prominent journalism programs such as Syracuse University in New York, the University of Kansas and the University of Oklahoma.

To be eligible, students must be enrolled in a college and have completed their freshman year. They also must be enrolled Tribal members or be able to prove lineage if asked. While tuition, fees, books, room and board are provided free, students must be able to provide their own transportation to and from Vermillion, S.D. They must attend the full program beginning Sunday afternoon, June 5, and ending Friday afternoon, June 24. The program forbids the use of alcohol, other intoxicants and illegal drugs at any time from June 5–24. Violators will be dismissed.

Here's the application process: Jack Marsh, the director of AIR, said he prefers that students be nominated for the institute. Nominations can come from educators, mentors, elders or other interested parties. Nominations should be made in the form of a letter addressed to: Jack Marsh, executive director, Al Neuharth Media Center, 555 Dakota St., Vermillion, SD 57069. Marsh also accepts nominations by e-mail

at jmarsh@freedomforum.org. For further information call (605) 677-6315.

The nominated student then will receive an application form and other materials. Students also may nominate themselves. If they do, however, it is recommended that one or more letters from a teacher, counselor or elder accompany their completed applications.

American Indians are by far the most under-represented people of color in the news media, and stereotypical and erroneous newspaper coverage of Indian issues and Indian people shows it, Marsh said. The AIJI is part of the Freedom Forum's commitment to increase employment diversity at daily newspapers.

"Improving diversity—having even one Native American working in a newsroom—makes a newspaper more aware of Indians in its community, and more sensitive and intelligent in reporting stories about them," Marsh said.

An annual census of newsrooms shows that only about 300 Native Americans work at daily newspapers—out of about 54,000 journalists nationwide.

AIR students will take a concentrated academic program on the basics of journalism in a university-approved course titled "Journalism Theory and Practice." The college-level course is sanctioned through the University of South Dakota's Department of contemporary media and journalism students may apply to transfer the credits to other schools where they are enrolled.

Students will concentrate on reporting for two weeks and most of them will spend one week learning photography. Weekly field trips will introduce students to other aspects of journalism, including sports writing. At previous sessions of AIR, the reporting and photography instructors have been professional journalists—many of them Native-working at such news organizations as Gannett, *The Washington Post*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Oregonian* in Portland, the *Lincoln* (Neb.) *Journal Star* and The Associated Press.

Reznethnews.org becomes the AIR newspaper during the institute, publishing stories and photos produced daily by the students. Past guest presenters-and subjects of AIJI student stories-have included prominent Native journalists Mark Trahanant and George Bengé. Al Neuharth, founder of *USA Today* and the Freedom Forum, Wilma Mankiller, former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, and South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds also have addressed and been interviewed by AIJI students.

Each student will have a single room in a dormitory. Meals will be provided on campus. The Freedom Forum, based in Arlington, Va., is a nonpartisan foundation dedicated to free press, free speech and free spirit for all people. The foundation focuses on three priorities: the Newseum, First Amendment and newsroom diversity. The Al Neuharth Media Center at the University of South Dakota honors Neuharth, a 1950 graduate of the University of South Dakota.

In addition to journalism education programs at the University of South Dakota, the Freedom Forum funds and co-directs the Native American Newspaper Career Conference at Crazy Horse Memorial in South Dakota's Black Hills. The workshop, April 19–21, introduces Native high school and Tribal college students to the possibilities of a journalism career.

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Responsible for matching invoices, tracking billing/costing errors and processing transactions, Solves minor problems such as invoice errors, backorders, exchanges, etc, Promptly and within contract guidelines, Verifies bills from suppliers and approves bill for payment, Maintain multiple filing systems, Coordinate with departments at tribal office, such as: Accounting, Building and Grounds, Executive Administrator's office, Housing, Information Systems, Purchasing, Secretary/Treasurer's office, Travel, and Utilities, Heavy lifting is a must.

Essential Functions of the Job:

Maintain a copy of all vehicle information and vehicle maintenance, Maintain vehicle log on computer, Maintain a purchasing catalog library, Consult catalogs and interview suppliers to obtain prices and specifications, Select products for purchase by testing, observing and examining items, Recommend and maintain vendors used by the Seminole Police Department and contract negotiations on major purchases, Fill supply requests for Big Cypress, Brighton, Immokalee, and Tampa reservations and other departments in Hollywood, Send or store items purchased to have on hand and keep inventory of items to issue, Pick up items from vendors that are not delivered, Request and process purchase orders and requisitions to purchase office supplies and furniture, as well as all law enforcement items from outside vendors including, but not limited to: vehicles, motorcycles, vehicle maintenance, guns, radars, uniforms, safety supplies, cameras, film and crime scene kits, Stock and maintain vending machines with candy, chips, and drinks, Maintain vendor files with all past and recent purchases, Maintain building appearance and repairs, Process forms on new vendors to add to the Tribal vendor list, Submit monthly reading for six Xerox® copy machines located on all reservations, Printing projects, such as business cards and certificates, Organize upcoming events within the department, Any other assignment at the discretion of the

Chief of Police.

Job Location and Equipment Operated:

Generally work is performed in an indoor office setting. When working in the office, incumbents typically work at a desk entering and receiving data from a computer or terminal. Incumbents read and comprehend written material and make inferences from the contents. Verbal communication is conducted face to face, on the telephone, and in a group meeting. Ability to lift and move light to medium weight objects.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

General office skills (filing, filling out requisitions, order forms, and purchase orders), Computer skills: Filemaker Pro, MS Excel, MS Word, Outlook and Windows, Ability to conduct agreements and make arrangements with vendors on purchases, Ability to move, pick up and purchase items, when needed.

Necessary Special Qualifications:

Must possess a valid Florida driver's license.

Job Title: Police Records Clerk

Department: Seminole Police Department

Nature of Work:

Work includes maintaining the record-keeping system for the Police Department's records management system. Data is entered within a required time frame for the creation of records and files and the accurate retrieval of statistics and information. Perform a wide range of complex clerical work requiring specialized knowledge. Work is accomplished along with the demanding fast-pace at reception desk.

Essential Functions of the Job:

Provide technical assistance by entering all information data into the Incident Based Reporting system (IBR) for the accurate compiling of crime statistics and the creation of police files, records, documentation, and dispositions, Perform directed analysis, Draft specific sections of reports for data collection, Receive legal documents in the mail that require knowledge of legal guidelines to process or route to proper departments and agencies. Collect fees; process records requests; issue receipts, Screen calls, takes messages, Retrieve files and information for officers and staff, Ensures files are signed in and out, Type various form letters and reports when instructions are explicit, Participate in the evaluation and options for equipment and various office supplies, Performs minor maintenance of equipment, Greet visitors and callers; directs inquiries to proper source, and answers questions within context of policies and procedures; some-

times involves contact of a difficult nature, Obtain factual information from citizens, Use at least one type of word processor, spreadsheet, or data based software, Perform duties of clerical staff members in their absence, Perform other duties as required.

Job Location and Physical Requirements:

Duties are performed in an office setting, Operate standard office equipment to include, personal computers, copy machines, telephones, fax machines, and calculators, Able to lift, carry and/or pull boxes with the approximate weight of 10–16 pounds, Able to utilize step stool and/or 6-foot ladder.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Ability to prioritize, organize, and perform work independently, Ability to operate general office equipment, word processing equipment, and micro-computers as required to accomplish the work assigned, Ability to provide guidance and training to other clerical staff members as needed, Ability to monitor the daily developments and progress of work performed and to modify or initiate corrective action as appropriate, Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees and the public, Ability to deal with public relations problems courteously and tactfully, Ability to analyze, evaluate, and recommend improved procedures, techniques, and equipment, Ability to maintain confidentiality of information, Ability to plan and coordinate multiple office

functions, Ability to proofread, research files, and logically organize information, Ability to make accurate mathematical calculations, Ability to organize and manage several projects simultaneously and meet deadlines, Ability to follow complex oral and written instructions, Ability to communicate effectively both oral and in writing, Ability to exercise independent judgment, Ability to maintain oral communications, interpersonal skills, public relations, and customer service, Ability to work accurately and rapidly, Ability to independently manage and operate an office setting and carry out polices and procedures within assigned areas of responsibility, Ability to work well under pressure, Ability to type at an accurate rate of speed; knowledge of data entry operations, Ability to interpret and communicate the policies, procedures, and services of the department, Ability to maintain moderately complex records to ensure their confidentiality.

Minimum Qualifications:

High school diploma or equivalent, including or supplemented by college or business school courses in secretarial science, Extensive experience in highly responsible clerical and office work, with three years of experience as a secretary or any equivalent combination of acceptable education and experience providing the knowledge, abilities, and skill cited above.



On May 6, Hollywood's Tribal Council Rep. Max B. Osceola Jr. sponsored a lunch for the Hollywood seniors and their families at Benihana in Ft. Lauderdale.

Hollywood Tribal citizens took up about 6 tables, with approximately 40 seniors and family members attending the luncheon.

Photo by Felix DoBosz



Susan Etxebarria

(L-R) Brighton seniors Mabel Hought, Lottie Baxley and Happy Jones at the Brighton Senior Center.

Seniors Attend Mother's Day Gathering

By Susan Etxebarria

BRIGHTON

— The seniors at Brighton's Hot Meals started celebrating Mother's Day a few days early. A group of mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers got the change to go out to lunch

on May 3 to Benihana's in Stuart, Fla.

On May 5, the seniors played a short a game of bingo before they held the drawings for the door prizes. At the luncheon, each mother received a bouquet of flowers in a glass vase.

Mother's Day History and Customs

By Jerry Wilson

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In the U.S. Mother's Day is a holiday celebrated on second Sunday in May. It is a day when children honor their mothers with cards, gifts, and flowers. First observance in Philadelphia, Pa. in 1907, it is based on suggestions by Julia Ward Howe in 1872 and Anna Jarvis in 1907.

Although it wasn't cele-

brated in the U.S. until 1908, there were days honoring mothers even in the days of ancient Greece. In those days, however, it was Rhea, the mother of the gods who was given honor.

Later, in the 1600s, in England there was an annual observance called "Mothering Sunday." It was celebrated during Lent, on the fourth Sunday. On Mothering Sunday, the servants,

who generally lived with their employers, were encouraged to return home and honor their mothers. It was traditional for them to bring a special cake along to celebrate the occasion.

In the U.S., in 1908 Ana Jarvis, from Grafton, W.V., began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the anniversary of her mother's death. A memorial service was held there on May 10, 1908 and in Philadelphia the following year where Jarvis moved.

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Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Builds New Home for Piestewa Family

Submitted by **National American Indian Housing Council**

FLAGSTAFF, AZ — Amidst the lights, cameras, and circus atmosphere of a Hollywood production, one more Native family realized the dream of homeownership in an “extreme” way Tuesday as the family of the late Iraq war soldier Private First Class Lori Piestewa was handed the keys to a new home in the outskirts of Flagstaff.

The hit ABC reality-television show Extreme Makeover: Home Edition built the home for Piestewa’s parents and her two children in seven days on land donated by the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. The almost 5,000-square-foot home is an extreme change for the family after living in a small trailer on the Navajo Reservation in Tuba City, Ariz., 75

miles north of Flagstaff. Construction of the home and the story of the Piestewa family will be featured in the show’s season finale scheduled to air Sunday, May 22 from 7–9 p.m. EST, on the ABC television network.

As the Piestewa’s settle into their new home, complete with a room dedicated to Lori’s memory, it’s one step closer to better housing conditions for Native Americans across the U.S.

“We congratulate the Piestewa family and hope that more Native families will have the chance to realize the dream of homeownership,” said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon. “Through our Housing First for First Americans Campaign, we hope to assist

Lori Piestewa received national attention in 2003 as the first Native American killed in the Iraq war

tribes in building 100,000 homes in the next ten years, as there is an abundant need for more homes in Indian Country.”

Congressman Rick Renzi (R-AZ) visited the Piestewas’ former home in Tuba City, Ariz. and the build site of their new home just north of Flagstaff.

“I am hopeful the message will get out when people watch the show that Lori gave her life for her country but she really came from a very, very simple place,” said Renzi. “This new home will

be a great improvement for the family and a great place to raise the children.”

Piestewa was born and raised a Hopi on the Navajo Reservation. Her father Terry is Hopi, while her mother Percy is Hispanic.

Piestewa was killed in an ambush near Nasiriyah, Iraq on March 23, 2003.

Her story gained national attention as she is believed to be the first Native American killed in the Iraq war and because of her friendship with former prisoner-of-war Jessica Lynch, who nominated the Piestewa family for the home makeover. Lynch’s tape was among the 1,000 received by the show daily. The producers of the show were struck by the tape, according to “Extreme Makeover:

Home Edition” Executive Producer Tom Forman.

“We were very moved by the tape,” said Forman. “Then when we read about Lori’s story, we knew we wanted to build the Piestewas a home. They were renting a trailer on school district land. It worked for two people but then suddenly they became substitute parents to Lori’s two kids and then the trailer wasn’t right for them.” The tape sealed the deal for Lori’s dream to come true and after eight months of logistics, the Piestewas are in their new home.

“We’re a television show about giving to people who need and deserve a new home,” said Forman. “It was our treat to do this for a Native family.”

Navajos To Produce Innovative Building Material

FlexCrete will enable building of better homes and provide economic as well as environmental benefits, according to Navajo housing and plant leaders

Submitted by **National American Indian Housing Council**

PAGE, AZ — Amid the bright red rocks of the northern Arizona landscape, just outside the Navajo Nation, sits a state-of-the art plant that the tribe’s housing leaders say will guarantee construction of 300 new homes on Navajo land and will be an alternative source of funding in the wake of proposed budget cuts.

Navajo FlexCrete Building Systems, Inc., scheduled for its Grand Opening on April 28, manufactures FlexCrete, a lightweight, fire-resistant, energy-efficient form of aerated concrete. Navajo Housing Authority invested approximately \$4 million in the plant with construction financing provided by Washington Mutual, according to CEO Chester Carl.

“Money from the federal government is not guaranteed,” said Carl, who is also Chairman of the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC). “When there are no entitlement funds to meet needs in Indian Country, tribes must find additional means of funding-and that’s what we are doing.” In addition to the construction of 300 new homes, Carl says

he hopes the idea of building with FlexCrete will catch on, resulting in lower cost in housing for tribes in the Southwest.

There may be also financial benefits for the Navajo Housing Authority (HA), which has a 10 percent equity interest in the Flex-Crete building system world-wide and 100 percent ownership of the plant.

“If a similar plant were to be built in China, for example, the HA would collect on that 10 percent equity,” said Carl. “NAIHC recognizes the Navajo HA for their effort to provide better housing conditions for their people through the use and manufacturing of FlexCrete,” said NAIHC Executive Director Gary L. Gordon. “This is an excellent example how tribes can look to alternative resources for better housing conditions and funding to provide for those conditions.”

Five times lighter than traditional concrete, FlexCrete is made with fly ash, a by-product of the nearby Navajo Power Plant. Fly ash comes from non-combustible minerals that naturally occur from coal when it is consumed in electric generating plants. Fly ash is collected from the generated exhaust stream from the power plant, and is then mixed with water, fibers and cement to create FlexCrete, which can be cut as easily as wood.

Fly ash is used in other building materials, including traditional concrete-and unused portions of it are disposed in landfills, according to a FlexCrete company spokesperson. What sets the FlexCrete material apart is that it is 70 percent fly ash. Not only is FlexCrete environmentally friendly in terms of recycling resources, but it will also provide for more efficient

heating and cooling mechanisms in homes, according to Assistant Plant Manager Cliff Hancock.

“This product will keep homes cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter,” said Hancock.

Modular, ready-made homes and trailers have dominated the Indian housing market in recent years, leading to a lack of job opportunities for Natives who are skilled in building homes. The production and use of FlexCrete could reverse that, according to Carl.

“We plan to use this product to increase the ‘block building’ type of construction in our communities,” he said. “This type of building system will lower the cost of housing and maintain the labor force.”

“Washington Mutual is very pleased have to played a role in the financing of the Flex-Crete plant,” said Washington Mutual’s First Vice President of Community and External Affairs Division Beth Castro. The plant will contribute to the economic health and vitality of this community in two key ways: job creation and affordable housing. We applaud the Navajo Housing Authority for taking this historic step.”

FlexCrete will produce solid blocks, similar to concrete blocks, which will be used for the block building as well as structural reinforcement panels, and thin un-reinforced panels for sheathing. The product will be sold commercially on the Navajo reservation as well as in the Phoenix, Ariz., Las Vegas, Nev. and Albuquerque, N.M. markets.

To view pictures of the FlexCrete plant and the product, visit NAIHC’s website at www.naihc.net.

Indian Summer Music Awards Extends Entry Deadline

Submitted by **Carol Cameron**

MILWAUKEE, WI — The second annual Indian Summer Music Awards (ISMA) has extended the deadline for this year’s music award entries to May 31.

The Indian Summer Music Awards are devoted to the recognition of both established and emerging artists and their outstanding contributions toward indigenous people music. The awards are an example of how American Indian music is now being recognized around the world and is a statement for American Indian entrepreneurship.

The categories in 2005 for the music awards are: Alternative Rock, Blues, Classic Rock, Contemporary Instrumental, Country, Flute, Folk, Native Spirit (non-Indian artist), Pop, Rap/Hip Hop, Spiritual, Spoken Word, Traditional Drum and Traditional Vocal.

The goal is to honor the best American Indian music that has been commercially released

between March 2, 2004 and March 1, 2005. In addition, the awards have been created to increase awareness of the history and diversity of both traditional and contemporary American Indian culture.

The music and film and video awards programs are the result of a partnership between Indian Summer Festival, which is North America’s largest American Indian festival, and the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Office of American Indian Student Services. The music awards are sponsored by Mohican North Star Bingo and Casino. The Indian Summer Music Awards and the Film and Video Image Awards are presented at the same awards ceremony, sponsored and produced by Looking Glass Productions.

For more information, contact the Indian Summer Festivals, Inc. office at (414) 604-1000. The Indian Summer Festival Web site is www.indiansummer.org. Indian Summer Festival runs Sept. 9–11, at Milwaukee’s lakefront Maier Festival Park.

Rally to Focus on Peltier’s Unjust Imprisonment

Submitted by the **Lakota Student Alliance**

OGLALA, SD— The 6th Annual Oglala Commemoration Event set to begin on June 26 at the Jumping Bull Property, south of Oglala, S.D.; this marks the 30th anniversary of the Incident at Oglala. The event is free to the public, and begins at 12 p.m. MST.

“It’s a time for healing and prayers to remember those warriors who lost their freedom and their lives during the Reign of Terror on Pine Ridge. Hopefully the healing emphasis will prevent another bloody civil war from happening again on the sacred land of the Lakota Nation,” said Event coordinator Robert Quiver Jr., a student at Oglala Lakota College, and co-founder of the Lakota Student Alliance, a grassroots group on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

The Lakota Student Alliance and Oglala Commemoration Committee jointly sponsor the event to honor and remember the lives lost during the 1970s civil conflict on the reservation and to also raise awareness toward the unjust imprisonment of American Indian Movement (AIM) member Leonard Peltier, currently jailed in Leavenworth, Kan.

Peltier’s imprisonment resulted from a shooting incident between AIM members and federal agents at the Jumping Bull property which was precipitated by numerous unjust deaths of AIM supporters during a tumultuous 1970s Civil War on Pine Ridge Reservation known as the “Reign of Terror.”

“Leonard Peltier needs to be set free,” said Commemoration Committee member Rosalyn Jumping Bull of Oglala.

Jumping Bull said she remembers the year

the FBI ransacked and shot at her elder mother’s home following the deaths of two FBI agents. It’s those kind of days that Rosalyn does not wish upon the future generations of Lakota people who will be living on the reservation.

Annually, normal activities scheduled for this event include a traditional Lakota ceremonial prayer service near the gravesites of AIM members Jun Little and Joe Stuntz (Little Family cemetery). A memorial walk for justice follows from the gravesites to the Jumping Bull Property. This is followed by a special memorial and giveaway for deceased relatives, coordinated by the Jumping Bull Family. Finally, a concert for youth awareness is held, concluding this special day.

Speakers for the 2004 event include important figures that played a vital role in the justice movement for Peltier’s freedom. They included: Vernon Bellecourt, principal spokesperson for AIM; Rosalyn Jumping Bull of Oglala; Harvey Arden, an author and advocate for Peltier’s release; Members of the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee; Members of Leonard Peltier’s Legal Team, and International Guests as well.

Special Entertainment Performances from: Lakota hoopdancer Clem Holy Eagle, Nammy award winner Wayquay, Oglala hip-hop artists Native Era, Muscogee hip-hop artist Julian B., Spyderzback, and more to be announced. Oglala Commemoration Committee members Wayquay, a 2000 Nammy winner, and Andy Mader will co-emcee this year’s event.

We invite the public to this free event. For more information on this event visit the website at <http://www.oglalacommemoration.com>.



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